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Being an in-comer of several year's standing in Ross-shire, I would have been surprised if Jessie Hislop had received anything other than interest and a caring response from most people and organisations she approached when visiting here from Ottawa. Not that we're all saints of course, but it is bred into Highlanders and Irishmen and therefore Canadians (all three of which I can lay claim to being) that one must find out as much as possible about a visitor's family and ancestors and occupation and standing, so that one can fit the person into a category and you all know where you stand with each other, the *I-kent-his-faither* syndrome. My own natural inquisitive tendencies were somewhat suppressed when living south of the border but I learned quickly that when hitch-hiking or giving lifts to hitch-hikers in the Highlands one could and should exchange all possible information about current employment, neighbours and family so that one would find common ground and acquaintances speedily and thus be safe from any danger of weapons or requests for loans. It is obviously a survival trait which through evolution has become part of the Celtic gene-pool along with hardiness, hairy knees and a partiality for haggis and pipe music.

No response to the challenge to write something controversial to go with this issue's article by Ian Fraser on the Ben Bhraggie monument? Go on, be daring, object or concur, but make sure you give family historical information of sources for others to search, or spinoffs as to why your ancestor stayed in Sutherland or left it. We have so many new members that there must be desperation out there to put pen, typewriter or computer to paper to tell us all why you joined the HFHS, what you wish to put in it and what you hope to get out of it. While on the scrounge I might as well add that we are very keen for book reviews, computer family-history package reviews, record depository reviews, anything that you know about and know that others would want to know about too.

If you need more incentive than altruism to make you write a piece for us then pay attention: you will get so much of Dingwall's history and doings large and small of my own ancestors that you will beg to be allowed to submit an article about something different! For example, have you any idea how James Petrie, Sheriff-Substitute of Aberdeen, got to be in charge of a body of 2000 men quartered on Tain in 1746? He swam into my ken when he raided Dingwall for the rate money for Bonnie Prince Charlie just four days before Culloden.

Lucille Campey has been working with her persuasive wiles (and whips) to get gangs of checkers out to our unpublished graveyards and we have added three new ones Avoch, Killearnan and Fortrose plus a revised edition of Kilmuir with a new map and comprehensive index to our catalogue. Mostly Ross-shire, and mostly Black Isle, but the list is growing and we always want more to join the existing ones of Suddie, Dingwall's St. Clements and Ceddies. Sandy Gillies did the original surveys, many people did the checking and the maps in the latest ones are really brilliantly drawn. Don't forget that we still want 1851 census indices as well.

Outside my windows the November weather has turned dark and dreich, and very windy with it, so my checking of Fodderty's cemetery will wait for a bit. It also put paid to a pre-arranged meeting yesterday of the six-strong team assembled by Lucille who were intending to move to stage 2 of the checking process at the burial ground at Old Ainess Church. However I am sure that there will be other days more conducive to the essential task of checking the inscriptions on each stone. During the winter months indexes for all those burial grounds currently entered into the Society's computer but not yet published will be prepared, including Friars, Old High and Chapel Yard, Inverness. It is our intention to offer a search facility for those members unable to visit the library in Inverness and details will appear in the next Journal.



THE STATUE OF THE DUKE OF SUTHERLAND  
ON BEN BHRAGGIE, SUTHERLAND  
AND ITS FUTURE

by Ian Fraser

The monument to the first Duke of Sutherland is the largest in the northern hemisphere and can be viewed from seven counties of Scotland. It combines the work of three notable early Victorian designers, two sculptors and an architectural designer. The pedestal was the work of William Burn, probably the most prolific and influential designer of country houses of his time, and is intentionally a solemn and restrained base for the focus of the sculpture above. It is built of local red sandstone. On plan, it rises from a square base to an octagonal shaft, with an unadorned, ashlar facing on elevation. The simplest arrow slit openings and inscription plate enliven the plain forms. It stands some seventy feet high.

This supports a colossal statue, some twenty-seven feet high, of the first Duke of Sutherland in white Brora stone. The sculpture was the work of Joseph Theakstone, a pupil of Sir Francis Chantrey who was one of the foremost sculptors of the late Georgian period. The original model for the Ben Bhraggie statue, executed by Chantrey himself but of much more modest proportions, until recently, stood in the west end of the nave of Dornoch Cathedral. This statue is now 'in exile' in Dunrobin Castle. The plate on the pedestal bears the inscription:- "Beloved, revered and cherished memory. Erected by his tenantry and friends."

We find the following notes on the life of this Duke given in the *'Memoir of the First Duke of Sutherland, K.G.'* by James Loch Esq., M.P. ---

"George Granville Levison Gower, first Duke of Sutherland, was born in Arlington Street, London on January 9th 1758. In the year 1780 the Duke of Sutherland, then Lord Trentham, visited Scotland for the first time.

In the year 1785, when Viscount Trentham, he married Elizabeth Sutherland, Countess of Sutherland in her own right, the inheritor lineally of the most ancient subsisting peerage of the United Kingdom. She was twenty-one years of age, and had succeeded to the hereditary honours of her family following the premature death of her father at Bath in 1766. Their surviving children consist of two sons and two daughters.

In March 1803, the Duke of Sutherland succeeded to the Bridgewater Canal, and the estates connected with it, which were left to him by his maternal uncle, the last Duke of Bridgewater. In October of this same year, he became the Marquess of Stafford, upon the death of his father, and thus came into the possession of the patrimonial property of his family, which comprised the ancient Gower estate of Stittenham, situated not far from York. The other possessions of his family consisted of large estates near their principal residence at Trentham, in Staffordshire.

It was not until the year 1812 that his Grace was enabled to turn his attention effectually to the improvement of the ancient estate of Sutherland.

In 1829, the Reay Country, which was the principal possession held in feu under the Sutherland family, became his Grace's property. In 1830, he also became the proprietor of the estate of Bighouse, an extensive sub-feu of the Reay family.

In 1832, His Majesty raised Lord Stafford to the rank of Duke, and Lord Stafford selected the

ancient title of Sutherland, as that for his dukedom".

The Duke of Sutherland died at Dunrobin on the 19th July 1833. Immediately after his funeral, meetings were held in Staffordshire, Shropshire and Sutherland and it was determined to erect a monument to his memory, to be funded through public subscription from his tenantry. In Staffordshire, a column with a colossal statue was fixed on, to be placed on the summit of Tittensor Hills, a conspicuous eminence overlooking his residence at Trentham. The contributors numbered 298 and the sum collected £924. 9s. 6d. In Shropshire, an obelisk was chosen to be fixed on a singular hill called 'Lilleshall Hill'. 213 tenants contributed the sum of £937. 15s. 6d. In Sutherland, the site chosen was that of the summit of Ben Bhraggie. The number of contributors was 2299 and the sum collected £1400. 16s. 8d.

This Duke and his Duchess are renowned for their plan of improvement for Sutherland, which they articulated through their agents. William Young was appointed commissioner on the Sutherland estate in 1810. Resigning in 1816 he was succeeded by James Loch. Patrick Sellar was appointed factor in 1810 and resigned in 1818 to be succeeded by Francis Suther. The object of their plan was to put an end entirely to the system of tack and subtenantry, which they perceived as a system contributing to a decline of moral conduct of tenantry, together with a minimum desire to be self-supporting through their own efforts. It is no accident that we also find that clearance of the tenantry in favour of sheep was perceived to have immediate economic potential.

The manner in which their plans were effected between 1810 and 1830 is well documented and led to the forceful removal of some 12,000 from their homes, principally from the straths of Kildonan and Strathnaver. Whilst some relocated to local coastal townships, others found themselves necessarily having to emigrate.

Donald Macleod, a native of Rossal in Strathnaver, was evicted twice as a result of the Sutherland improvement plans. In 1811, at the age of seventeen he, along with his parents and family were removed from Rossal. Thereafter, in 1830 Donald, his wife and family were evicted from Strathy. He articulated the feelings of the dispossessed in his letters to the *Edinburgh Weekly Journal* and the *Edinburgh Weekly Chronicle* in 1840. They received publication under the title - *'History of the Destitution of Sutherlandshire'* in 1841.

In 1855 Harriet Beecher Stowe, in her book *'Sunny Memories of Foreign Lands'*, defended the principle and the manner of the clearances. In 1856 the second edition of the *'History of the Destitution of Sutherland'* under the title of *'The Sutherland Clearances'* was published in Greenock. The third edition, 'enlarged and improved' including Macleod's reply to Harriet Beecher Stowe's *'Sunny Memories'* was published in Toronto, Canada in 1857 entitled *'Gloomy Memories'*. In 1892 a new edition of *'Gloomy Memories'*, similar to that published in 1857, along with an abridged version of Macleod's reply to Harriet Beecher Stowe was finally published.

Donald Macleod's testament captures the feelings of his fellow countrymen and remains today the authoritative statement on the unfolding of the events in Sutherland and how the Sutherland people interpreted their fate. It is still the subject of discussion amongst all whose people were directly affected by it. Today the parallel between 'ethnic cleansing' during and after the Second World War is often drawn. This theme finds resonance, because as Macleod and passing generations have observed, the Sutherland plans of improvement were merely plans drawn in favour of the vision of 'Natural Man' and ignored the 'Divine Plan'.

The Ben Bhraggie Group lodged an application for the demolition of the Ben Bhraggie Monument in 1994 and this was done with the same objective as Donald Macleod had in mind

Anne Coutts, married with two sons and one daughter:-  
 Donald Coutts died 1946, married with one daughter.  
 Charles Coutts married with one daughter.  
 Anne Coutts married Denis Manson - issue two sons and one daughter.  
 Charles King, shipwrecked in Australia, befriended by Australian family, married but died soon afterwards in Australia.

Alexander King, unmarried.  
 Donald Macleod King, married with one daughter, Edith King. His wife died when Edith was about 4-5 years of age. Edith was later adopted by Peter George King. She lived with his family, remained unmarried and died aged 67 years.

Peter George King, married - issue three children, plus Edith King, adopted. He died in 1940 aged 65 years. His wife died in 1978 a few weeks short of her 100th year.

8. Children of Peter George King:-  
 James Alexander King, born 1903, unmarried.  
 Arthur Colin King, born 1907, widower, one daughter, Julia (unmarried).  
 Margaret Bentley, born 1909, married, one son, Malcolm J. Bentley, (unmarried).

N.B. The editor can pass on any comments to the Ben Bhraggie Group. Additional information will be considered for publication.

DESERTION

"DESERTED from a Party of the 103rd Regiment Recruiting at Inverness.  
 John Fraser, Recruit, 103rd Regiment, son of James Fraser, Miller at Belladrum, County of Inverness, deserted on Pass from his father's house on Saturday the 26th instant, and is supposed to be concealed by his friends till an opportunity occurs of his leaving the country.

The said John Fraser is eighteen years of age; 5 feet 4 inches high, by trade a Cartwright, fresh complexion, blue eyes, fair hair, was dressed in a tartan jacket and waistcoat, grey trousers and round hat when he deserted. Whoever will apprehend the said deserter and lodge him in any of his Majesty's jails in Great Britain will receive a reward of Two guineas on applying to the officer commanding the party here. Inverness 31st December 1812."

The same issue contained a report on a meeting regarding the uniforming of weights and measures in Scotland in which one resolution was ... 'That in the opinion of this meeting, one great object ought to be to induce the Government to interest themselves in this business and carry it through at the public expense.' The State Lottery was due to be drawn on the 14th and 15th and had two top prizes of £20k and £10k. There was an Armistice in North America, problems with Napoleon in Spain, Portugal and Russia, and Bonaparte had just returned from Moscow.

*From the Inverness Journal, Friday January 1st 1813:*

when he penned his letters - to demonstrate Man's capacity for self-deception and his inability to recognise the many disguises of the works of Satan! Despite the knowledge of the wrong-doings of the first Duke of Sutherland, his statue singularly fails to bring to our attention the true cause of the events and thus they feel that consideration has to be given to whether it is appropriate to allow it to continue to cast its shadow over the Sutherland landscape.

In the light of responses made from interested parties from many lands, the original planning objective has been modified to consider the removal of the statue and the inscription plate with the replacement by a Celtic Cross and viewpoint indicating the names of the straths and townships and the numbers which were cleared from them. It is felt appropriate that in contrast to the circumstances in which the present monument was conceived and imposed on Sutherland people as was the subscription, all of Sutherland descent are invited to respond as to how they want the events of the past remembered today.

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Attempts have been made to trace the descendants of Donald Macleod of Rossal, with the wish that they might know or have information as to how their forebear viewed, in particular, the Ben Bhraggie Monument.

Donald Macleod had married the daughter of Charles Gordon, of the parish of Farr in 1818, with the following issue:-

Jean born 1824, Charles born 1826; Christina born 1833; Evanderina born 1835;

Christina and Evanderina were named after some close friends of Donald Macleod.

1. The 1851 census record for 16 South Richmond Street, Edinburgh, enters Donald Macleod as Head of the family, Widower aged 57. The names of the three daughters of Donald Macleod are included:-

Jean	unmarried	aged 26 years	born Sutherland, Farr
Christina	unmarried	aged 18 years	born Caithness, Thurso
Evanderina	unmarried	aged 16 years	born Caithness, Thurso

The name of Charles Macleod is not entered. Obviously he had enlisted by then.

2. It is not known what happened to Christina. It is believed that she went to America with her father, Donald.  
 3. Jean married Mr Keeble but had no children. She died in 1904 at the age of 80 years.  
 4. Charles married but had no children. He died a widower aged 78 years in 1904.  
 5. Evanderina married Alexander King and had six children. She died in 1911 aged 74 years.  
 6. Jean, Charles and Evanderina, children of Donald Macleod are buried in the one grave in the Woodgrange Cemetery, Manor Park, London E.7.  
 7. Evanderina's six children survived to adult age and are:-  
 Jane Benson, married without issue.

## **THE KINDNESS OF STRANGERS:**

### **A GENEALOGICAL JOURNEY IN THE HIGHLANDS**

by Jessie Hislop

I would recommend that any vacationers in Scotland unfortunate enough not to have real Highland ancestors, should go to the local cemetery and 'adopt' some. The generosity, hospitality and local insight that rewards curiosity makes an unparalleled holiday. Even better if the family is really yours ...

I arrived in Edinburgh one Friday morning knowing relatively little about my paternal grandmother and her family. This was the extent of my knowledge: Jessie Fraser was born January 24 1881 at Belladrum, a large estate in Kiltarlity and where my father says she later worked as a maid in the 'Big House'. Her father was Robert Fraser, who was the farm manager, born to a Fred Fraser. Fred's father, my gr-gr-gr-grandfather, was Hugh Fraser, reputedly a Gaelic poet, known as Huisdean a Craggen. Hugh's father was a William Fraser, who had built the grandfather clock that my great-aunt Mary (Mrs Mary Fraser MacDonald, sub-postmistress at Glen Urquhart for many years) gave me at the end of an unforgettable holiday when I was eleven.

At the Registrar General Offices in Edinburgh, I was very impressed with the search facilities, especially the computerised index to the Old Parish Records (OPR) and the post-1855 civil registrations. In five intense hours of key tapping interspersed with reading microfiche cards and struggling with recalcitrant microfilm rolls, I had added several branches to the family tree, starting with the name and family of my great-grandmother. She was another Jessie, though officially registered as 'Janet' Campbell, born January 7 1858 at Culburnie Muir to Kenneth Campbell, a gardener there and (yet another) Jessie Fraser. I also filled in the dates and places connected with the Fraser generations, learning that Hugh Fraser had died on Glackbea where his son Frederick farmed, but was born in Kirkhill on March 2 1783.

When they evicted me at 4:30, I picked up a rental car and headed towards Beaulieu, arriving along the Moray Firth as dusk painted the water and sky rose, purple and blue. Serendipity led me to the bed and breakfast in Beaulieu run by the Morrissions, a true home away from home, with the added benefit to a family history researcher that Mrs Morrison does double duty as the Registrar for Births, Deaths and Marriages in Beaulieu and Kiltarlity.

The next morning I went to the Kiltarlity churchyard at Tomnacross and found in the cemetery the memorial stone for my Gr-grandparents and their children, including my grandmother, (but excluding great-aunt Mary who is remembered on a stone elsewhere in Tomnacross):

**"In loving memory of Robert Fraser, farm manager, Belladrum who died 9th July 1911, beloved husband of Jessie Campbell who died 9 August 1926; also their son Kenneth died 18th October 1904 age 15; Donald (Dan) Fraser died 28th October 1967, devoted husband of Williamina (Lena) Fraser died 3rd December 1968; Jessie Hislop Fraser died 2nd Nov 1957 in Canada; John Fraser died 11th March 1960 in Murthly, Perthshire".**

The stone reinforced my curiosity and admiration for my grandmother's courage in striking out alone for Canada in 1912 with the probable knowledge that there was no turning back.

On the advice of some very encouraging gravediggers, I then went to Belladrum Home Farm to ask permission to look around and take pictures. I hoped for acquiescence, what I received was true Highland hospitality. I was welcomed in by Ethna Ferguson, shown pictures and told stories of the 'Big House' at Belladrum. (For greater detail please refer to the wonderful

presentation in the February '95 issue of the Highland Family History Journal). I was then entrusted with a superb tour guide in the person of nine-year-old Fiona, who took me over every nook and cranny of Belladrum. I saw the tumble-down remnants of the Big House's kitchen and mourned the loss of the house itself which was torn down in 1955. The Italian sunken gardens, now largely overgrown, still evoke the grandeur of the past, while the empty pond called forth the poignant tale of a young, pregnant housemaid who drowned herself. Adjacent to the stable complex, there is an immense walled garden once filled with an acre of glass houses where I was told 40 gardeners ensured that there were always fresh carnations morning and evening for the gentlemen's boutonnieres.

By the end of our excursion, I was wondering how my grandmother could have adapted from working in such a lavish establishment in such lush surroundings to being the housekeeper to a farmer, his invalid wife and six children on a small homestead farm in Arcola, Saskatchewan. Imagine how empty her world must have felt!

To this day there are lilacs, stunted, scraggy, pitiful remnants of those which grew around the house on that homestead in the dry lands of Alberta near Sedalia where Jessie Fraser lived after marrying my grandfather. Dad said she carried water every day from the slough half a mile away to try and bring a touch of colour to a dry, bleached landscape. I wonder if she thought back to the Italian garden at Belladrum?

While I toured Belladrum, Ethna arranged for me to visit Mona Fraser (no relation), who, at eighty plus, was thought to be the best local source for tales about past days. Over a lovely cup of tea and biscuits, Mrs Fraser apologised for knowing little about Belladrum as she had worked at Phoinneas House, but she then filled me in on the history of the Merrys' ownership of the Belladrum estate, the stationing of the Canadian Forestry Corps at Phoinneas during WWII, and once we discovered that she had known my great-aunt Lena and her husband Dan Fraser (Danny Tea or "T") very well when they lived at Belladrum Lodge. I learned about them as well. Evidently Danny's mother and sisters were well known, as both Mary Tea, his mother and Peggy Tea, his sister, lived to be over 100, but Mona didn't know how they got the 'Tea' appellation.

As my gr-gr-grandfather, (Archibald) Frederick Fraser had farmed at Glackbea, Mrs Fraser suggested I go over to see her friend Mrs Stuart who lived near the foot of Glackbea and knew the history of it. Now the road up Glackbea is a jarring experience, more suited to a four wheel drive than a puny Renault. While dodging pot-holes I missed the Stuart house and eventually found myself at the top farm, where a very nice couple were surprised to find a stray Canadian trying to turn a car around in their yard. Once they heard my excuses, they invited me to wander around as I wished but could not point out 'the croft site' saying there had been a dozen crofts on Glackbea. From the census I later learned that Fred Fraser had farmed 30 acres, relatively large compared to the neighbours, so I hope I was somewhere near.

I ended the day walking the trails around Moniak, and the Craggen, where I knew that my gr-gr-gr-grandfather had crofted, and from which he'd been cleared when the farm of Moniak was created. He supposedly spent the rest of his life wandering around reciting poetry and selling tea. The census of 1861 said that he was a former schoolteacher, living with his son, Fred Fraser on Glackbea, but didn't mention the tea. I too skipped tea, and instead sampled the wines of Moniak wine bar, buying a souvenir bottle of Silver Birch wine for my father.

The next day I went into Inverness and savoured Celtic music in Balmain House before dashing back to Kiltarlity for the noon church service at Tomnacross. I had the excellent fortune to sit

**QUESTIONS**

- 21. Are old newspapers with obituaries available that served the areas of Rosskeen, Saltburn and Kilmuir East in Easter Ross and Cromarty and Newton in the Cromarty area? If so where are these records kept? The date of interest is April 1884. (Mr Harris K. Jensen no. 1165)
- 22. One of my ancestors was Capt. William McKENZIE, a ferryman in Easter Ross in the 1830-1860 time period. Have any books or articles been written about early ferrymen that would give biographical information? (Mr Harris K. Jensen no. 1165)
- 23. Does anyone have any information about the Lorne Hotel in Wick? My great-grandmother, Alexina HARPER, supposedly had uncles who were involved in it. It was a hotel in the 1890s and apparently in the early 1960s was the Unemployment Exchange. (Mrs Helen Allan, no. 1195)
- 24. An item that has come down to me is a small card, three inches by one and a half inches, a business visiting card. Written on it:- Mr Aneas Mackay, Tax Office, Ospisdale, Bonar Bridge. Does anyone know what was the Tax Office at Ospisdale, its function and staffing? (Mr Donald McKay no. 884)

**SOMETIMES ANSWERS**

16. In the November 1994 Journal, Carole Lohoar makes note of 'T' names for members of the MAIN family. What are 'T' names and how are they derived? (Helen Gain no. 1091).

Answer:- In response to question 16 which appeared in the May 95 Journal, the expression 'T-name' appears widespread among the fisherfolk of North-East Scotland's fishing communities, to denote a by-name, or nick-name. Its origins linguistically, are not apparent to the descendants of fisherfolk interviewed in Avoch or Nairn, though Mather, in 'Aspects of the Linguistic Geography of Scotland' may offer some theory or explanation (Mather in 'Scottish Studies' 1965 9 pp. 129-44, 1966 10 pp. 129-53).

Alistair Lawrie in 'Glimmer of Cold Brine' writes that - "most fisher communities rely heavily on by-names or 'T-names' (as) essential in a society where there was a very limited number of second names". He suggests however, that more than merely identifying a person or a particular branch of a family, they were also - "granted by the community as a kind of public affirmation --- closer to the Roman habit of appending a cognomen like 'Africanus' in recognition of a particular feat or facet of personality." (Lawrie et al, 1988 p. 57).

Conversely, there are counter-indications that the use of 'T-names' could be a private and sensitive matter. Ian Sutherland in 'From Herring to Seine Net Fishing' cautions - 'Tee-names ... are not for use by strangers whose lack of knowledge of the person concerned makes them meaningless ... modern trends have devalued them, and the skill and imagination with which they were created (is) lost on the present day reader'. (Sutherland, n.d., Foreword). David Sutherland suggests that in Avoch, - "by-names (were) pointedly personal, sometimes derogatory, at times whimsical --- affectionate (or) bizarre (and) many of these were used in the person's absence and never face to face". (Sutherland, D. n.d., p. 10).

Reporting on 'tee-names' along the Moray coast in 1907, the *Banffshire Journal* described them as - "essential if the business of everyday life is to be transacted with ordinary efficiency and dispatch". It noted there were - "over 100 COWIEs in Buckie, known variously by such names as, 'Bullen', 'Pum', 'Imlach', 'Sannock', 'Diddle', 'Dodie', and 'Carrot'. Members of the many families named JAPPY were identified as 'Lad', 'Shake', 'Bouffie', or 'Waxy' while MURRAYs had 'tee-names' such as 'Smacker', 'Dottie', 'Curlie', 'Gyke', 'Ah', or 'Gouk'.

tribute to the endeavours of all of those who served their country this will be achieved. The work will concentrate initially on twentieth century material.

The Trustees are NOT collecting artefacts, medals, papers etc. but, we will advise as to where these items might be suitably deposited and, if required, broker the deposit arrangements.

**WEB EQUIPMENT**

You can access information on the SCOTS at WAR Project through EDINFO, The University of Edinburgh's Electronic Information Service on the World Wide Web. Our "URL" or address on the World Wide Web is:

<http://www.ed.ac.uk/~iash/saw.html>

As the project develops we will have our own web server. Autumn 1996 is the target date for this to be up and running. In the meantime we must ask all of our would be users and contributors world wide, and we know that there are a lot of you of all ages and interests, to be very patient. It will be worth waiting for.

During this period of project development talk to us on E-mail, we will do what we can to help you with information sources on SCOTS at WAR topics. The address is:

IASH@ed.ac.uk

**THE ORDER OF BATTLE**

The SCOTS at WAR Project will assemble information on sources both service and civilian. There will be details in the next Information Bulletin on how the data will be arranged and what it will actually look like on your screen, but what we can tell you now is that it will ultimately include source references for The Royal Navy, The Merchant Navy, The Army, including the Scottish Regiments, The Royal Air force, the Police, The Fire Service, The Royal Observer Corps, The Ambulance Service, The Royal National Lifeboat Institution, The Womens' Royal Voluntary Service, The Red Cross, The Womens' Land Army, Bevin Boys, SSFA and many others.

Finding some of these source references will not be easy, but there are many enthusiasts, specialists and dedicated researchers out there and we would welcome your participation.

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(Nairnshire Telegraph 10.12.1907). Families in Avoch with the surnames PATIENCE and JACK adopted, according to David Sutherland, some extraordinary by-names; 'Babbey', 'Cankee', 'Boofack', 'Froo', 'Goo', 'Monsey', 'Paish', 'Slake', 'Peynkee', 'Toshee', 'T'wunney', being examples from a long list (Sutherland, D. n.d., p. 10).

In all of these cases the original surnames COWIE, JAPPY, MURRAY, JACK and PATIENCE were retained, their intra-community 'T'-names' serving merely as nick-names. This traditional pattern was followed in most dedicated fishing communities in the North-East, but in Nairn Fishertown, 'T'-names' have evolved in a quite different way.

The original records of the Nairn Fishermen's Society dating from 1767 list fishermen named BARRON, STORM, RALPH, JAMIESON, and WILSON, along with a disproportionately large number sharing the surname MAIN. The 1851 census details 99 families named MAIN (within the space of two short streets); in 1861 those same families and their extended families, were recorded along with the bracketed addition of twenty-four differentiating 'T'-names'. By the time of the 1881 and 1891 censuses, most MAIN families were listed using 'T'-names' as real surnames, but with some retaining MAIN as a form of middle name. School Admission Registers, newspaper reports and official registrations of births, deaths and marriages all confirm that some surname changes did occur as a result of 'T'-names' being customarily adopted and accepted.

Many 18th century and 19th century families named MAIN, evolved into the 20th century as ELLENS, BOCHELS, COUPS, CALLIES, LAIRDS, MEINS, BUNKERS, IANS and DUGGIES - names which survive to continue into the 21st century as further living legends of a past culture.

The legacy of this 'T-name' phenomenon, is the almost certain identification of descendants of Nairn fisherfolk, especially in researching families affected by migration or social and occupational mobility. In breaking away from traditional naming patterns, and publicly claiming 'T'-names' as real names, Nairn fisherfolk have unwittingly helped subsequent generations of 'family tree' hunters to trace their original roots.

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(Carole Loharo no. 837).

17. In the February 1995 Journal, Mr Gibbs makes reference to a burial:- "He was buried in the Necropolis in Glasgow, as was his right as a member of the Merchant House of Glasgow." Can you expand on this "right"? My great-grandfather buried his two little girls there. Is the Merchant House of Glasgow a union of sorts? (Helen Gain no. 1091).

Answer:- In response to question 17 which appeared in the May 95 Journal, the Glasgow Necropolis on the Fir Park above the Cathedral was laid out by Merchants House in 1828 in the style of Pere La Chaise, Paris. Many of the cities' notables are buried there (strictly 'nae scruff'). John Knox's statue may be found on the top of a column 'shakin his heid at the daily goings on'. There is also a monument complete with statue to Charles Tennant, a friend of Burns; by the look of him, his glass is empty! The family own 'The Glen', Innerleithen. He founded a dynasty, one of whom owns the island of Mustique, (a friend of Princess Margaret). Merchants House, a businessmen's union and charity in George Square was originally in the Briggate. Only the steeple now remains. (Forbes Meek no. 1057).

#### SAFHS ANNUAL CONFERENCE - SEPTEMBER 1996

The Borders Family History Society will be hosting the 1996 Conference on Saturday 14 September 1996, in the Tait Hall, Kelso. The theme of the conference is:- '**Border Kin: Blood and Stone**' and they have an interesting selection of four speakers arranged for you to come and listen to. They are, in alphabetical order:-

Linda Bankier	Archivist. Berwick upon Tweed has survived a turbulent history and consequently this archive contains a substantial amount of very interesting material relating to both sides of the Border.
Rosemary Bigwood	Genealogical Researcher and Lecturer who will talk about the records of the Commissary Court of Lauder, Berwickshire.
Ingval Maxwell	Historic Scotland, the expert on Scottish Stone. All those questions about the gravestones of your ancestors will be answered.
Michael Robson	Genealogist and Local Historian whose special interest is in the family names of the Border Counties and their migration throughout Scotland.

The conference fee is £15.00 [*inclusive of lunch*]. Application forms and further information can be obtained from:- Miss Jean Sanderson, Conference Secretary, 12 Woodside Park, Kelso, TD5 7RE. ( or your local society secretary). It should also be noted that the 'Guild of One Name Studies' will be holding a meeting on the afternoon of Sunday 15th September 1996 in the Tait Hall, Kelso.

## BOOKSHELF

"The World Book of Mac Lennans": published by Halperts Family Heritage, 1991

For years I've been receiving either directly or passed to me by friends and family adverts for 'The World Book' of various names including my own spelt without a capital-C as Mccoll, and I have often thought that despite the scorn that issued from colleagues in the HFHS the books had a basically good idea of listing all of a particular surname from around the world. Now I have looked at one and will join the scorn-pourers. The adverts in my junk mail were always bringing me and fellow Mccolls exciting news about how the old and distinguished Mccoll family got its name and what the Mccoll name means, and how I could get my own copy (since I was mentioned in it) for a special price for this unique printing and I could send it back if I were unsatisfied. Great! Now I've looked at the A4-sized MacLennan one from a few years ago and saw that it was printed exclusively for an HFHS member, but he isn't mentioned in it so maybe their highly sophisticated computer resources were not quite up to the task at the time. The first five sections and 90-odd pages are the bits about how the old and distinguished Mac Lennan family got its name and newly developed statistical information about the Mac Lennan population in loads of countries and so on.

Section 1: 'The Great Migrations of Man'. This starts in the Stone Age which Halperts reliably inform me was eight or nine thousand years before the modern era (they didn't read the same books I have) and moves quickly to European emigration to the United Kingdom in the Roman Period. There is a bad taste in my mouth all the way through at the level of ignorance shown off to the gullible people who bought this to thrill from. The usefulness to Mac Lennans is not demonstrated with short paragraphs on how to recognise Italian, Japanese and Polish names (among 22 nationalities) although to be fair, Scottish ones get the longest paragraph with 20 lines. There is a distinct American slant to the whole thing. I'll bet they just love the chapter on heraldry, especially the inserted page with the black line drawing of the 'Mac Lennan coat of arms hereby illustrated' which is officially documented in Burke's General Armory'. That'd make the Lord Lyon envious I'm sure. It might bore him as it did me with the elementary but drawn out detail of heraldry: 'Around the World Searching for Heraldry in Switzerland' - again of limited use to Mac Lennans I'd have thought. Then: 'How to Discover your Ancestors', which helpfully tells you to begin by questioning the elders of your family and hopes that your 1991 International Registry will be a valuable tool to aid you in tracing your family tree. Right, let's get family-tree-tracing in the second half of the book. They used a highly developed network of computer sources in Europe, North America and Australia, searching over 150 million name and address records.

And they got 1200 names!

And they ordered them by postcode, for Pete's sake!

You might do a statistical survey to see common areas to get an idea of spread or centralisation, but I'd not bother. They did one for us anyway. U.S.A., Canada, Oz, NZ, GB, Northern Ireland, Ireland, Germany and Austria and there weren't any in those last two. The most populous areas were Inverness-shire, Massachusetts and Ontario with 76, 41 and 11 households respectively.

Did you notice the reference to Burke's General Armory? I received another special never-to-be repeated offer the other day from Burke's Peerage and apparently H B Brooks-Baker, Publishing Director has been 'working on a project relating to my 'Mccoll family name', and 'after years of effort and considerable expense' he's ready to publish the 'Burke's Peerage World Book of Mccollis' and Mr and Mrs Jonathan Mccoll are mentioned in

it! I dumped the bumf in the bin.

"Macraes to New Zealand": by Molly Akers and Eileen McMillan, NZ, 1994.

We have been presented with our copy by a kind and interested member, Daniel Macrae of Connecticut. This book is poles away from the Halperts rubbish (can you be poles away from something?) It is over 400 pages of large format hardback volume displaying the genealogies of Clan MacRae families in New Zealand up to 1990. Naturally, it has crests and badges, but displays a very impressive amount of work done. It is foremost a list of names, but some history is given as an opener and a couple of dozen monochrome pictures of documents, landscapes and ships which all add something as well as relieving the monotony of pages of names. A few 'Big House' families get drop charts in the back but apart from these ones, few families go back much before the mid-1800s. All of the names are coded with origins and present areas, and then generations within family groups, eg. NZ2. Lachlan MacRae born Stromferry in 1885, died 1948 in Moeraki, Otago, buried Oamaru cemetery. He'd gone to NZ in 1908 and settled in Dunedin where examples of his stone carving include the University buildings, then he moved to Oamaru. The codes of his descendants are of the form NZ2 a (1) showing a method I don't really care for, where type is changed for each generation: number, letter, number, number-in-brackets, letter-in-brackets. With my computer background I'd have found something like decimals easier to read, but this is nit-picking using personal bias. With my local area of course, I found interest in house names in Strathpeffer up the road from Dingwall, the names Timaru and Oamaru have been there for a hundred years when the owners' families went to or returned from NZ. Just to link with the other book above, once there were MacLennans in Timaru House, Strathpeffer.

There are thousands of names mentioned in this book, many with potted biographies, even if only occupations (commercial traveller or mason journeyman), origins, marriages, religious preferences. The writers would get rich if only the MacRaes in NZ bought this, and if the Scottish families who lost relatives to the Antipodes joined in there'd be no stopping them. And the MacRaes married people of other surnames, so there are mentions of Gillies, Grants, Mackenzies and enough others to make you wonder who in NZ, apart from the people who were there first, isn't descended from a Scot. I know a New Zealander named Angus Gillies, I wonder if he's in here....?

## Canadian IRCs

"The Canadian rates for IRCs has risen astonishingly in price this summer. Before August 1st an IRC cost either \$1.40 or \$1.50 depending on which postal outlet one went to! From that date, Canada Post Corporation, in an apparently punitive and random action, raised the price of one IRC to \$3.50. A kind of 'genealogists hot-line' went out at the end of July and there was a stampede for IRCs at the old price. I have both phoned and written Canada Post for an explanation or rational policy for such an increase, but have not received any satisfactory reply at all. I suspect that large corporations and small businesses do not use IRCs but rather that it is the individual and the family historian who most uses them. Canada Post is notorious here for high-handed dealings with individuals, with putting small postal outlets out of business etc. This is just the latest in a series of most unpleasant business practices. I felt your readers should know that they may expect less response from Canadians asking for or sending genealogical mail as a result of this action." - Submitted by Gail Benjafield (member no. 111).



