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Reviresco We will rise again

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McEwan

USA: Bob and Carol Owens

Canada: Maggie McEwan

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Duncan McEwan

Herma Goosens

Clan MacEwen Society Bulletin

Commander's Message

Sir John MacEwen



In troubled times it has been heartening to witness the display of Clan MacEwen in the Olympic Games. Thanks to the efforts of Australian swimmers Emma McKeon and Kaylee McKeown, and English show-jumper Tom McEwen, we secured seven gold medals, one silver medal and three bronze medals. If we had been a nation we would have finished 15th in the medal table, between Cuba and Hungary. Perhaps we ought to be a nation? Perhaps we already are! We are a stateless community, Scottish in origin, with our

heartland on Loch Fyne, roaming the world, doing our best, musicians and doctors and lawyers and politicians and engineers and writers and actors and all manner of people, a decent bunch, making the world, we reckon, a better place. And if the American high-jumper Shelby McEwen had won a gold medal we would have finished 11th in the table, between Italy and Canada. But Shelby finished 12th. However, Shelby McEwen, like all our Clan, will be inspired by our motto and rallying cry, "Reviresco", which I was always taught means "We Shall Rise Again". The high-jumper Shelby, of course, he will rise again. The motto is currently most often translated as "We grow green", as indeed we do. This is in fact probably more appropriate as the recent history of our Clan shows that we have already *risen again. Go all the MacEwen athletes!*

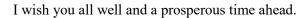
Chairman's Message

Sean McCuin

Greetings from Kilfinan!

Hello my fellow Kinsmen and Women, I hope this finds you well. Our Hybrid Gathering this year was a great success, and I look forward to welcoming you all in person in the near future. Since our last newsletter, we have successfully opened the Clan MacEwen Heritage Centre in Kilfinan and have been welcoming a steady stream of MacEwens' as the restrictions are lifting slowly but surely. We are looking forward to attending as many Highland Games and Gatherings as possible in the coming months, so keep an eye out on the website and Facebook Pages.

I would like to thank the Executive Committee for their countless contributions and dedication to our Great Clan. We would not be able to accomplish the vision for the Society and Clan if it was not for them.



Reviresco!

Co'mhla!



From the Editors

Ewan and Pauline Rowland

We would like to echo Sir John's comments. This has been a difficult year, to say the least. A year where we had to cope with the reality that Covid 19 is going to become a part of our lives from now on. However, it has also been a year in which we have been able to get together virtually with the aid of technology. This was never more apparent than when the team lead by Sean and Sandra pulled off an amazing 'Clan Gathering'. A handful of fortunate clan's men and women were able to attend the gathering held in the superbly decked out Heritage Centre, as well as bask in the lovely weather at Kilfinan on the Cowal Peninsula. The whole event was a huge achievement and success. The honours for the clan didn't stop there because of another virtual event, the



Tokyo Olympics 2020, which gave us more to be proud of with three MacEwen Olympians winning medals and one McEwen taking part in the final of a track event. We also need to mention Robbie McEwen a former professional cyclist and three times winner of the Tour de France. There is also Caleb Ewan another pro international cyclist from New South Wales and stage winner of major events. Not only that, and closer to home, is our Vice Chairman, Ross's fantastic achievement in getting his very own coat of arms.

The talents of the MacEwens hold no bounds! Well done to everyone!

Reviresco!

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Congratulations to Our Outstanding Olympians!



Tom McEwen—Equestrian Gold and Silver



Kaylee McKeown—Swimming 3 Gold & 1 Bronze



Emma McKeon—Swimming 4 Golds & 3 Bronze



Shelby McEwen—High Jumper 12th in the Final

AUSTRALIA

Chris McEwan Commissioner of Oceania



After experiencing the freedom of attending a few Celtic festivals and Highland games earlier in the year, along with the great privilege of hosting a small gathering at the start of June to coincide with the international gathering and AGM, I am afraid that I have to report that Eastern Australia is once more in the grips of COVID19. The Delta variant has hit NSW particularly hard and we are currently in the worst situation we have found ourselves since the start of this pandemic. As such all events for the foreseeable future (until our vaccination rate hits about 80%) have been cancelled. But we do not give up hope. We know that if there is one thing our Clan is good at its coming back from bleak circumstances. So I look forward to the day I am able to look back at this time and say "Wow, look at the way we lived out our motto to grow stronger again!" Reviresco!





Our gathering!



CANADA

Maggie McEwan Canada Commissioner



Greetings from a hot and humid Ontario, Canada.

We are experiencing little in the way of Scottish activities in Canada due to lockdowns etc. associated with COVID-19. I know that there have been a few, very small, Scottish celebrations around the country, and Canmore, Alberta and Cobourg Ontario are celebrating their Scottish heritage in early September. As I write this, Clan MacEwen is not participating in either.

Fergus Highland Games has produced the second virtual Games titled 'Digital Ceilidh 2 go'. It is a very creative production and a thrilling substitute for the real thing. This is free of charge and may be viewed at www.fergushighlandgames.ca. Our Ross Manson McEwen has a short video in the 'Clans' section.



We are optimistic about 2022.

USA

Bob and Carol Owens USA Commissioners



Greetings All!

As the greater U.S. slogs through the hot, sultry "dog days" of summer, (historically the period following the heliacal rising of the star system Sirius, which Hellenistic astrology connected with heat, drought, sudden thunderstorms, lethargy, fever, and the occasional mad dog), we are grateful that Clan MacEwen's official presence at the 2021 Grandfather Mountain Highland Games in early July was accompanied by blue skies, cool breezes, and only the reassuring baaing of sheep and the gentle mooing of the heiland coos.

Hosted by long-time GMHG convener, Bing Ewen, and his family, and boasting an attendance of nearly two dozen Society members, potential members, family and friends, this four-day gathering was an opportunity to rekindle friendships, enjoy some delicious Scottish and American fare, listen to some rousing traditional and new age Celtic music, enjoy the majesty of the Highland pipes, drums, and fiddles, and shop...oh how we shopped...for all things Scottish!



Proudly represented by our newly appointed Northeast Regional Convener James (Jim) McEwen, and assisted by his daughter Michelle McEwen, August found Jim convening the MacEwen Clan tent on Thomas Point Beach at the Maine Highland Games. Rory McEwen, convening the neighboring MacLachlan tent, was also in helpful attendance. This was the first time for a MacEwen tent at these Games, and a well-appointed one it was! With both the ancient and modern tartan flag and banner flying, a display table filled with books, pictures, pamphlets, and historical MacEwen informational handouts provided visitors the opportunity to learn more about the MacEwen's throughout the ages. Bravo Zulu!

Sadly, rising covid-19 delta variant numbers have caused some locations to cancel or postpone their 2021 games and festivals. However, at this writing, Clan MacEwen plans to host a tent at the Stone Mountain Highland Games in Georgia, and the Scotland County Highland Games in North Carolina, all of which are scheduled for October. We will continue to monitor and advise Society members of the status of additional 2021 events as information becomes available.

If anyone wishes to convene an event in your area, please contact me, and I will be happy to assist in facilitating your efforts!

Reviresco! Co'mhla!

Bob

CAPT Robert L. Owens, MBA, FLMI (USMS)

U.S. Commissioner, Clan MacEwen Society

owens@rebelscreek.com

USA

" A Wee Bit of Scotland in the High Country of Western North Carolina









Calling of the Clan... Then and Now



Carol Owens - Membership Secretary

Derived from the Scots Gaelic for offspring, "clan" at its simplest is an extended form of family. This would include kinship ties binding closely different branches of the same family tree, different surnames linked through a common shared history and often even identifying unrelated persons living on the land. These would be under the protection of a recognized leader, someone in charge who would be expected to watch over those in his care, as well as make the final decision on any important matters affecting the safety and well-being of this common community.

Historically, each clan was led by a chief, many of whose clansmen and clanswomen were directly related by blood or marriage. However, as the use of identifying surnames became more common, in time the surname of the chief was often assumed by those unrelated individuals living on clan lands. In return for this sense of kinship and assured protection afforded by their chief came the expectation of commitment thereto. Indeed, members of a clan, whether or not related by blood, were often expected to swear an Oath of Fealty, promising their loyalty and faithful service to their chief, and answering without question when it came the summons or "call" of said clan chief.

Before the invention of the telegraph, telephone, internet, other forms of social media, and the widespread use of global positioning systems (GPS), such a call was made by sending runners to notify outlying members of the clan, and their allies, of the need to gather in a specific place at a specific time for an event or council of utmost importance, such as a call to war. Acting as both beacon and symbol, a huge bonfire would be built, lit, and maintained in advance of and during such a gathering, and at that council fire the presence and names of attendant families announced.

Today the calling of the clans is largely symbolic, a ceremonial means of maintaining and celebrating this historic Highland tradition. These days, most often occurring in the late evening dusk as the start of a Highland Games, a torchlight ceremony is used as a means of announcing a Clan's or Society's presence upon the field...these days a field of fellowship rather than one of battle. In the dark of night, with a bonfire blazing and the torchlights but glimmering, as those familiar Scottish clan names are called out to the accompanying skirl of pipes and beat of drums, one can readily imagine the excitement and tension of an earlier time.

Today as a Clan Society, we use email, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter to stay in touch with kith and kin, to share the news of births and deaths, to announce the accomplishments of our many members, to invite you to attend our AGM, to encourage and facilitate the application and renewal of Clan Society memberships, and to keep you apprised of the status of our pursuit of a recognized Chief.

I ask you now as our ancestors were asked then, will you when asked, as your kinsmen and kinswomen did so long ago, answer the "Calling of the Clan?"

REVIRESCO! C'OMHLA!

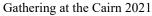
To apply for, renew, or inquire about an existing membership in Clan MacEwen Society please visit www.clanmacewen.com or contact the membership secretary at carolmarieowens@gmail.com

Memories of Kilfinan 2021



New Banner displayed at the Barbeque







Heritage Centre



Local Cheeses







The parish church of Saint Finan dates from the 13th century: the church was first recorded between 1231 and 1241 in a series of grants and confirmations by Duncan, second son of Ferchar, and his nephew young Laumon. Laumon was an ancestor of the Lamont family, who gave the church and all its rights, to the Cluniac Monks of Paisley Abbey, Paisley.



Lamont Vault



- Around the back of Kilfinan Church you can access the Vault.
- Inside are ancient burial stones including some from the Lamont Chiefs of old.
- Some of the stones are thought to date as early as the 6th
 Century: more fee plan



Memories of Kilfinan 2021



Video - How to Prepare and Cook Oysters



Video promoting Food from Argyll



Video - Farming in Argyll



Above - Sir John, Ewan, Pauline and Dina on their way down to Auchalik Bay with Sandra (behind the camera).





Spotlight on a MacEwen A NEW MacEWEN ARMIGER

Scottish Heraldry is often described as the 'garden of the history of Scotland', through the spectacular blend of art, law, culture and history - it tells the story of some of the most prominent Clans and families, and the most triumphant and turbulent times over the last 700 years. Despite the age of shields and sieges being over (for the most part...), heraldry is very much alive and well today and a Coat of Arms remains a special and meaningful way to preserve a family's heritage for generations to come. Clan MacEwen and the Clan MacEwen Society took a further step towards greater Heraldic legitimacy and standing earlier this year when on the 24th February 2021 our Vice-Chair Ross Manson McEwen was granted a Coat of Arms by the Minister of the Crown and serving Judge of the oldest Heraldic Court in the world, The Lord Lyon King of Arms.

This marks what we understand to be the first entirely new Grant of Arms to a Scottish MacEwen in over a century, and signifies a positive further step in the Clan's exciting journey towards re-establishing itself after over 500 years.

THE DESIGN

The design (called a 'blazon') is in keeping with previous MacEwen Coats of Arms both in the established colour scheme of blue (Azure) and yellow / gold (Or) and the presence of a lion rampant. The chief (upper section) of the shield represents Ross's work in the field of law and governance, and his paternal McEwen ancestors, them having worked as journalists, newspaper editors and architectural designers. The quill on the left represents the story of Ross's ancestors, the quill on the right the stories and experiences of the current and future generations, and the ink pot as the shared bloodline. The lion is holding two items in its paw, the first is a piece of mistletoe, the English translation of Ross's fiancéemVictoria's surname, and the second a piece of barley to represent his descent from the 'Mansons of Kilblean', a historic farming, distilling and merchant family in Aberdeenshire.

The crest, the area above the knight's helmet, shows an oak tree stump, symbolising MacEwen, and perched on top is a golden eagle, representing the Highlands and Islands where Ross was born and raised. The motto, 'Ad Altiora Tendo', translates to 'I strive towards higher things', and was designed to compliment the overarching MacEwen Clan motto of 'Reviresco', 'I grow strong again', sentiments which truly reflect the great progress and spirit of the Clan today.



Our Clan Commander, Sir John R.H McEwen Bt proudly carries a Coat of Arms initially granted to his Great-Grandfather Robert Finnie McEwen in 1908, and the subsequent addition of the rank of Baronet awarded to his Grandfather Sir John Helias Finnie McEwen in 1953. If we are fortunate enough for Sir John to be elevated to Chief of the Name MacEwen he will then be granted a brand new undifferenced Coat of Arms of MacEwen, which will be an entirely new design and will serve as the Chiefly Arms of MacEwen forevermore. Please visit the Heraldry page on www.clanMacEwen.com to see details of some previous MacEwen Grants of Arms.

Spotlight on a MacEwen A NEW MACEWEN ARMIGER

ARMIGERS IN SCOTLAND

In Scotland all Coats of Arms are granted by The Lord Lyon, an office first recorded in the year 1377, and are issued under the authority of the Queen to individuals Lyon deems to be 'virtuous and well-deserving'. Scotland's Heraldic Laws remain the strictest in the world and since 1592 the Lyon Court has also had the power to prosecute individuals or organisations who seek to breach those laws, further demonstrating the importance placed upon Heraldic protocol and proper use. It is Lyon himself who holds the sole prerogative and authority regarding who is granted Arms in Scotland, those individuals thereafter become 'Armigers', the name given to someone granted a personal Coats of Arms by a Heraldic Authority.

All Scottish Armigers are elevated in their grant or matriculation of Arms and as such are recognised within the

non-peerage rank of 'Gentleman', a social dignity under Scots Law. If an Armiger is associated with a particular Scottish clan, their duty is to help ensure the stewardship, long-term continuity and unity of the clan is maintained, to assist the clan and the Chief / Commander in their time, and are bound by the principles of *noblesse oblige*, to always act in an honourable and responsible way. Scottish Armigers are entitled to wear a single eagle feather in their bonnet when in Highland Dress, and a silver eagle feather on a cap or lapel badge which bears their crest and motto. A Chieftain or Clan Commander may wear two eagle feathers, a full Chief three feathers, and the Monarch (The Chief of Chiefs), four feathers. All are also permitted to fly a Heraldic banner or flag of their Armorial design.

We hope this is just the first of many more Grants of Arms to a MacEwen to take place as the clan continues on its journey to bring together MacEwens from all around the world, and to write the most successful chapter in our family's history yet.



The Rev Canon Dr Joseph John Morrow CBE QC LL.D DL FRSE The Right Honourable Lord Lyon King of Arms

The official ceremony, where Ross will be presented with his Letters Patent by the Lord Lyon, will take place in due course and promises to be a very special event. If you would like more information regarding any aspect of Heraldry, or the process for Petitioning for a Grant of Arms for yourself or an ancestor, please get in touch with the Society, or visit the Court of the Lord Lyon's website – www.courtofthelordlyon.scot



Left: Ross's Cap Badge

Right: Ross's Heraldic Banner



The Clan That Plants Trees

Dutch Water Scouts Lead the Way—Herma Goosens

Clan MacEwen are planting a native woodland in their ancestral homeland of Kilfinan, Argyll with the help from the Woodland Trust and Kilfinan Community Forest. In fact for every society membership, they will be planting a tree. This initiative reaches worldwide, with members planting trees native in their settled homeland from Australia to the Netherlands.

As climate change and deforestation are such important current issues, planting a tree is a small act that each of us can do, but collectively we can really make a difference. Woodland Trust facts state that oak trees support more wildlife than any other UK native tree and a small wooded area has the power to decrease the temperature in cities by as much as 10 degrees! In fact, one hectare of native woodland can lock up 400+ tonnes of carbon for centuries, so it is clear to see how planting trees and maintaining existing native woodland is a multi-tasking defence against climate change that anyone can be a part of.

Clan MacEwen have already been planting trees in their local neighbourhoods and sharing their pictures. They are excited to start planting their MacEwen Wood in Kilfinan where everyone can visit and get involved in tree planting throughout the world, whilst providing fun spaces for us all to enjoy the beauty and power of trees. They will be holding workshops to educate about trees and guided walks through the woodlands at their new Heritage

Centre in Kilfinan, Argyll and at their various gatherings worldwide. To learn more, please visit www.clanmacewen.com. Sandra McCuin

A bit later than planned but finally an Oak tree has been planted in the Netherlands. Following the call to plant a tree, I went to Scouting Rijnwaarden, the Water Scouts on "Het Gelders Eiland" (Isle of Gelder). These scouts are led by my brother, who is the Scoutmaster and once started as a scout himself. His son Koen followed in his footsteps and is a Water Scout too. When I learned they were planning to plant a Weeping Willow on the far end of the premises, I persuaded them to plant an Oak tree instead and make it a Dutch/Scottish event. However, there was still a hurdle to overcome. An Oak may not be the first choice of tree to be planted in the Netherlands, due to the fact that most Oak trees have been affected by the processionary caterpillar plague. A rash is one of the most common complaints after the skin comes into contact with the processionary caterpillar's hairs. So, to keep the scouts from harm, I had to do some research to find a caterpillar free species. When the day came to plant the Oak (Quercus palustris), it was searing hot,

and the leaves of the tree were drooping sadly. When we finished planting the tree, I made the comment that instead of a Weeping Willow they have now an Weeping Oak! In the meantime I can assure you, the Oak is doing very well and has overcome the planting ritual and the heat.

Scouting Rijnwaarden was founded in 1939 as a traditional Scouting group. In 1982 they became Water Scouts, partly because their clubhouse was situated near a big leisure lake "De Bijland" open to the river Rhine.

Flat boats were donated by the local Ship Yard "*De Hoop*" and are still in use. Boat maintenance is performed by the children themselves. They are aligned with other Water Scout groups in the area and roam the different waters during the year, not hindered by the weather. But the highlight in summer time is always the test if their homemade raft of the year is sea worthy. And I can assure you it always is!





Scots on the Move - Part 2

The reasons for emigration from Scotland are various and forced emigration for those convicted of repeated criminal acts or petty crimes was added to the list of reasons. Many were sent to the colonies in N America in the 18th Century, but this was later stopped in 1776 but not before those who were captured and tried for taking part in the Battle of Culloden. The so called, lucky prisoners who weren't executed were transported to North America and mainly to Maryland and Virginia as indentured labour. Agents for the Crown were paid £5 for each prisoner but in reality the final payment was much less. Australia became the next destination for the convict ships with the first leaving Britain in 1787 and ceased in 1867.

It is thought that the majority of Scots immigrants were not forced to leave but certain factors helped to encourage them. Mass migration took place in the mid19th Century. The biggest influencer was the provision of free or subsidized passage. It is estimated that around 2.33 million Scots left for N America, Australia or New Zealand between 1825 and 1938. A 'push' factor was down to a rising population, competition for work and housing, poor living conditions, low wages and in part, the land clearances. Landowners saw an opportunity to make more money by removing crofters and replacing them with sheep.

In 1847 thousands of Scots were brought to the brink of starvation due to potato blight. At this time John Ross who was the Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation was so moved by this event that he wrote a letter to the editor of the Cherokee Advocate saying, "It is said that there are not less than 300,000 Scotch on the Highlands and Islands, who must through charity be fed during the ensuing summer or die of famine." ('Have the Scots no claim on the Cherokee?' Scots, Indians and Scots Indians in the American South. Colin Galloway). Between 1852 and 1857, the Highland and Islands Emigration Society responded to the potato blight by sending about 4,910 Highlanders, mainly from Skye and the Hebrides to Australia. The Society helped to fund those without the means and Queen Victoria gave £300, and Prince Albert contributed £105. In todays' money Queen Victoria's £300 would be equivalent to £40,650 and Prince Albert's £105 would be about £13,550 Sterling today.



Scotland's People Collection

The majority of emigrants were from the lowlands but around 10,000 Highlanders bordered chartered ships to Australia between 1837 and 1952. Among them was Alan Cameron, who was born in Ardnamurchan in 1837. As a small boy, Alan was shipped to Australia aboard "Brilliant".

"I will tell you a haphazard account of our ship and what I remember of many of the passengers. We sailed from Tobermoray, about middle August.....The ship had too many passengers for her size, heard them say that most of the males had to live and sleep on deck during the length of the voyage. Ship kept very clean. Some sickness. Ten children died. No grown up people. All the passengers except two families were from Argyllshire and we arrived in Sydney 19th January 1838.....I often think of the courage of the old prisoners coming to new land full of convicts and very little money in their pockets and what we went through. Every soul on our ship was Scottish".

In the mid 1800s, conditions on board the sailing ships for emigrants could only be described as deplorable. The vast majority of emigrants could only travel in 'steerage' which was at the stern of the vessel in makeshift accommodation. John O'Connell, son of Daniel O'Connell and a member of the British House of Commons said that emigrant ships under British registry "should at least be as good as the ships that took convicts to Australia". One account from a steerage passenger said that hundreds of people were lying like sacks together, quiet, motionless, with no light or air and many were suffering from fever with no food or medicine. Mortality rates were high accounting for 10% of the steerage passengers. An article in the Quebec Gazette, June 1834 stated that "the worst of all merchant ships of Great Britain and Ireland with few exceptions, were very old, very ill manned, very ill found and considering the dangers of an early spring voyage to this port from ice and tempestuous weather, it is astonishing that more serious accidents have not occurred". (Transatlantic Crossing – Central Michigan University).

Scots on the Move - Part 2



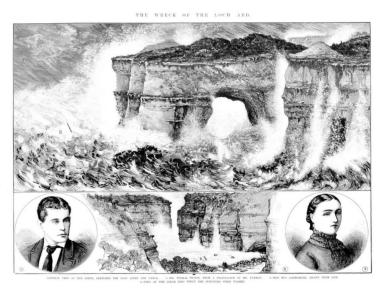
Canada. After WW1 retuning ex-soldiers were helped to emigrate through the setting up of the Overseas Settlement Committee. Funding was also available via the Empire Settlement Act to help those willing to emigrate to New South Wales.

To reach the gold fields of Australia, ships took the quickest route via the 'Great Circle Route'. Emigrants faced enormous risks from icebergs and frequent storms. Many ships were lost when navigating the narrows between King Island and southern Victoria on west coast of Victoria known as the Shipwreck Coast'. One such ship that founded on this stretch of coast was the Loch Ard. Fifty-two lives were lost and only two survived, one an apprentice midshipman, Thomas Pierce and the daughter of a doctor, Evelyn Carmichael. The place where they were washed up was named after the ship, 'Loch Ard Gorge'.

In bad weather hatches were battened down adding to the anxiety and fear of the passengers. When the ship rolled people in the crowded steerage part of the vessel would be bumped and bruised as they were hurled from side to side. One traveller wrote "A sudden heave of the ship often dislodged whole families from their berths and hurled them headlong among other companions who lay on the opposite side".

If the emigrant could face eating after that then more hardship was to follow. Food rations were meagre and of the worst quality and cooking facilities were very limited with many families waiting their turn to cook. Some waited from dawn until dusk before they could cook something.

In the 1880's the British Government also contributed to the 'push' factor by contributing £10,000 in total to encourage crofters to migrate. Landowners on Harris gave clothing and money to those leaving for



According to the Scottish Emigration Database, 21,000 passengers embarked at Glasgow and Greenock for non European ports between 1st January and 30th April, 1923.

The 'pull' factor included settled family members extoling the virtues of their new life and tails of great wealth. Swapping overcrowded tenements and poor housing in many cities was another contributing factor. The promise of land attracted farmers and labourers who used their skills and knowledge to improve the land, crops and animals. New opportunities also 'pulled' professional Scots from commerce, lawyers, teachers, engineers, accountants and architects who found their skills in great demand. Scots were successful in their new lands because they were resourceful combined with a strong work ethic and entrepreneurial spirit. Those from the Highlands and Islands adapted well to harsh climates and their community sprit promoted co-operation and support for each other. Gold rushes in California, Australia, South Africa and New Zealand were also a major 'pull' influence.



Loch Ard Sailing Ship - Wikipedia

Scots on the Move - Part 2

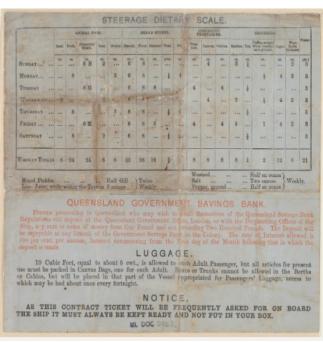


Innes Family Ticket to Queensland



One of the Ships Taking Emigrants to Canada, Leaving Stornoway.

National Museum of Scotland



Dietary Sheet for Passengers Emigrating to Queensland



George Street Tenements , Back Court
The Glasgow Story

Scots on the Move - Part 2

Between 1861 and 1945 Scots made up around 15% of all UK migrants to Australia. In 1895 Christina Rutherford MacPherson played a tune from ear to Australian poet Banjo Paterson. The tune she remembered was being played by a band at the races in Wurnambool, a County town in the Western District of Victoria. Banjo Paterson put these words to the tune Christina remembered and became popular as 'Once a jolly swagman camped by a billabong....' The song became 'Waltzing Matilda' to the traditional Scottish song 'Thou Bonnie Wood of Craigielea'. This became the unofficial Australian anthem. However, another Scot called Peter Dodds McCormick, who was born in Port Glasgow, wrote Australia's official anthem, 'Advance Australia Fair'. Contributions made by Scotts in the 20th Century were many including the building of the iconic Sydney Bridge by Scottish stonemasons. Miners from the coalfields of Lanarkshire, Fife and Ayreshire worked the coal mines in New South Wales in the 1920s and 30s. In 1929 Alexander MacRae, originally from Loch Kishorn in the Highlands, produced a famous Australian swimming costume – 'Speedos'. (Scots and Australia sath.org.uk/edscot/www.educationscotland.gov.uk).

After WW2 170,000 Scots took advantage of the assisted passage and left Britain and became affectionately know as the £10 Poms.

By the turn of the 20th Century journeys to Australia were cut by 35-40 days due mainly to the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869. ('Journeys to Australia' museumvictoria.com.au). The contrast in conditions could not have been more marked. Accommodation on the post WW2 ships was vastly improved with cabin space for all passengers. Today, Scots prefer to make the journey by plane for a new life in Australia, rather than by ship which takes weeks.

Wherever Scots have settled they have maintained strong links to the 'motherland' by establishing and promoting their cultural identity through the establishment of 'Caledonian' societies. Through these vibrant organisations Scotland thrives with traditions such as Highland Games, pipe bands and the promotion of Scottish Gaelic classes. It wasn't all one-way as transplanted Scots made the journey back to Scotland, some to stay and others to visit the land of their forefathers. Their impact on the world can not be underestimated. Scots have contributed significantly in economic, political and cultural ways. Their reach extends over 12 countries with a total worldwide population of 28-40 million. (Wikipedia)

Country	Scottish Population
USA	6,006,955
Scottish American & Irish/Scots American	5,393,554
Canada	4,719,850
Australia	1,792,000
England	795,000
Argentina	100,000
Chile	80,000
France	45,000
Poland	15,000
New Zealand	12,792
South Africa	11,160
Isle of Man	2,403
Hong Kong	1,459

Glasgow to Heathrow - Part 1

By

Lynne Shuman

Lynne Shuman is a new member of the Clan MacEwen Society. She is resident in the USA with MacEwen family connections. As an author she has had two books published and has agreed to share with us abridged chapters about her visit to Scotland with her daughter. She explains that this account is dedicated to those who were unable to make the journey to Scotland in recent times. Part one, is taken from her first book "Travels With Time Shares, Extraordinary Adventures by Ordinary People."

Travel buddy Margaret and I had enjoyed a number of vacations together and decided this year to go to Great Britain.

Since I have Scottish ancestry, and thoroughly believed this might be my one and only opportunity to trod the sod, we decided to fly into Glasgow, Scotland, spend a few days there and then work our way south to finish our vacation in London.

My son was stationed at Kaiserslautern, Germany, at the time, so we invited him to join us, if it was at all possible.

Since I had moved back east from years of living in the Midwest, and was now living in my childhood state of Connecticut, I flew from Boston, MA. Margaret, flew from Indiana. She and I met at JFK airport in New York and together we boarded the British Airlines flight to Glasgow -- Flight 186, Seats 42B & C. Taking off at 6:15 PM New York time, we didn't know just what we would encounter, but we were on our way for a two-week adventure in the British Isles!

Margaret, who had flown to Britain before, slept through the night. OK... she slept from the time the lights went out on the plane until the time the lights came back on for breakfast – that was night, as defined by British Airways. Actually it was less than the length of the Al Pacino movie I stayed up to watch – the reason I didn't get any sleep at all.

We landed in Glasgow, Scotland at 6:30 AM, British time, on May 14. The plane set down in Glasgow International Airport in sleet and snarling tarmac traffic. With every seat filled on our crowded 747, and so many planes depositing their passengers into the already crowded terminal at the same time, we wondered what the next step in finding our way to our British vacation would be.

Scanning the space around us like a lighthouse beam searching for an errant ship, we were relieved to look up and see a rather large, white poster with our names in bold print waving above the heads of the throngs of travelers. Like curious puppies, we gravitated toward it. Holding the sign, with a searching look of anticipation on her friendly face, was a representative of British Airways' "Discover Britain" program who had been sent to meet us.

She was lovely... Younger than we were, she was dressed in a warm Scottish wool suit with sturdy, sensible walking shoes. Her name was Miss Stewart. Welcoming, friendly, and helpful, she put us at ease immediately. With her assistance, we reviewed the rules of this unfamiliar travel process, rented our car, studied our directory and made reservations for our first Bed and Breakfast right there in Glasgow. By nine AM or so, Glasgow time, the storm had stopped and we were on our adventurous way. Margaret, who is usually the chief navigator and cheerleader, climbed into the left-hand front seat of the car. Being VERY sleep deprived, (it is now at least 3 AM our time) I was relieved and grateful to see that she would be driving. Then, I climbed into the *right-hand* front seat of the car, only to find myself behind a steering wheel. OH GREAT! That means that I am the driver! Even with a dull brain, I can figure that one out! OK... Deep Breath!

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continued

I can do this! I can drive a 5-speed, manual transmission, right-hand drive car on the left-hand side of the road without any sleep or instruction. Yup! I can do this! Now, where the blazes is the gear shift? Of course, it's on the left. I wonder where the pedals are... And how do you start this alien automobile? As I gave Margaret a bewildered and pleading look, she said simply, "I don't drive in Britain." Oh, Sure! Now she tells me!

Margaret is a good navigator, though, and very patiently guided me out of the parking lot ... as if she were guiding the blind... onto the unfamiliar road, around an unfriendly roundabout, (now there's an eye opener). A roundabout is a traffic circle in the middle of nowhere for no known reason and it is designed to add to mass confusion keeping you turning in what feels like the wrong direction. And just where does one exit this Merry-Go-Round? AND NOW... and how did this happen? ... WE ARE ON THE HIGHWAY... with other cars! And me without a good, strong, morning cup of coffee!

They call this highway the "M". (I had several other names for it.) It sounds friendly enough, the "M". RRR Right! Or rather, left. Yes, just keep thinking "left." Left! Left! Hey, I think I'm getting the hang of this.

Then, just as suddenly as we got on...WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "WE HAVE TO GET OFF?" ALREADY? I was just getting used to this! OK, OK. We're off the ramp. Now, turn right. Stay to the left. Watch out for cars coming the wrong way. (OK. So far, so good...Turn left. Stay left. Oops, car coming in your lane... NO, NO, HE'S IN HIS LANE. (Is my heart still beating? Or is that a Scottish tattoo I hear?) Now, once again, turn left, stay left...and...what was that address again? Shouldn't we be getting close? OH...WOW... MY... Great Aunt Sadie! Is that Grand Manor where we are staying? Are you sure? Yup! This is the place, all right!

What we were looking at was a huge house in a section called Ballantyre... an entire neighborhood of huge houses that were built by shipping magnates around the turn of the 20th century. It was not a mansion, by our mansion standards, but it *was* huge. It was built of dark brown-red stones in a very Neo-Norman architectural style... with pronounced crenellations above the massive protruding bay windows and the upper story roofline. The yard was well manicured with brick walkways leading to the ornately carved wooden main entrance doors.

We approached tentatively, dragging our carry-ons behind, believing this to be too good to be true and not knowing the nature of people who lived here, given the formality of architecture..

When the door opened, we were greeted like old friends or expected family. What a surprisingly warm welcome. We were taken into the roomy, yet unassuming, unadorned entrance hall. To the back of the hall was a large wooden door with black wrought iron hardware. To the left was a massive, Empire style, dark wood stairway which split in the middle at a spacious landing with a huge bay window letting in great shafts of light and a loonngg window seat adorned with a tufted red velvet cushion. (You know, it reminded me of the nursery window in Peter Pan where the children fly away to Neverland. Was that a premonition of our adventures yet to come?) Here, at the landing, the stairs turned back on themselves and led up to the next level. The door to our room was on the left.

Sorry, you'll have to wait a bit longer for the next instalment!!

Healers of the Past

Dina-Lee McEwan, Priestess of the Ways

In ancient times (a time that predates Christ), our ancestors walked this land. They were connected to Mother Nature and knew their place in Her Kingdom. She was honored and revered, for they knew without Her they could not survive. Our ancestors lived in a cyclical rhythm with the ebb and flow of the seasons and the tides.

There may have been one or more individuals who where responsible for the health and well being of the community as a whole. This person(s) would have been called a wise man or wise woman. Their role was to use natural healing, cast majickal spells or chants to effect change, call upon spirits for a multitude of reasons, and to help maintain a strong cohesiveness among the peoples of the community by promoting kindness and love and teaching them to live good lives. Buidseachan (witch in Gaelic) were with you from birth to death, healing and teaching you on your life's journey.

Since doctors were not available to our ancestors, the Buidseachan used medicinal herbs. Today, you might see these herbs as "nuisance weeds". These "nuisance weeds" have been here for centuries and still have the same medicinal qualities as they did in the times of our ancient ancestors. What might the Buidseachan have used to help someone feel better?

<u>Meadowsweet or Queen of the Meadow</u> (Gaelic: crios ChuChulainn, Latin: Filipendula ulmaria). Used to treat fevers of headaches. Also used as a floor covering. When flowering, it has the most beautiful scent.





<u>Dandelion</u> (Gaelic: am bearnan Brighde, Latin: Taraxacum leontodon). Using the whole plant including the root and made into a tea, this was said to be a good stomach tonic.

<u>Watercress</u> (Gaelic: biolair, Latin: Nasturtium officinalis). Used for reducing fevers, also a blood cleanser and purifier. Also very nutritious and used as part of the daily diet.



<u>Yarrow</u> (Gaelic: Earr-thalmhainn or Lus chasgadh na fala, Latin: Achillea millifolium). Used externally as wound herb to stop bleeding.



Medicines of today are typically made by extracting a specific component of a plant (ie digitalis from Foxglove). Some studies of plants will list those plants as toxic or poisonous. However, a plant may be termed toxic or poisonous simply due to the fact that it contains a toxin that has been singled out in the study. I've often been uncertain why scientists don't include all components of the plant in the study. Plants are balanced, living beings. We can all learn something from our natural surroundings about this balance.

Continuing to Honor Elspeth McEwen who was tried and executed as the last witch to have been burnt at the stake in Galloway on 24th August 1698.

James McEwen's Family Recipes

Back in 2005, James McEwen, the Clan's genealogist, compiled a family recipe book from which we have selected a couple of dishes that would make a mouth watering meal.

Chinese Goulash

Bv

Betty McEwen

Ingredients: **Instructions:**

1 1/2 lbs of hamburger In a large pot cook hamburg, onion and celery together. Follow directions on the rice a roni package but do not add the water when rice

1 box of 'Rice a Roni' is brown add together with hamburg mixture. Add bean spouts, water

(herb and butter rice) chestnuts, and soy sauce cook until water is almost absorbs. Spoon over

chow mein noodles. 1 large can bean spouts

1 large can of water chestnuts

4-6 stalks of celery

2 large onions

Soy sauce to taste

Chow mein noodles





Strawberry Spinach Salad

By

Betty McEwen

Ingredients:

Instructions: 1 large bunch fresh baby spinach

Wash spinach and pt dry. Add strawberries and almonds to the

spinach in a salad bowl and toss them together. Cover and 1/2 cup slivered almonds

refrigerate until ready to serve. If desired toast almonds.

Dressing

Dressing

1/4 cup sugar Combine all ingredients in a jar with a fitted lid. Shake well pour

over salad and toss just before serving. 2 tbs sesame seeds

1 tbs poppy seeds

1 1/2 tsp minced onion

1 pint strawberry sliced

1/2 tsp Worcestershire sauce

1/4 tsp paprika

1/4 cup vegetables oil

Salt to taste





Wanted !!



We are looking for someone who has the skills and creativity to help further develop the Clan's web page.

If that is **you**, then please contact us at info@clanmacwen.com