



CLAN EWEN SOCIETY  
*Bulletin*

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No. 22      OCTOBER      1989

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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*SATURDAY 9th JUNE, 1990*

*at 11.30 a.m.*

in KILFINAN HOTEL,  
KILFINAN, ARGYLL

FOLLOWED BY THE UNVEILING OF THE  
CLAN EWEN MEMORIAL CAIRN ON THE  
SITE OF MacEWEN CASTLE at 3 p.m.

## MEMORIAL CAIRN

We are delighted to inform the Clan that a Memorial Cairn has been erected on the site of Castle Ewen at Otter.

Thanks to the helpful and kindly co-operation of the Otter Estates, a Mr. John Robertson was approached and he has built the Cairn.

The Cairn is over seven feet high, round and tapering at the top. It will clearly mark the site and be a beacon and a guide to all present and future generations of MacEwens who make the pilgrimage.

A plaque is to be fixed to the Cairn. We have agreed that the wording on the plaque should be:-

### SITE OF MacEWEN CASTLE

An enduring memorial

to

Clan Ewen of Otter

“REVIRESCO”

Erected by the Clan Ewen Society

June 1990

The overall cost of Cairn and Plaque comes to just over £1,000. The Plaque which is made of bronze, is pricey but will last indefinitely.

I am sure you will want to join with us in defraying the cost. So please send your donations to the Treasurer:-

Charles Ewen, Esq., 3 Havelock Park,  
East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 8QL

These donations will be greatly appreciated.

I wish to thank not only John Robertson for his building skills, but especially Mr. Nicholas Will of Otter and David Newton, his Factor, for being so helpful at all times and for making the building of the Cairn possible. They are also going to assist us in showing the best route to the site of the Castle.

The A.G.M. of the Clan in 1990 will be held on

Saturday 9th June at Kilfinan Hotel

followed by the Unveiling Ceremony of the Cairn at 3.00 p.m.

Meantime, my best wishes to each and every one of you wherever you might be.

*Peter MacEwen, Chairman*

## THE SITING OF THE CAIRN

We had been talking enough about the Cairn. Charley Ewen and self thought we had better *do* something, so, on Friday 2nd June, Treasurer and Chairman got together and trundled off down the road to see what could be done.

I always enjoy that drive. Picking up Charley at East Kilbride we headed for Otter. First to Paisley, famous for its cotton reels and its Paisley pattern and its Abbey, to say nothing of its Paisley 'Buddies', then past Glasgow Airport and so to Gourrock where one gets the Western-MacInroys ferry for Hunter's Quay, across the waters of the Firth of Clyde.

Once across the water, we then headed for the hills. Thinking of symbols of the past as we drove along the shores of Holy Loch, one was jerked back to reality by symbols of the present on the Loch – clustering round the mother-ship lay several nuclear subs. Oh dear, grimly necessary as they are, did they have to chose HOLY Loch of all lochs to house such unholy objects?

However, leaving sombre thoughts behind us, we headed for Glendaruel and up and over the hills by that delightful twisty little road that takes one right down to Otter and then along the three or four miles to the farm of Fearnoch from which one finds one's way to the site of the Castle.

We reached Fearnoch about 12 noon and, thanks to that busy man, David Newton we were soon in his Land Rover bumping our way to a spot from which we walked the rest of the way – a mile or so – down to the Castle site. We prowled around it, considering this spot and that and finally chose one which stands a little way back from the Point (the Point on which the Castle stood is known locally as "RUBHA BEAG") but a wee bit higher up and clearly visible to people approaching from all angles.

I should like to know more about that site. They say there never would have been a proper stone Castle in the days of the Clan's power and glory. Well, I wouldn't know, a mere layman in these matters. But round most of the site there is a definite ridge of quite substantial stones, but whether they are dressed or not would have to wait for a proper examination and excavation. However, there are ruins of quite substantial stone built cottages or houses some hundreds of yards across from the Castle site. It is not impossible that these houses were built of stones from the decaying Castle over the years. The MacLachlans have a very substantial and respectable ruin at Castle Lachlan some miles north of Otter. I must find out the date of that Castle. If they could have a well built stone castle, it wouldn't be beyond the bounds of possibility for the MacEwens to have one too. I must find a friendly archaeologist and take him down for a prowl some fine day. Well, so much for the Cairn, we will have photos taken some time and let you see what it is like. After our hike, Charley and I had lunch in that most hospitable hostelry, the Kilfinan Hotel then went away home. It had been a good day and David Newton a tower of strength. Your donations to the cost of the Cairn will be of enormous value, not just for us who are the Office Bearers of the Clan but for all those who come after us down the years who will be guided by the Cairn to the spot which we believe was the centre of Clan Ewen in the heyday of its strength and glory.

*Peter J. MacEwen*

## EDITOR'S NOTES

In this bulletin we welcome J. B. McEwan, from Edinburgh as a new and valued member of our Committee, Welcome John.

By the time each member reads this Magazine our Treasurer and his wife – Charles & Martha Ewen from East Kilbride will be in Windsor, Ontario visiting their son Barry, daughter-in-law Becky and their new grandson. Their son Barry is a member of the Fraser Highlanders Pipe Band and they plan to travel to Georgia and attend the Stone Mountain Games. I do hope that anyone attending the Games met Charles and Martha. I am sure everyone here would agree with my saying that Charles is our most diligent worker. I also hope everyone receives this magazine in a pristine condition from myself (had to volunteer for this one of many Charles' duties that we all take for granted). Happy holiday to two very nice people.

As always – welcome to our new members, family members and life members.

Peter, in his spiel, has given explicit directions to the Kilfinan Hotel. His are the quickest – mine are the best – the single track road after you pass through Strachur. The road and the vistas are yours as you drive along and hug Loch Long on your right – Scotland at its best.

Our Secretary has now another supply of books to hand. Anyone wishing to purchase can do so by passing this request to any Committee member.

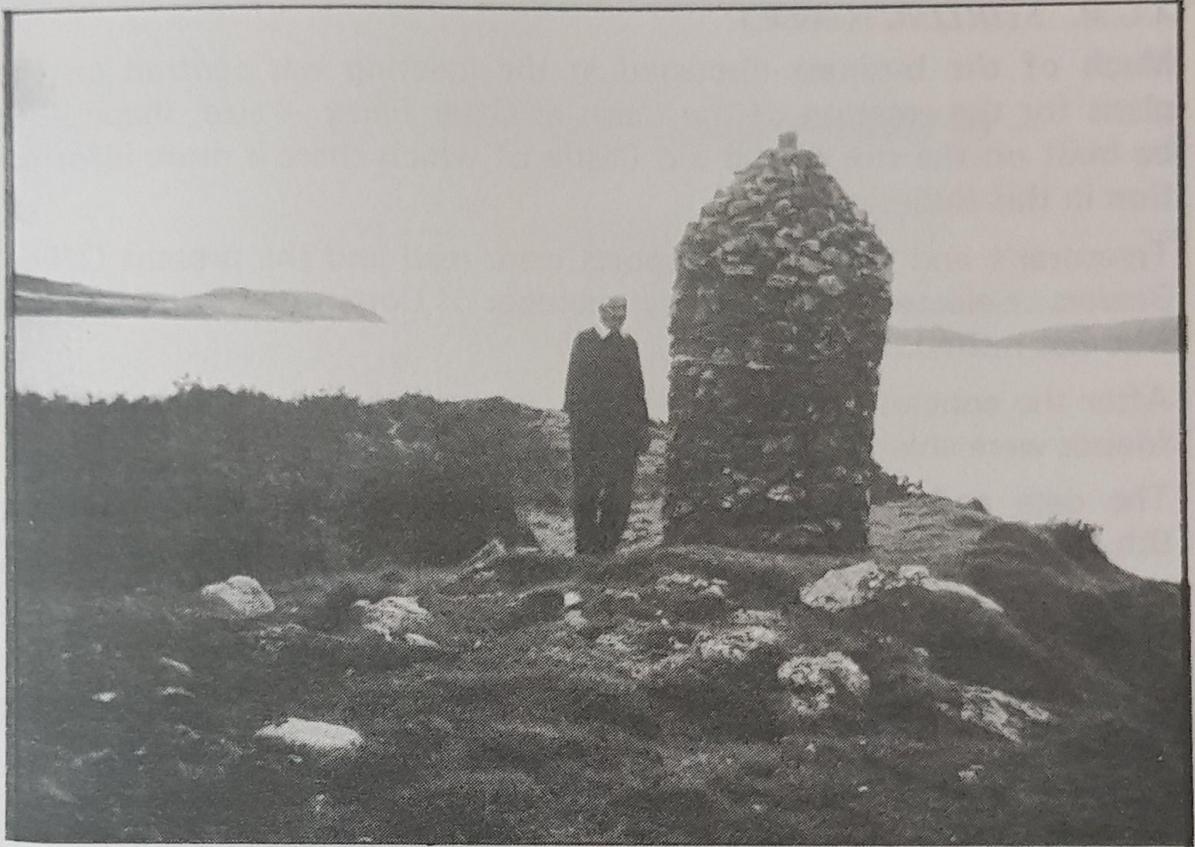
*Your Editor*

### A.G.M. 3rd June – STIRLING

Once more the Clan Ewen was blessed with a beautiful day for their A.G.M. which was held this year in the gracious surroundings of the Park Lodge Hotel, Stirling. The members of the Society were given a warm welcome at this lovely hotel which had been the family home of our Chairman – the Rev. Peter MacEwen. So in addition to having the meeting there we also had the added pleasure of seeing round some of the charming rooms and gardens of the hotel.

The Chairman, the Rev. Peter, in his opening remarks said how proud he was to be Chairman of the Society but expressed disappointment at the general lack of interest in the Clans. This had been made very obvious by the low attendance at the International Gathering at Inverness. We, too, had our disappointment as in spite of advertising in the Stirling papers only one new person had come to the A.G.M. – however he was enthusiastic and joined the Society.

*Continued on page 228 ....*



The Clan Ewen Cairn



The Scottish International Gathering at Inverness – The Clan Ewen Society

*A.G.M. STIRLING (Cont'd.)*

Much of the business discussed at the meeting was centred on the plans for the erection of the Cairn at Otter Ferry – size, shape – to be built on the site of the old Castle of which there is more information in this Bulletin.

Treasurer's and Secretary's reports were read and the present Office-Bearers re-elected with one new member of Committee to replace one who has retired.

After the conclusion of the business tea was served and members and friends were able to exchange news and views.

The date and place decided upon for the next A.G.M. is Saturday 9th June at the Kilfinan Hotel.

*E. McEwan Williamson*

**NEW MEMBERS**

Mr. Peter McEwen, 7 Main Street West, Menstrie, Fife FK11 7BX

Mr. & Mrs. J. McKeown, 21 Normanby Street, Bolton, Lancashire, SL3 3QW

Mr. Warren M. McEwen, 2 Stevens Terrace, Arlington, MA 02174, U.S.A.

Mr. J. E. McEwen, 308 Francis Street East, Jacksonville, AL 36265, U.S.A.

Mr. & Mrs. H. D. Ewen, 241 Union Grove, Aberdeen, AB1 6TF

Mr. & Mrs. H. Ewen, 17 Sunset Place, Earlwood, N.S.W. 2206, Australia.

**FAMILY MEMBERSHIP**

Mrs. Anne McEwan, 33 Kaka Street, Stoke, Nelson, New Zealand

**LIFE MEMBER**

Mrs. G.R.A. Wall, 89 Burt Street, Aitkenvale, Queensland 4814, Australia.

**FAMILY LIFE MEMBERS**

Mr. & Mrs. Douglas McEwan, The Schoolhouse, Cobourg Rd., London SE5 0JD

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**NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER**

J. B. McEwan, 31 Gillespie Crescent, Edinburgh EH10 4HX

Cheques should be made payable to —

CLAN EWEN SOCIETY

crossed and forwarded to:-

*MR. CHARLES EWEN  
3 Havelock Park,  
EAST KILBRIDE  
Glasgow G75 8QL  
Scotland U.K.*

CLAN EWEN SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION FORM

SESSION 1989/1990

Member/s Name: .....

Address .....

.....

.....

SUBSCRIPTION : SINGLE — £5.00 : FAMILY — £7.00

LIFE MEMBERSHIP — £50.00

FAMILY LIFE MEMBERSHIP — £75.00

CONTRIBUTION TO MEMORIAL CAIRN .....

NO RECEIPT WILL BE SENT UNLESS REQUESTED

*FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1st JUNE 1988 to 31st MAY 1989*

<i>INCOME</i>		£	£	£
Subscriptions				
Single	5 @	3.00	15.00	
	44 @	4.00	176.00	
Family	2 @	5.00	10.00	
	14 @	7.00	98.00	
Life Membership	1	Single	50.00	
	2	Family	150.00	
Subscriptions Early	3 @	4.00	12.00	
Subscriptions Late	3 @	4.00	12.00	
Donations			127.57	
Interest on				
Deposit Account			22.55	
Interest on Clan				
Centre Account			4.94	
Sale of Clan items			168.77	846.83
<i>EXPENDITURE</i>				
Printing of Bulletins			198.00	
Bulletin Postage			77.16	
Other Postage			30.42	
Purchase of Ties, Scarves, Badges etc.			207.23	
Purchase of History Books			113.44	
Envelopes for Bulletins etc.			22.56	
Paper rate				
Rubber Stamp			4.20	
Velcro for Booth at International Gathering			5.86	
A.G.M. advert in Stirling Observer			25.65	
Sundries			5.89	
Income over Expenditure			156.42	846.83
<i>TRADING ACCOUNT</i>				
Opening Stock		371.07	Closing Stock	245.12
Profit		42.82	Sales	168.77
		<u>413.89</u>		<u>413.89</u>
<i>ASSETS at 1st June 1989</i>				
Closing Stock		245.12	Closing Stock	50.40
Deposit Account		694.02	Deposit Account	591.43
Clan Centre Account		215.68	Clan Centre Account	158.00
Current Account		00.17	Current Account	3.71
		<u>1154.99</u>		<u>803.54</u>

*AUDITOR Ian McEwan*

*TREASURER Charles Ewen*

*31st May 1989*

## OFFICE BEARERS

*Chairman:* Rev. Peter J. MacEwen, M.A., 66 Shieldhill Road, Quothquan, Biggar, Lanarkshire, ML12 6NA, Scotland.  
TEL: Tinto (089 93) 337

*Vice-Chairman:* Lt. Col. Alan Ewing, T.D., Balgowan, Garn-gaber Avenue, Lenzie, G66 3AW, Scotland.  
TEL: 041 776 3525

*Secretary:* Miss E. Williamson, Bellcairn Cottage, Cove, by Helensburgh, G84 0NX, Scotland.  
TEL: 043 684 2352

*Treasurer:* Mr. C. Ewen, 3 Havelock Park, East Kilbride, Glasgow, G75 8QL, Scotland  
TEL: 035 52 36375

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