

CLAN EWEN SOCIETY



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FAILTE

WELCOME TO another edition of the Clan Ewen Bulletin. At the A.G.M. we were all taken aback when Charles Ewen intimated his intention to "step down" from the two important posts which he has held for the last seven years as Vice-Chairman, and the last 16 years as Treasurer.

Charles tells me that his health is not what it once was and, as a result, he feels that the time has come for less onerous involvement on his part. He assures me, however, that he is prepared to continue to be the Society's link with the world giving us a continuing e-mail address. The volume of correspondence coming to us via this medium is on the increase. Charles should be careful that his health does not deteriorate further as a result.

We have been quite successful in recruiting new members - 43 since the end of September 1996 - which is most gratifying. A number of these have materialised via e-mail although the Scots Magazine advert continues to be the better source.

I can't let Charles' demission pass without acknowledging how well and unsparingly he has served the Society over the years not only as Vice-Chairman, but, especially as Treasurer. This is a job that no one wants to take on, as we have discovered.

As you will probably have realised, the Society is bereft of a Treasurer as, so far, we have had no takers. We really need some young blood, recruited from within Scotland in order to advance into the new millennium.

Charles has also served in an unofficial capacity as an unofficial "contact man" corresponding with members and potential members around the world and for all his unstinting work we thank him.

Finally as the festive season is about to descend upon us may I wish you all wherever you are the compliments of the season.

"Nollaig math is bliadhna mhath ur"

Alan Ewing

CLAN EWEN SOCIETY GATHERING

THE CLAN EWEN SOCIETY gathering and Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, 7th June, 1997 at the Kilfinan Hotel, Argyll at 1.30 p.m. Chairman Alan Ewing welcomed members and friends. Visiting from British Columbia was, Ms. Sara McEwan. New members included Barbara and Jim from Kirkintilloch, Ian from Hardgate and Harry Davies from Liverpool. Apologies were received from Honorary Member Nicholas Wills; Donald

Ewing, Australia; Ella, Inverness; Betty and John, Coatbridge; William MacEwen, Nova Scotia; and Cameron MacEwing, New Zealand.

Minutes of previous A.G.M. meeting were read, approved and signed.

The Treasurer and Secretary gave their reports. In her report the Secretary was pleased to note that a number of those who had made enquiries about the Society had now taken out membership - some resulting from the e-mail internet, but the majority, as usual, from the advert in the Scots Magazine. She also stated that the Clan has received publicity through the Scottish Tourist Board, the Oban Times and the Clan MacPherson Museum at Newton-More.

In his report the Treasurer proposed that due to the high cost of postage overseas, a saving could be made if overseas Bulletins were sent by surface mail. This was agreed, together with a earlier postage date suggested.

An increase in the cost of membership was the next item raised on the agenda.

On the Treasurer's suggestion the following fees were approved

Single Year- £8.00

Family Year - £10.00.

Life Single -£120.00

Life Family - £150.00

The cost of the Clan History book will also have to be increased.

Genealogist, Murdo reported research into family history and ancestral trees, some elaborate and extensive trees being sent in by members.

Society Manager, Ron said a few words about the position of the Clan room and its further development and reported on the level of stock at present regarding Clan items for sale.

The meeting continued with the election of office-bearers and with the exception of Charles Ewen, our Vice-Chairman and Treasurer, all previous committee members were re-elected. This leaves the Society without a Treasurer and a most urgent appeal is being put out to all members for someone to take over from Charles, who has done a magnificent job.

Jim McEwen, from Kirkintilloch, was elected to serve on the General Committee.

The question was raised as to the Clan venue for the next A.G.M. and Gathering. After a show of hands vote, it was agreed to keep it at Kilfinan. A suggestion from Joan MacEwen that transport should be arranged from the ferry was accepted as a good idea to follow up. The Gathering will be at the Clan Room, Kilfinan Hotel, on the first Saturday in June, 1998. The meeting closed with thanks to the chair and committee.

Following on from an unusually long meeting, those Clan members feeling

energetic made the annual walk to the Cairn, marking the ruins of the castle site. The walk was more eventful this year as the path was unclear, due to some of the McEwan signposts being missing and the fields having been ploughed over. However, the walk was enjoyable as always and a group photograph was taken at the site.

The Annual General Meeting and Gathering of Clan Ewen Society

will be held at 1.30 p.m.
on Saturday, 6th June, 1998
in the Kilfinan Hotel, Kilfinan, Argyll
with a walk to the Cairn after the meeting
Old Friends and New Members all welcome

Followed by

Clan Ceilidh

Saturday, 6th June, 1998

A Ceilidh will be held in the Clan Room, Kilfinan at 9.00 p.m. A warm welcome is extended to all. It is hoped that members will give it their support and make this a most enjoyable evening. A small charge will be necessary to cover the cost of the musicians.

Accommodation can be obtained at the following:

Hotels:	Kilfinan Hotel, Kilfinan	Tel. 01700 821201
	Royal Hotel, Tighnabruaich	Tel. 01700 811239
Guest Houses:	<i>Bed and Breakfast</i>	
	Mrs. McKay, Kilfinan	Tel. 01700 811397
	Mrs. Alexander, Kames	Tel. 01700 811218
	"Arden Eden", Tighnabruaich	Tel. 01700 811354

EVENING GATHERING AND CEILIDH

The Clan Gathering continued in the evening with a ceilidh in the Clan Room at the Kilfinan Hotel. A chance for the Clan members to relax a bit, enjoying an evening of music and dance in a social atmosphere with traditional songs played on the accordion and fiddle. The ceilidh was another very friendly occasion and I hope will continue to flourish.

Letter from France

AN INTERESTING letter from John McEwen of Chooz, France, sent to Charles Ewen, our Treasurer. Charles passed the letter on because it is a wonderful letter. If John does not mind, I have included passages from the letter to show what can be written about when making family links and searching for relatives.

John McEwen, 36 Rue du Tilleul, Chooz, France

Dear Mister Ewen

Many thanks for your kind letter. The Bulletin is very exciting particularly for us. Sorry for the death of so eminent members of the Clan Society. It is a sad thing for all.

I apologise for not having situated the place where we are living. Chooz (The name came from Calcareous) is a village of approximately 800 inhabitants in a sweep of the River Meuse surrounded by hills and forest. This locality is



From Left to Right, James, born 1957; Elizabeth, born 1951; Marylin, born 1954; Jany, born 1949; John and his wife, Eliane

known for two nuclear plants. And old one now stopped after 25 years of service and now used as an international laborat. An a new one more important. The next town is Givet, a frontier town with Belgium, crossed by the Meuse, between Charleville-Mezieres in France and Dinant in Belgium, on the same river. All the country both sides of the border is named Ardennes. (Givet cir. 8000 inhabitants).

We were very pleased to know that your son was a piper teacher and was in the piper band of Renfrew. We are very fond of Scottish music specially of bagpipe. (Father would have said pibroch perhaps). We have always records at home and in our car. It is for us a link with Scotland.

I am very sorry to said that we don't know if there are any members of the family in Renfrew. After the 1914-1918 war father had jobs in France and Belgium. He was a marine engineer and very busy to assure our life. Always well considered and always of help to any countryman and many others. He was very proud of his native country whose accent he never lost although speaking fluently French. I presume that the death of relatives and circumstances stopped relations. At the beginning of 1971 he has in project a journey to Scotland. He was apparently in good health and active but he had no time. Father is death in April.

We were educated in France and Belgium in French. In that time of my schooldays, the second language taught were I was in Belgium was Dutch and latter in France at the border German. That a reason why my self learned English is so far from correct. By lack of practice my speaking is bad.

In everyone of us is the natural wish to know his forefather. We think so and our children are in the same spirit. I have a family chart from my mother side but nothing from father. In spite of age. (Now 79) If I may obtain a form I will take the first steps, and we will be happy with the slightest success. During the last war our house in Givet was partially plundered and many pictures, letters, etc. were destroyed or lost. The town inhabitants had a very short time to evacuate the country. In the few picture left, one from my father sister in school dress and cap and an half erased address 11 Dunlop St. I think it is the native home. I think that we have some relatives in Canada in the area of Vancouver (B.C.) but I don't know who and where. The children are interested. By eldest daughter Jany can read English. Her sister Marylin continue to learn English (and begin Gaelic as a hobby, not so easy).

After the '39-'45 war we have seen a deal of the damages in London with my wife and Jany (1962) and also in books and films but I think that the anti-aircraft action was essential. I was captured in Dunkerque in 1940, the last day with no possibility to escape and we were send here and there in Germany and particularly in Breslaw (Now Wroslaw in Poland) in the

Junkerswerke, a plant for planes to be repaired. I escaped with some comrades, recaptured, but never more send in a war plant. But we have seen the damages to the planes through guns and m.g. to many to be quickly repaired, not counting those who crashed on the way back to the bases.

Now what is more peaceful. I had recently the pleasure to read in a newspaper and for the second time that a young Australian runner on bicycle Robbie McEwen was a winner in France.

Will you excuse Dear Mister EWEN so long a letter. I have joined a picture with our children on holidays in Chooz taken in 1991.

I wish to you Mr. Ewen and all your family the best of health. I present to you and to Mrs. Ewen all my respects.

Kindest regards to all members of the Clan Ewen Society.

QUATRE JOURS DE DUNKERQUE - McEWEN AU SPRINT

L'Australien Robbie McEwen (Rabobank) a remporté hier au sprint la 2^e étape des Quatre Jours de Dunkerque, disputée entre Boulogne-sur-Mer et Henin-Montigny (184 km). Il a devancé l'Ousbek Abdoujaparov et l'Estonien Kirsipuu. Le Belge Peeters conserve le maillot rose.

2^e étape: 1. Robbie McEwen (Aus/Rabobank), les 184 km en 4 h 25'42



(moyenne: 41,55 km/h); 2. Abdoujaparov (Ouz); 3. Kirsipuu (Est); 4. Museeuw (Bel); 5. Vasseur; 6. Nicolas Jalabert; 7. Fraser (Can); 8. Leoni (Ita); 9. Milesi (Ita); 10. Van Bondt (B).

11. Den Braber (P-B); 12. Rineiro; 13. Piccoli (Ita); 14. Francis Moreau; 15. Talen (P-B) tous meme temps.

General: 1 Wilfried Peeters (Bel/Mapei) 7 h 54'55; 2 Mattan (Bel) a 4"; 3. Tchmil (Rus) 6"; 4. McEwen (Aus) 10"; 5. Genty 12"; 6. Vandenbroucke (Bel) 15 "; 7. Vasseur 16"; 8. Kasputis (Lit) 16"; 9. Kirsipuu (Est) 18"; 10. Gaumont 18"; 11. Piccoli (Ita) 19"; 12. Roux 19"; 13. Mengin 19"; 14. Van Der Akker (P-B) 19"; 15. Moncassin 19".

THE TIME DETECTIVES

A LOT OF our Scots History lies still to be uncovered by the tenacious research of archaeologists. But they are battling against time as many sites are lost or destroyed.

Two such areas are on the islands of Lewis and Great Bernera.

On Bernera, a pre-Christian house on the beach at Bosta has been unearthed. It is dated to the Iron Age which ranged from 700 B.C. up to A.D. 43 and the early Roman invasions.

Due to the shifting sands, the house will disappear very rapidly. A major dig has been in process on the site to sift through a rubbish site area by the house, which contains a midden where shells, pottery and fired materials have been found dating from before the arrival of the Romans. The beach area at Bosta is a white sandy bay popular with tourists in the summer, the fear being that holiday buckets and spades will do as much damage as the weather conditions. So a race is on to complete the work before it is lost forever.

The second site is on the Isle of Lewis, a chain of 45 forts along the coastline were identified and many more are believed to exist. The forts cannot be accurately dated and experts are divided over their origin. They could be early Viking defences when the Outer Hebrides were under Norse rule. But just as likely, they could be early Celt or Pict settlements of the Iron Age Period.

Some of the stone and turf structures are eight feet tall and contained several houses within their walls. One of the newest unearthed is at Crowlista, opposite to the site where the 78 Lewis chessmen were found in 1831, carved in walrus ivory, they combine Celt and Norse elements and date from the 12th century.

The islands attracted the attention of Norse raiders in 800 A.D. extending

their territory, until by the 11th century they formed the most northerly arm of the Kingdom of Man and the Isles, their King owing fealty to the King of Norway. The Hebrides remained part of Norse territory till 1266. The study of the sites is being financed by Historic Scotland with the field teams and archaeological expertise supported by Edinburgh University. Many of the forts have been used as defensive retreats during raids. Several have significant religious connections.

A report has been submitted to Historic Scotland on the findings and if more funding is made available, work on a survey of Harris may begin in 1998. As an example of the work being done, the tidal home at Crowlista revealed a shale bracelet, a very fine piece of craftsmanship, the owner had to be of high rank and nobility. The bracelet dates from around 6,000 years ago, made in the South East of England. Question is, how did it find its way to Crowlista? Also, at Guinnerso, Uig on Lewis, a pottery factory was discovered along with field grazing system and fish traps, dwellings and a burial cairn site all relating to the bronze age.

Editor

GENEALOGISTS

MOST OF US have seen advertisements from professional genealogists in such publications as *The Scots Magazine* and *The Highlander*. Where a number of advertisements appear, they tend to be similarly worded and it can be very difficult to know which one to select. The best choice is usually via word-of-mouth recommendation; but what do you do if you have no such "introduction"?

Some genealogists specialise in their own geographical area. One of these, for instance, has carved out a bit of a niche for himself on the Isle of Harris in the Outer Hebrides. One of our members has used this genealogist and been very pleased with the results - his "local" knowledge proving very helpful and almost certainly providing more information than a somewhat less specialised researcher based in, say, Edinburgh.

However, most records are held in Edinburgh and most professional genealogists are based in Edinburgh. In conducting some research into the services provided, and likely cost, I wrote to 14 Edinburgh-based genealogists who are all members of the Association of Scottish Genealogists and Record Agents, and who promote their services through the Association. I also wrote to one other (Edinburgh-based) whose services had been recommended. A similar letter went to all 15, in which I asked:

- (i) whether they would be agreeable to having their details publicised through our Bulletin magazine,
- (ii) for details of their services, and,
- (iii) if they would give any "discount" to Clan Society members who instructed them.

Ten of the 15 did not have the courtesy to reply at all, so I am reluctant to give them any publicity through this article(!). Of the five who did reply (see below), all would be keen to carry out commissions for our members. Their charges range between approximately £6.00 sterling per hour (Diane Baptie) and £15.00 sterling per hour (David Burns and Alan MacLeod). Only two were agreeable to offering a discount to Clan Society members (10% in both cases): Scottish Roots and David Burns. I believe that Scottish Roots operates from business premises (and, accordingly, would have business overheads / expenses) but the other four are "home based". In all cases the more information you can provide, the better - try and be as specific as possible about your requirements and, also, you should clearly indicate your "budget".

Genealogy research is a bit like panning for gold. You can put in a huge amount of time, effort and expense with very little to show for it; or you might strike a rich vein and . . . Eldorado!" By way of guidance as to expenditure, I would suggest a £50.00 sterling budget to start with. If successful progress is made from that, you can thereafter decide how much it is realistic to pursue matters further.

Finally, I should mention that I hold copies of several genealogies / family trees / records of ancestors received from members around the world. These are held on behalf of the Clan Society; any additions - hopefully accurate in detail, but no need to go back hundreds of years - to this collection are very much appreciated and all help to build up a picture of our Clan's development over the years. Also, if you do use the services of a professional genealogist, feedback on the service provided / costs will be helpful for other members. I look forward to hearing from you!

A. G. Murdo McEwan

David G. C. Burns
16/7 Craigmount Hill
Edinburgh EH4 8HW
Scotland

Alan J. L. MacLeod
51/3 Mortonhall Road
Edinburgh EH9 2HN
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WORDS FROM TRADITIONAL SCOTS SONGS

SCOTLAND THE BRAVE

C. Hanley

Hark when the night is falling,
Hear! Hear the pipes are calling,
Loudly and proudly calling,
Down thro' the glen.
There where the hills are sleeping,
Now feel the blood a-leaping,
High as the spirits of the old Highland men
*Towering in gallant fame,
Scotland my mountain hame,
High may your proud standards gloriously wave,
Land of my high endeavour,
Land of the shining river,
Land of my heart for ever,
Scotland the Brave.*

High in the misty Highlands,
Out by the purple islands,
Brave are the hearts that beat,
Beneath Scottish skies,
Wild are the winds to meet you,
Staunch are the friends that greet you,
Kind as the love that shines from fair maidens' eyes
Towering in gallant fame, etc. . . .

Additional verse

Far off in sunlit places
Sad are the Scottish faces,
Yearning to feel the kiss
Of sweet Scottish rain.
Where tropics skies are beaming,
Love sets the heart a-dreaming,
Longing and dreaming for the homeland again.

Towering in gallant fame, etc. . . .

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Scotland the Brave

This song has become, in recent years, the veritable National Anthem of Scotland. The pipe-tune to which it is set is an old one.

The words, by Cliff Hanley, speak, like the man himself, straight from the heart.

The pipes can still be heard today, "loudly and proudly calling down through the glen".

THE NORTHERN LIGHTS OF OLD ABERDEEN

Mary Webb

When I was a lad, a tiny wee lad,
My mother said to me,
"Come see the Northern Lights my boy
They're bright as they can be."
She called them the heavenly dancers,
Merry dancers in the sky.
I'll never forget that wonderful sight,
They made the heavens bright.

*The Northern Lights of Old Aberdeen
Mean Home Sweet Home to me.
The Northern Lights of Aberdeen,
Are what I long to see.
I've been a wand'rer all of my life
And many a sight I've see,
God speed the day when I'm on my way
To my home in Aberdeen.*

I've wandered in many far-off lands,
And travelled many a mile.
I've missed the folk I've cherished most,
The joy of a friendly smile.
It warms up the heart of the wand'rer,
The clasp of a welcoming hand,
To greet me when I return,
Home to my native land.

The Northern Lights of Old Aberdeen, etc.

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The Northern Lights of Old Aberdeen

Every Aberdonian has at some time seen the Aurora Borealis Northern Lights above his city.

They are seen only in and towards Polar regions but I doubt very much if anyone from Aberdeen would admit to living anywhere near the North Pole. The song by Mary Webb refers to "the heavenly dancers" but to many a fisherman returning with his catch to Aberdeen Harbour, the "northern lights" he has in mind are those of the Granite City herself.

WILL YE NO COME BACK AGAIN?

Lady Nairne

Royal Charlie's now awa'
Safely owre the friendly main;
Mony a heart will break in twa,
Should he ne'er come back again.

Will ye no come back again?

Will ye no come back again?

Better lo'ed ye canna be,

Will ye no come back again?

Mony a traitor 'mang the Isles,
Brak' the ban o' nature's law;
Mony a traitor wi' his wiles,
Sought to wear his life awa'.

Will ye no come back again, etc.

Ye trusted in your Hieland men,
They trusted you dear Charlie,
They kent your hiding in the glen,
Death or exile braving.

Will ye no come back again, etc.
We watched thee in the gloaming hour,
We watched thee in the morning grey,
Tho' thirty thousand pounds they'd gie,
Oh! there is none that would betray.

Will ye no come back again, etc.
The hills he trode were a' his ain,
And bed beneath the birken trees;
The bush that hid him on the plain,
There's none on earth can claim but he.

Will ye no come back again, etc.
Whene'er I hear the blackbird sing,
Unto the e'ening sinkin' doun,
Or merle that mak's the woods to ring,
To me thay hae nae ither soun'!

Will ye no come back again, etc.
Mony a gallant sodjer fought,
Mony a gallant chief did fa',
Death itself were dearly bought,
A' for Scotland's King and law.

Will ye no come back again, etc.
Sweet the lav'rocks note and lang,
Liltin' wildly up the glen;
And aye to me he sings ae song,
"Will ye no come back again?"

Will ye no come back again, etc.
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Will Ye No Come Back Again?

This haunting song was written by Lady Nairne, a poetess steeped in the lore of the Jacobite Rising.

When Prince Charles had landed on the coast of Moidart in 1745, he was the embodiment of hope, kingliness and manly beauty. Fourteen months later he shrank into the rescuing French ship in a state of heart-broken squalor and degradation. Did he in fact come back again? It was believed widely that he did come back in 1750 and 1753.

AULD LANG SYNE

Robert Burns

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to min'?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And days of lang syne?

*For auld lang syne, my dear,
For auld lang syne.
We'll tak' a cup o' kindness yet,
For all lang syne.*

We twa hae run about the braes,
And pu'd the gowans fine;
But we've wander'd mony a weary foot,
Sin' auld lang syne.

For auld lang syne, by dear, etc.

We twa hae paidled i' the burn,
Frae morning sun till dine;
But seas between us braid hae roar'd
Sin' auld lang syne.

For auld lang syne, by dear, etc.

And there's a hand, my trusty fiere,
And gie's a hand o' thine;
And we'll tak' a right gude-willy waught,
For auld lang syne.

For auld lang syne, by dear, etc.

And surely ye'll be your pint-stowp,
And surely I'll be mine!
And we'll tak' a cup o' kindness yet,
For auld lang syne.

For auld lang syne, by dear, etc.

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Auld Lang Syne

The second and third verses of "Auld Lang Syne" are by Robert Burns; the others, as he himself indicated, are old.

He remarked of the original verses that "this old song of the olden times" had never been in print nor even in manuscript until he took it down from an old man's singing.

The verses were later set to the pentatonic air, "I fee'd a lad at Michaelmas", since which time the song has been regarded as a Scottish National Anthem.

No gathering of friends is properly concluded without the song being sung and no social occasion is more honoured than when the singers have taken the trouble to learn the correct words! Such an opportunity is now offered to the reader.

THOMAS McEWEN - MARINER

Continuing story of "Thomas Forsyth McEwen", Master Mariner around the coast of Queensland in Australia.

BY 1862, the town of Bowen had grown dramatically in size. Thomas had bought up three allotment sites. He built on one a house for his wife Ann and family. A third child, John having just been born they moved into George Street and in 1867, Fanny Ann was born.

As a mariner Thomas had joined the "Marion Kenny" as a Master, conveying cargo and passengers to the northern outposts where the people depended on the intrepid mariners (known as "rock hoppers"), for their livelihood. Thomas was becoming well known up and down the coast, not only for his brilliant seamanship but also his lively personality which sometimes left him open to brushes with the law. On one occasion, Thomas was too ready with his sword and in an altercation he cut off his opponent's finger. On presenting himself in court to answer the charge, he was relieved to hear the judge say "it was a pity it was only a finger!"

Thomas was prepared to take risks on some occasions, but he seemed to live a charmed life. Within his character the kindness and caring qualities were recognised when the masters of the coastal traders presented him with a flag, a pennant in appreciation of his seaman-like qualities and the humanity shown to those who through sickness were unable to help themselves.

After the Schooner "Percy" went aground on the Barrier Reef, the passengers sent a letter in expression of their gratitude and recognition of skill and knowledge shown by a prudent sailor. Due to the esteem in which he was held, he was nominated as Commodore of the Northern Fleet of Coasting Vessels in 1863.

Three years later, Thomas joined a little cutter of five tons called the "North Star". However, in March of the following year a severe cyclone hit the port of Bowen, the violence of the storm produced wrecks all along the jetty. On the port side lay the pride of her owners and her home (Port Denison), the "Star" was smashed to pieces.

Thomas' eventful career continued with the ill-fated "Black Prince", originally designed for the Murray River, she was a great ugly vessel fitted with a single cylinder oscillating engine, with no condenser and driving a pair of paddles.

In fact, a flat bottomed riverboat not designed to encounter the rough seas she would meet along the coastal waters. As the following account shows.

Captain McEwen of the steamer "Black Prince" reported that he left the creek on Thursday, 17th February, 1870 and anchored at Cape Cleveland for the night. Heading out seaward in the morning, he could make no headway due to very heavy seas and strong headwinds, again, securing for the night.

By next day, a south-south easter was blowing causing heavy swells. Everything was secured on deck and hands were kept to the pumps. The barometer then dropped to 29, he let a second anchor go, but the conditions deteriorated, dropping to 28, the full force of the storm now hit. First the rudder head gave way, then the wheel chain parted and the sea breaking over the decks, washed away the deck-boat from the davits. With huge seas breaking over her, the wind suddenly lulled to a calm, in the eye of the storm.

Captain McEwen ordered the anchor raised, intending to try and out run it. This was no sooner done than a tremendous cross-sea struck the ship and carried away everything that was moveable on deck. She took on water and tried to make sail as the engine room flooded.

For many hours the crew stuck gamely at the pumps and buckets, but with three feet of water in the hold, they were getting extremely exhausted, for having nothing to eat all day as the galley had been the first to be washed away in the morning.

With a five knot stream coming out of the creek it was impossible to get into shelter and she could not stay afloat much longer. They let her drift with the wind and she beached just south of Kissing Point. Tying her to a tree, they walked into town.

By morning she had broken in two and the beach was strewn with cargo and wreckage. But no lives were lost and the wreck was sold at auction, fetching a good price of one hundred and fifty pounds.

Thomas then moved to the schooner "Louisa Maria" sailing between Brisbane and Townsville, from there to a coastal pilot for the barge "Pacific".

At this stage, Ann joined him, moving to Brisbane. It was here that Sarah Harriet Eliza was born at John Street, Kangaroo Point in 1870. Sadly, Sarah did not survive long. But was followed by Sarah Jane in 1872. In the June of that year he was appointed Sea Pilot for the port of Broadsound on an annual salary of £150. He moved his family to St. Lawrence, where he had the job of piloting boats through the sound by means of a system of flags on poles.

In 1874, Kate Elizabeth Augusta was born, thus completing the family of Thomas and Ann.

Due to the extension of the railway the Broadsound shipping trade reduced and Thomas's position as pilot was transferred to Waverley Creek. He remained as a pilot for the area and a small island is named after him there, "McEwen Island" in recognition of his services. He left the pilot station in 1886, going on to buy the schooner "Golden Isle", a craft of 78 tons and measured some 75 feet in length. Thomas bought her to transport materials for the construction of a wharf and stock yards in the port of Bowen, to hold cattle for the export trade to the southern markets.

However, during another cyclone, the schooner parted cables and drifted, finally being wrecked on Stannage Bay. This latest calamity appeared to end Thomas's seafaring exploits as no further mention is made of him in maritime events.

Like most ships' captains of small vessels, Thomas had never qualified for his master's ticket. But he did hold a pilot's exemption certificate for seven major ports along the coast including Brisbane and Sydney. When the Navigation Act of 1875 came into force the Marine Board issued a Certificate of Service to those coastal skippers who had learnt their job plying the waters of the coastal service. Thomas received a Masters Ticket from the N.S.W. Government.

When Thomas retired, he and Ann went back to Brisbane at Northcote Street, Mobrayton. It was here they lost two of their daughters, Kate Elizabeth aged 16 in December 1890, then Fanny-Ann aged 25 in October 1892. Their loss caused great sorrow to both Thomas and Ann. It was no doubt a contributing factor to Ann's death which occurred in February 1895. The two girls and their mother were all taken by typhoid fever. Thomas, with his daughter Sarah lived on until 1898. But after suffering a long illness he died of cancer of the lip, which was a legacy of his very arduous life at sea.

WHO? ME?

There's a clever young man named SOMEBODY ELSE,
There's nothing this fellow can't do,
He's busy from morning 'til way late at night,
Just substituting for you.

You're asked to do this or asked to do that,
And what is your ready reply?
Get SOMEBODY ELSE, MISTER CHAIRMAN,
He'll do it much better than I.

There's so much to be done in our Clan
So much and the workers so few -
And SOMEBODY ELSE is getting tired and worn,
Just substituting for you.

So, next time you're asked to do something worthwhile,
Just give them this honest reply -
If SOMEBODY ELSE can give time and support,
You bet your last penny, so can I!

THE HAND OF FRIENDSHIP

THE CLAN system serves a useful purpose in providing opportunities for social interaction between folk of like mind and interest. It provides an identity and the opportunity for service to the family, but most importantly it fulfils the basic human need, that of belonging, of being needed and wanted. There is a great lack of background and a feeling that they do not belong in the lives of many people today. In Clan societies they belong in a very real manner. Their ancestors were members of the Clan and wherever they live in the world they still have their origins and roots in their Clan territory.

The strength of the Clan societies is that they are democratic. They bring together people in every walk of life on an equal social footing. They provide a link with other countries and those of their citizens who are proud of their Scots origin. They help preserve the ancient culture of Scotland and societies throughout the world take great pride in meaningful demonstration of their links with the country of their origin by keeping alive our heritage with youngsters being taught piping, drumming, fiddle playing, Clarsach, dancing, cooking, etc. Being a member of Clan Ewen makes me personally very proud and to regard my fellow clansmen and clanswomen as part of the family.

On a visit to Scotland, do call us as we believe in the Clan symbol of the outstretched hand of friendship.

Charlie Ewen

The poem reproduced above is appropriate to Societies everywhere, but perhaps most important to our Society at present, as we are now looking for a Treasurer. The poem was originally put into the Bulletin ten years ago by Charles Ewen and its relevance is even more evident now.

HAS ANYONE HEARD OF "WOOD-END"?

IN RETRACING any mass exodus and migration of people from the lands of their birth, it is difficult to piece together information which can give a more complete picture of their direction of movement.

But wherever they settle, people have retained certain memories of their past.

They are kept alive by the continuing use of local place names, connected with and often directly from their own original Clan homelands.

Which is why I have asked the query on "Wood-End".

The interest began with an article produced in our Bulletin No. 2 published in October, 1979 by Dr. Douglas MacEwan, our first Chairman and Editor.

The article was compiled from writings by Dr. Hugh A. MacEwen, son of the eminent surgeon William MacEwen, who in his later years devoted his time in considerable research into the history of the Clan. He tells of his ancestors, Donald MacEwen of Doile-nan-Corach, a master mariner, long associated with the herring fishing fleet at Loch Fyne.

Donald eventually left his native heath and farm in Cowal and moved to the Isle of Bute, to a farm they named Kilmichael. After moving across from the Glassary, Donald had two sons, John and Colin. The elder son, John, became a mariner, the second son took over the herring business in Glasgow.

John married Janet Stevenson and between them they were blessed with 12 children, all born at their farm Wood-End.

This is one example of the use of the name. How? You may well ask, what has Wood-End got to do with Clan Ewen? At present, there are over a dozen different references to the name and all have McEwan connections. The name is very innocuous and could be found almost anywhere. But the name's description in a parish due to the high aspect or rocky terrain. Does that not remind you of somewhere?

If as a Clan family, you lose possession of your land and heritage, usually by violent means, so much so, that you have no documented or physical evidence of your past. Then what better way to link your people together than to recall the names of the land of your birth.

The name appears in Argyll and Bute, Perthshire, Skye, Galloway and Lanarkshire, along with Inverness and Aberdeenshire. The puzzle does not conclude there either, with further references in New Zealand and Canada.

A similar point can be made with Kenmore and its variants Kenmire and Kenmare, which have travelled across the sea from their origin in Ireland.

Exactly the same principles can be applied to other Clans and naming place links such as Spittal and Buchanan. Also, for example the use of Bogie and Bog in Gordon place names.

For large Clans such as Campbell and Gordon, their family lines and settlements are easier to trace because of their powerful positions which meant their estates stayed mainly intact.

In cases such as McGregor and McEwan, whereby they had become an outlawed Clan and were known as "Children of the Mist", unable to use their names openly under the penalty of death. Then the task of hiding their family identity, but still retaining a link, became of absolute importance. There are amongst the Jacobite Clans, many name links like these, the trick is finding them.

Incidentally, the Wood-End in Galloway is close to Otter Bay which is not far from Five Farms given to McEwans who helped the Agnews, who were the Sheriffs of Galloway, beat of an attack by the Douglas Clan. These Agnews are of Norman descent and lent their support to Bruce in his fight for independence. By helping the Galloway Agnews, the McEwans retained an age old link with their past. The Irish Agnews in Antrim, although not connected to the Galloway name, were for generations the Standard Bearers and Royal Bards to the O'Neill kings in Ailech, the same part of Antrim from which the McEwans had left and moved across to settle in Argyll centuries before. Old ties die hard!

Editor

EDITOR'S REPORT

APOLOGIES for the lateness of the Bulletin. Events have conspired against us, with changes and upheavals presenting themselves all year. But to face challenges is to gain strength. The first big challenge of the forthcoming year is to find a new Vice-Chairman and Treasurer. Charles Ewen, our present Vice-Chairman and Treasurer has decided to stand down, which was indeed a shock, but not a complete surprise. Charlie, undertook a tremendous workload and had recently added to it by taking on board the Internet link. After having just recovered from an operation, the pace and volume of work needed to be slowed down and I'm glad he has taken this step for health reasons. I know his wife, Martha and his family are happy with his decision.

Charlie will still be involved with the Internet correspondence and is very much a vital member of the Clan Society and Committee. But the Vice-Chairmanship and Treasurer's roles, are for new blood.

A further change taking place is to annual subscription charges. They have been increased due to costs generally going up, with postal and advertising charges rising and the Society's added commitment to the development of the Clan. The new subscription prices are shown on Page 501.

It is always difficult asking members for more money on their subscription, but the reality is, it is necessary to continue the life's work of the Clan, both for

us and the generations that follow. We do this as a Society to honour the memory of our ancestors, the people who first became Clan Ewen.

Last, but not least, a nice change of circumstances for our Clan Manager Ron Ewing, who has recently got married to his lovely fiancée Carole. May I offer my own best wishes to you both alongside the congratulations of our Clan.

It has been a year tinged with some sadness and loss, affecting most people, so it is nice to finish on a happier note.

I hope the year to come, brings only joy and happiness to you all. There remains only, for me to wish you all a wonderful Christmas and long life in the New Year.

Slainte! - from your Editor

NEW MEMBERS

Mr. & Mrs. James McKeown, 7 Drummond Crescent, Ayr, KA8 0NH, Scotland.

Mr. Harry Davies, 22 Evered Avenue, Walton, Liverpool L9 2AF, England.

Mr. K. J. Ewing, 1531 SE 11th S.T., West Linn, Oregon, 97068, U.S.A.

Mr. R. A. McEwing, P.O. Box 8456, Essex, Vermont, 05451-8456, U.S.A.

Mrs. D. Ewing Soriano, P.O. Box 2095, Arcadia, California, 91077, U.S.A.

Mr. B. J. Ewen, 300 Broadway, Hazard, Kentucky, 41701, U.S.A.

Mr. Robert & Judith Lemasseua, 127 Hopewell-Wertsville Road, Hopewell, New Jersey, 08525, U.S.A.

Mr. & Mrs. M. MacEwan, 6675 Huntington Circle, S.E. Salem, Oregon, 97306-1470, U.S.A.

Mary S. Ewan, 1499 Kimblewick Road, Rockville, Maryland, 20854, U.S.A.

Ms. Sara McEwan, 1778 142nd Street, Surrey, British Columbia V4A 6G7, Canada.

Mr. Gavin G. McEwin, 54 Nairn Road, Woodside, 5244, South Australia.

Mr. Ian R. McEwen, R.M.B. 1832, Donald, Victoria 3480, Australia.

Mr. Cameron McEwing, 54 Glen Lynne Avenue, Hamilton, New Zealand.

Mr. Ian McEwan, 20 Firs Close, Hazlemere, Buckinghamshire, England.

Mr. Eliot McEwan, 10 Beabals Court, New Duston, Northants NN5 6YP.

CLAN EWEN SOCIETY

FINANCIAL STATEMENT - 1st JUNE, 1996 to 2nd JUNE, 1997

INCOME

Subscriptions Year Single (52)	£358.51	
Subscriptions Year Family (37)	333.00	
Subscriptions Life Single (5)	311.71	
Subscriptions Life Family (4)	348.63	
Subscriptions Early	56.00	
Subscriptions Late	31.66	
Interest on Treasurer's Account	26.51	
Donations	69.31	
Donations to Heritage Fund	208.60	
Statue and Silver Badge	62.83	
Profit from Raffle at A.G.M.	12.17	
Sale of Clan Merchandise	614.39	
Clan Ceilidh	91.00	
		2524.32

EXPENDITURE

Printing of two Bulletins	632.00	
Postage of two Bulletins	231.76	
Other Postage	116.63	
Purchase of 20 Books and Tartan	447.17	
Purchase of 10 Scarves and 20 Ties	175.66	
Purchase of 10 Kilt Pins and 2 Badges	62.62	
Adverts in Scots Magazine	205.86	
Room Hire at Meeting in Inverness	25.00	
Subsidised Lunches for 28 Members attending A.G.M.	98.00	
Clan Ceilidh	90.00	
Photocopies	44.95	
Sundries	32.55	
Income over Expenditure	362.12	
		2524.32

TRADING ACCOUNT

Opening Stock	872.03	Closing Stock	1015.87
Purchases	652.28		
Tartan	33.17		
Profit	72.78	Sales	614.39
	1630.26		1630.26
Assets at 2nd June, 1997		Assets at 31st May, 1996	
Closing Stock	1015.87	Closing Stock	968.03
Heritage Fund	771.59	Heritage Fund	562.99
Treasurer's Account	1190.82	Treasurer's Account	1010.04
	2978.28		2541.06
	=====		=====

The foregoing accounts of the Society have been examined by me and found to be correct and properly vouched.

E. McEwen, Auditor

OFFICE BEARERS

Chairman:	Lt. Col. Alan Ewing, T.D., Balgowan, Seven Sisters, Lenzie, G66 3AW, Scotland. TEL: 0141 776 3525
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Treasurer:	Post Vacant
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