Newsletter

Date:25/08/18



Reviresco We will rise again

#### Contacts

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# **Society Officers**

Non-Executive Chair: Sir John McEwen

Honorary President: Eleanor Williamson

Chair: Sean McCuin

Vice Chair: Achim Fuchs

**Treasurer: Rachel McEwen** 

Secretary: Sandra McCuin

Committee Members: Duncan McEwan, Herma Goosens

#### Vacancies

Committee members always needed and very welcome.
Please contact us at the above email or address for more info, or come along to one of our Annual General Meeetings the first Saturday in June.

# Clan Ewen Society Newsletter

# Highland Games Season in Full Swing



Hello again! Well, Highland Games Season is in full swing and we have had fun attending as many as possible, having tents at Helensburgh and Oban. We would have had tents at more but they were full! We are on the schedule for next year

though!! We have met more MacEwens from near and far and really enjoyed getting the word out that we are an active clan with the big Derbh-fine/Gathering next year to transition from Commander to Chief. We have been able to get to know more chiefs from other clans face to face and inform them of our goals and the response has been very positive. Bing in the U.S.A has been busy also with the Grandfather Mountain Games and getting the word out there too. If you get chance to go to a Highland Games, please do go, it is a great day out and an opportunity to enjoy Scottish traditions, enjoy the athletics, piping and dancing, meet others and reconnect with our heritage.

## Chiefship

It is up to the Clan to choose our Chief, Lord Lyon will then formally recognise our decision. We will reconfirm our selection at the Derbhfine in June, through showing the support for the Chief via the signed petition, number of representatives of the clan in attendance, and the diversity of the support (i.e. people from lots of different places, not just a small select group). The Derbhfine marks the end of the 5 year interim period as requested by the Lord Lyon, in which time the Commander is to perform the duties otherwise done by the chief. At the Derbhfine, we as an organised clan will solidify our position, whereby Sir John H.R.McEwen, 5th Baronet of Marchmont and Bardrochat will perform the oath of office as Chief of the

Name with all in attendance being witness. This is a historic ceremony whereby the Chief will receive the feathers of office.

Where: Kilfinan Hotel, Kilfinan, Scotland

When: Saturday 1st June 2019

Cost: Formal service and refreshments free, other meals and fun family activities during the weekend may have a charge, more info to follow.

### Chairman's Message

Welcome to all the clansfolk, the enthusiasm and interest in the clan has really increased recently which is exciting. We are continually working on the website and getting the word out at various events. I look forward to connecting with you as much as possible. We need to register as much support as possible for the Chiefship, you can do this via the website section headed "register your support", this is the petition we will submit to Lord Lyon for him to recognise our choice of Chief, so it is important to get as many names as possible on there. So far the response has been very positive, thank you to all those who have registered already.

As we are a small clan spread out far and wide, we really need to come together and show our strength for the Chief. This is your chance to make a difference and be a part of history. Your registration of support really does matter, and really does count. Even if you cannot attend the Derbhfine, you can be a huge part in getting our Chief back.

# **Clan Ewen Society**

#### Wee'Uns



Herma Goosens, a committee member and wonderful lady from the Netherlands has written a book all about the adventures of Ewan Duncan McEwen, and a baby dragon called Spitty. Mairin, aged 10, who has read the book several times and loved it describes it as "funny, a little bit disgusting and gross, and a bit weird but really interesting!" It is a brilliant mix of Scottish heritage and accents with a touch of the Netherlands, delightfully illustrated. If you would like to follow the

adventures of wee Ewan, Spitty and the Trolleybollies, contact us and we can get you a copy! There is another book in the works from Herma too. She will be at the Gathering in June if you would like to meet her and get a signed copy! Herma said, send us your Scottish short story and she will choose one to receive a copy of her book! (contact info on front cover).

A Joke from Mairin: "Did I tell you the one about the pizza?", "Nah—it's too cheesy!"

#### Games



When: 8th September 2018

Where: Pitlochry, Scotland

We will attend this Games, let us know if you are too and we can meet up. There will not be a clan tent here as there is no space left.

#### News

Sir John has been invited to attend meetings with the Standing Council of Chiefs.
Through these meetings, Sir John has been able to raise the profile of the Clan and create some good relationships.

#### **GDPR Data Laws**

As you know, new GDPR laws state that we have to tell you how we use your data. We only use your personal information for society correspondence with you with your consent. Any personal information we have for you is kept in a locked filing cabinet in a secure location and any digital data is stored in password protected format. If you have any questions about this or would like to opt out please contact us (info on front cover)

# Why Join the Society?

The moneys collected from membership goes towards costs incurred for things like legal fees for the Derbhfines, Cairn construction and maintenance, clan MacEwen administration fees such as web hosting, correspondence (not everyone has access online!). By joining the society (the administrative arm of clan MacEwen), you are kept informed of what is going on, can have a say in the running of the clan, help to facilitate the growth and direction of the clan. Everyone is welcome to attend the Annual General Meeting held on the first Saturday of June. If you have the time and energy to help out, we need and want you! We are a small society that supports a widely scattered clan. We truly believe in our motto "Reviresco", we will rise again!

# Scottish Tablet Trials

So, I tried making Scottish tablet for the first time this month, as I can eat my weight in it! I tried a fairly generic recipe but would love to hear your family recipes and do you use vanilla or not! Please include the all important techniques, as I have found out, most recipes are similar but it is all in the execution whether it works or the whisps get it and ruin it! I got one with great texture and flavour but a little grainy, one that was way too grainy, a burnt pan, a burnt hob and that's where I decided to stop and get some advice! I then found that I read the method wrong when it came to the amount of time on high heat! Here's the one I tried:

2 lb granulated sugar (ok—it's a lot of sugar, but it is a treat!)

4oz unsalted butter

1 14oz can condensed milk

8 fl oz milk

1 fl oz vanilla

Add the milk to the sugar in a large saucepan, gently heat until dissolved, add butter and condensed milk. Turn up the heat, heat until soft ball stage (116 degrees c), or for 20 minutes stirring all the time with a wooden spoon, take of the heat and add vanilla, mix furiously until you see it coming away from the sides of the pan a bit, then pour into a greased baking sheet and leave to set for about an hour. You can score it into squares and cut when completely cooled.

Let me know how yours goes!!

# What's Your Story?

We would love to hear from our members. If you would like to share your family story, or you would like to submit a poem, writing, picture, family regional recipe or photo, please contact us at clanewenuk@live.co.uk or mail to the address above!