

# CLAN EWEN SOCIETY



No. 41

*Bulletin*®

MAY, 1999

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## *Failte.*

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**T**HE year 1999 is to be a memorable one for the Scots - on three counts.

- (1) It is the last year of the present millennium.
- (2) It is the year in which Scots regain their parliament, after an absence of 300 years.
- (3) Finally, and most importantly, some Scots - The McEwens - start the procedure to re-establish a Chief for the Clan after a gap of 500 years - half the millennium.

To this end your committee have selected Sir John McEwen of Marchmont and Bardrochat Bart as a suitable candidate for Chief. His "C.V." is included in this Bulletin.

The official way to achieve this is to form a *Derbhfine* of the clan, who should meet to put forward the selected candidate to the Lord Lyon King of Arms in Edinburgh, craving him to appoint the candidate as either Chief or Commander of the Clan.

The members of the *Derbhfine* are:

- (1) all armigerous members of the clan; i.e. those with a Scottish (but not English) coat of arms - the eldest son is not a member of the *Derbhfine*. Where there is a double barrelled name it is the last name that designates the clan; e.g. Smith-McEwen is a member of the clan, but McEwen-Smith is not; and;
- (2) any landed member of the clan; i.e. a person owning at least a small agricultural holding outwith the boundaries of any burgh (old burgh boundaries); the owner of a house within a burgh is not a member of a *Derbhfine*.

All of the foregoing plus more, will involve the Society in a great deal of expense, as we will require to engage an advocate (of the Lyon Court) whose fee, together with the expenses of advertising in the press, and a multitude of other costs which have a habit of presenting themselves "out of the blue" on activities such as this. It is thought that we may not see any change out of £5,000. You will, no doubt, appreciate that the Clan Society cannot finance this from its meagre coffers, and, therefore,

## **The Annual General Meeting and Gathering of Clan Ewen Society**

will be held at 1.30 p.m.

on Saturday, 5th June, 1999

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 Evening, 5th June, 1999**

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 of light entertainment.

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
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of Arms for appointment as Chief. The society decided to approach me, to ask whether I would consider being put forward. I was honoured to hear such a request and, once Lt. Col Alan Ewing had appraised me of the gravity of the situation, I felt urgently the desire to help put it right.

I am, thanks to the laws of heredity and the honour which was bestowed in 1953 on my grandfather Jock (a long-serving Member of Parliament, a poet and a countryman) Sir John McEwen, 5th Baronet of Marchmont and Bardrochat. I succeeded my brother in 1983, he having succeeded my father in 1980. Both of them had strongly imbued in me the spirit of the Clan, the obligation to serve and the sense of the Clan as being, as it were, in waiting: *Reviresco*.

My branch of the McEwens has been settled near Bardrochat, in Ayrshire, since at least the middle of the 17th century, and has long been recognised, by Sir Iain Moncreiffe of that ilk for example, and by Sir Thomas Innes of Learney (in his *The Tartans of the Clans and Families of Scotland* (1938) ), as being chiefly in spirit if not in detail. The present occupant of the house at Bardrochat is my uncle Alexander, a well-known folk-singing figure from the 1960s. My family have also made significant contributions in modern times to the law, the arts (my uncle Rory, who sang with Alexander, was also a famous artist; my uncle John is the art critic for The Sunday Telegraph), to public life and to the study of history.

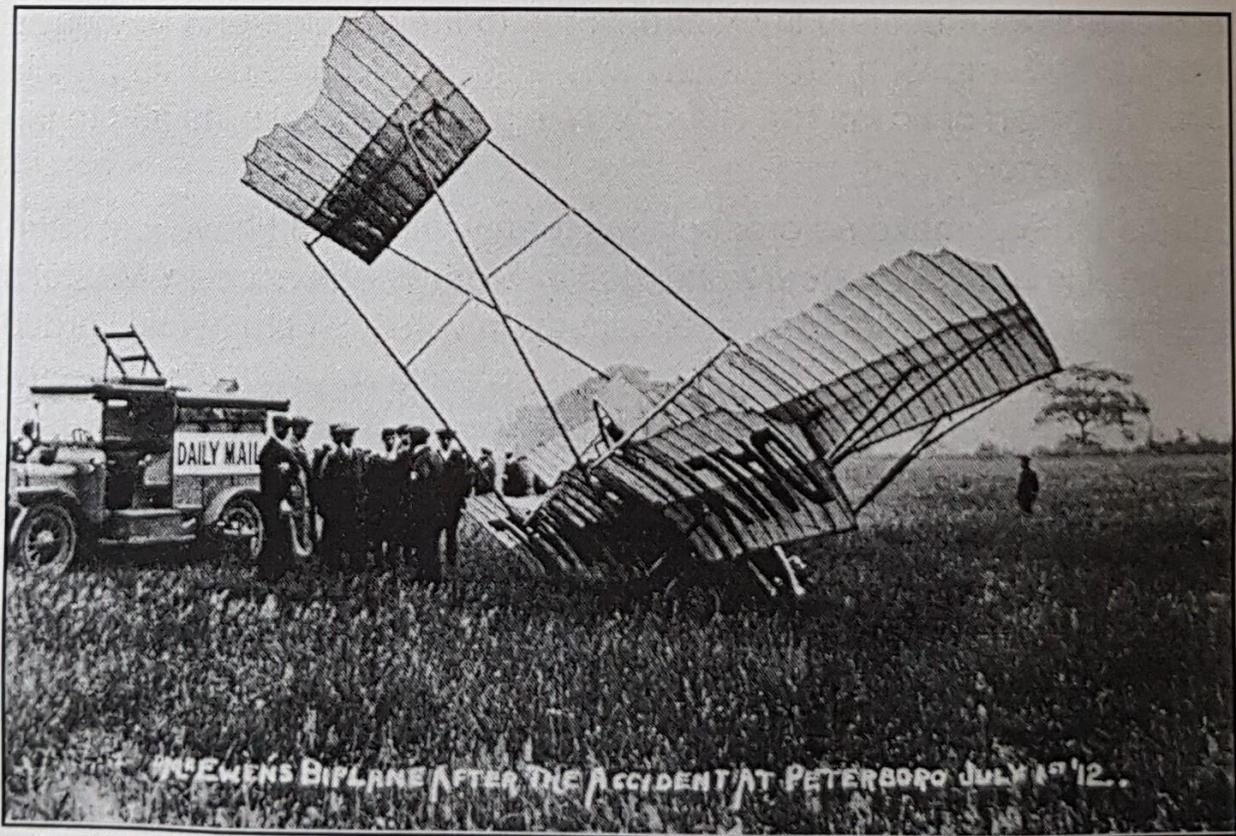
Although I can make no great claims for myself (at 33 I have just interrupted a journalistic career in London in order to embark on a Master's degree in Scottish literature at Glasgow University), I am fiercely proud of my forebears, and their rich brew of accomplishment (which seems so archetypally McEwen) and am determined to do whatever it takes to preserve their memory as members of a Clan which has integrity and genuine importance. It seems that those who are geographically closest to the ancestral fountainhead can be among the most indifferent to its besmirching and if the Clan Society and I must search wide for support in our struggle 'to see off' the raiding party sent by that other clan, then that is what we must do. This is not a trivial matter. *Reviresco*.

**John McEwen**

Taken from the Flying Book, 1914 Edition

### THE FLYING BOOK

EWEN, William Hugh, M.B., Aviator and aeronautical engineer; graduated in music with honours at Edinburgh University, prominent as organist and composer, in Scotland. Took up flying in 1911 and qualified for brevet No 63 on Bleriot monoplane at the London Aerodrome, Hendon February 14th, 1911, in record time. Opened flying school in Scotland, May 1911. Flew over Pentland Hills (snow covered) in 28 h.p. Deperdussin monoplane, flew Firth of Forth on same aeroplane, opened flying school at the London Aerodrome, December 1911 and secured the "Caudron" agency, 1912. Flew from Crotoy to Chatham, May, 1912 on fast 45 h.p. Anzani Caudron monoplane; flew in the Daily Mail tour on 60 h.p. Caudron biplane; formed the W. H. Ewen Aviation Co. Ltd., December 1912 to manufacture British Caudron aeroplanes. B. Shang-



*This photograph shows just how flimsy the planes were in those days - and isn't the old truck super?*

hai, December 1st. 1879; educated at Heriots College and Edinburgh University.

*Publications:* Musical compositions; *Recreations:* Flying, billiards, golf, tennis. *Clubs:* Royal Aero.

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*This article was written in The Scotsman many years after the event took place on 31/8/11.*

## ***Fly the Forth and Pick Up the £500 Jackpot***

**T**HE ROAR of the crowd was drowned as the engine reached full throttle. The helmeted figure at the controls waved a final farewell as the craft launched into space. Ground and sky fell rapidly away as



*Grandfather in his R.A.F. uniform - Note the unlit cigarette in his hand, as if smoking was a "good" sign in those days, if only they'd known.*

he headed out towards that far distant shore. When the exhausted but exuberant figure again stepped back on earth it was another step forward for mankind. William Hugh Ewen had just flown from Portobello to Kinghorn and back - the first crossing of the Firth of Forth.

It was August 1911, and the welcoming throng could not have been more thrilled had they been transported forward 70 years to witness the return of a Space Shuttle or a moon landing.

The young aviator had just propelled himself into the premier league of pioneers who were taking to and falling out of the sky around Britain.

Following Bleriot's crossing of

the Channel in 1909 and his capture of the £1,000 prize, the whole country was astir as further carrots were dangled before their goggled eyes. £1,000 was offered for a flight from Edinburgh to Glasgow in a machine built and flown by a Scot.

The proprietors of the Marine Gardens in Edinburgh put up £500 for the short hop over the Forth. A tidy sum of bawbees in those days and it set Edinburgh engineers working feverishly.

By February 1910, John Gibson of the Caledonia Motor & Cycle Works in Leith Walk had built and sold three biplanes, but had little success.

Brothers Henry and Alfred of Alexanders Motors churned up the playing fields at Myreside in a Demoiselle type put together from an old bedstead and sailcloth. Alf did fly 20 yards but the reward was 27 stitches in his face.

Charles Hubbard whizzed around Portobello Park at a good rate of knots till he pranged a park bench, breaking a wing. Undaunted, he tried again a few days later - and wrapped himself round the fence.

William Foulis, a well-known motorist, preferred the wide beach to experiment in a Bleriot type machine.

George Wilson of the "Evening News" got off the ground at Royston to go dizzily round and round Granton Gas Works when his controls locked.

It was not unknown for these intrepid birdmen to empty their pockets of small change to give them an edge.

The field was left clear for Will Ewen. An unlikely candidate for aeronautic honours; he was a Bachelor of Music and a church organist in Glasgow and Haddington.

Learning to fly at Hendon, he paid Bleriot £32 for tuition plus £25 deposit towards breakages. Was Bleriot a pessimist or just a realist? Ewen was able to claim back his deposit and become the first Scotsman to hold a pilot's licence.

He arrived at the Marine Gardens in July 1911 with a French Deperdussin monoplane of 28½ft wingspan and 28 h.p. engine. Sceptic and impatient crowds were kept in suspense for a month before favourable weather on August 30 got him up buzzing over Duddingston and Crai-

gentinny for 20 minutes until gusts sweeping around Arthurs Scat put him down on Northfield Farm. Farmer Graham returned him ignominiously on a horse and cart to his now wildly enthusiastic fans awaiting the main event of the day. They were not disappointed. The wind died down and it was all systems go. Dressed in black oilskins, Ewen nonchalantly flicked his cigarette away and climbed aboard. At 7 p.m. he had lift-off and clearing the boundary fence, set course east of Inchkeith.

He later reported having a "tricky five minutes" when air currents rocked his aircraft near Kinghorn. Leaving the Fife coast, he felt comforted at the sight of trawlers 1000 feet below. Swooping over the scenic railway into the Marine Gardens, a gust heeled him over, sending petticoats, flowered hats and bloaters flying. He pulled up over the shrieking crowd to land at Craigentinny. The 12 mile flight had lasted ten minutes.

Willing hands wheeled the conquering hero back along the road for a triumphant march round the gardens with the resident Pierrots and military band.

Ewen remained a firm favourite of the Edinburgh crowd. Setting up a flying school at Lanark, flew from there to Gorgie in November, completing the 30 miles in 35 minutes. It put him on the front page of the magazine "Flight" and was described as a "remarkable feat for man and machine".

In 1912 he was back again giving displays at Portobello. Flags flew from the roof of PT's (latterly Arnotts) and Maule's (now Frasers) at the West End. A Union Jack signified "no flying", St. Andrew's Cross "flying doubtful", but the Scottish Standard flapping bravely in the breeze started a stampede towards Porty. Considering the fickle winds of the Forth - the rapid hauling up and down of flags must have been hysterical. Returning South to Hendon, Ewen spent many weeks in hospital following a smash. He was one of the first to carry airmail, flying out of Middlesbrough with the famous Gustav Hamel soon to die in the Channel. The venture ended when the Post Office accused him of infringing their monopoly.

In the 1930s he was on tour again - this time firmly on the ground conducting an orchestra around the provinces.

By that time Spitfires of Edinburgh's own 603 Squadron had already

fought it out with the Luftwaffe above Inchkeith and the first generation of jets were screaming over the city.

*Mrs. Sidnie Sheriffs, Granddaughter of W. H. Ewen.*

## *Early History of the Celt*

All Irish Celt history traces its origins back to King Milesius of Spain and his three sons Heremon, Ir and Heber and their descendants. The Celts established supremacy over the whole of Ireland by enactment of laws which prevented the original peoples of the country from becoming king. The laws stated only the descendants of the sons of Milesius should inherit the kingship or Ard Ri, the high King over all the other Kingdoms.

To ensure this, every family kept a perfect record of their family line of descent, with a complete genealogical history of its people, lands and Clan. The system was established and refined at the Council of Chiefs, which was held on the hill of Tara. The system they formed was the Clan or family. This divided the country into small tribal Kingdoms, which came together under seven provincial Kings. They were usually ruled by the sons or immediate family of the Ard Ri. Their first allegiance was to their High King.

It was by decree of the assembly at Tara, that each Chief retain a Brehon or Judge, to ensure the laws were upheld and monitored. All events were recorded and a complete history of the Chiefs family, births, deaths and marriages were kept at Tara. The records from the Kingdoms were presented every three years for inspection by the King.

The succession to the throne of tribal Chiefs and Kings came from consulting the records, if a Tanistar or nominator had not been chosen by the King. The laws and records show how organised and civilised the Celts were. They had also developed dress code regulations, which established the rank of distinction held by the wearer within the Clan family. This rank was displayed for all to recognise. It consisted of a number of colours woven into a base colour plaid. The greater the number of colours permitted, the higher the rank within the family, e.g. one colour represented farmers who worked the land, traders and tacksman. This usually consisted of a white with black crossbanding. The more black bands, the senior the family.

Two represented the soldiers and men-at-arms.

Three represented Officers and Commanders.

Four represented Craftsmen and Innkeepers.

Five represented Sons and Daughters of Kings.

Six consisted of Brehons, Priests and Sennachies.

Seven was the King himself

This detailed and concise system provided a unique way of recognising your own family members. Each pattern related to a particular area of territory and therefore identified a family group. The naming of individuals, then followed by Christian name and their immediate family. To distinguish names they added descriptions of physical features of a person, or related him to a particular area or feature of the land. The system of naming families or Clans, usually began by prefixing the word Cineal meaning race of, followed by descendants of Clan, meaning family. They then break it down further by adding children of Dal or tribe. Finally adding Ui which means family name, or in a plural sense, many from one. So as an example you get; i.e. Cineal Eoin of Clan Ui Neill Dal from Clan Ui Fearchar of Clan Roy. Roughly translated the race of John, of the family tribe of O'Neill, from the family descendants of Fearchar, to the family of Roy, the families of which all claim a common ancestor. The works of O'Hart in his Irish "Pedigrees", traces most of these families and their genealogical history from the Celtic tribes.

The Tuath, or Tribe was ruled by a Ri or King, who governed through an assembly that met once a year, often in an open area, usually a consecrated place where their ancestors were buried. The Celtic society was split into three main levels, Nobles, Freeborn commoners, and the fettered labour force of slaves. Within these groups, each free man was graded by status, through having a carefully defined price of honour, which meant that if anything happened to him, this formed a basis for compensation, to him, if he was injured or to his kin, if he was killed. The Tuath or Tribe was composed of a number of kin or families directly related. Under normal circumstances and for practical reasons, this usually extended to four generations.

The basic family unit consisted of the man and his wife and their immediate family, along with their children and their wives, together, with any

# RECORD OF ANCESTORS

Name.  
Address.

DATE.

YOU

Born  
Place  
Married  
Place  
Occ

YOUR FATHER

1  
Born  
Place  
Married  
Place  
Died  
Place  
Occ

YOUR MOTHER

2  
Born  
Place  
Died  
Place

Your Father's Father

3  
Born  
Place  
Married  
Place  
Died  
Place  
Occ

Your Father's Mother

4  
Born  
Place  
Died  
Place

Your Mother's Father

5  
Born  
Place  
Married  
Place  
Died  
Place  
Occ

Your Mother's Mother

6  
Born  
Place  
Died  
Place

7	B P M P D D P O	15
8	B P D P	16
9	B P M P D D P O	17
10	B P D P	18
11	B P M P D D P O	19
12	B P D P	20
13	B P M P D D P O	21
14	B P D P	22
15	B P M P D D P O	23
16	B P D P	24
17	B P M P D D P O	25
18	B P D P	26
19	B P M P D D P O	27
20	B P D P	28
21	B P M P D D P O	29
22	B P D P	30

Readers are invited to fill in the above  
as best they can and submit it  
to MURDO, our GENEALOGIST.

grandchildren and their children. This particular family grouping is known as the Derbhfine, which is the most popular grouping for legal purposes. All the descendants of a common great grandfather over four generations. The land was held in common trust by the kinsmen and distributed throughout the family for the use of individual families, but also for the whole Clan according to status. When goods were inherited or fines were to be paid, all members of the Derbhfine were expected to share or required to contribute.

*Editor*

## *Unconquered Kingdoms*

Of the unconquered kingdoms, that of Aileach or Cenel Eoghain was the most dangerous and warlike. De Courcy had subdued Ulidia but had little success west of Lough Neagh. He may have claimed that his 'Ultonia' included the whole North, but in fact his grants are never outside of Antrim and Down. Not a single Englishman had yet put permanent foot in the greater part of Ulster, and save for a few attempts in the next generation this remained so till the end of the sixteenth century.

On the departure of John in August 1210 episcopal justiciars continued his royal policy, and the frontiers of the colony were pushed forward to Athlone, Clonmacnois, Roscrea, Clones, and Cael-uisce on the Erne, where royal castles were built. The two latter were intended to bridle the Ulster kings, who stood sternly aloof. In Aedh O'Neill the Cenel Eoghain of Tyrone found a great man who ruled the kingdom from 1196 to 1230. He represented one branch of the royal stock descended from the Niall Glundubh of 919, but the MacLochlann branch had long been dominant and the O'Neill ascendancy had yet to be secured. Aedh found a natural ally in an O'Donnell, who similarly had to establish his family among kindred stocks. In 1201 Egnechan O'Donnell united with O'Neill to crush a MacLochlann candidate in battle near Portrush, and thus the O'Neills and O'Donnells, side by side, established kingships which lasted unbroken till 1603.

The kingdom of Cenel Eoghain, under O'Neill, stood boldly aloof from these confusions. Egnechan O'Donnell ruled the Cenel Conaill till 1208 and was then succeeded by his son Donal More. He too entered into

alliance with Aedh O'Neill, and before he died in 1240 reduced Brefni and its chiefs O'Ruairc and O'Reilly to submission, and made himself overlord of Fermanagh. On the death of Aedh O'Neill in 1230, 'a king who never gave pledge or hostage to Gael or Gall', a Donal MacLochlann for some years revived the claim of his race, but at last Brian, son of Aedh, with O'Donnell aid, recovered the kingship of Tir Eoghain for his race at the battle of Caineirge in 1241; in which the MacLochlann name was practically extinguished and Donal and ten of his 'derbhfine' fell in the battle.

*Sent in by Paul McEwan, our American Correspondent*

### ***What did you do in the war, Daddy?***

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WAS following up a query recently which almost encapsulated the above, but not quite. To be more specific, what part did the McEwans (in their various spellings) play in the battle of Culloden on behalf of the Jacobite cause?

In the event, I could find very little. Indeed, the evidence was very much to the effect that the McEwans role was pretty minimal. Three sources were found in The Scottish Genealogy Society's library - two for the Young Pretenders forces of 1745/46 (the '45), and one for the Old Pretenders forces of 1715 (the '15). The sum total of information on McEwans in the three volumes is as follows:

#### **1 - Muster Roll of Prince Charles Edward Stuart's Army 1745-46 ISBN 0-08 030385 4**

John McEwan of Dunkeld. Officer with The Atholl Brigade.

Kenneth MacEwan (ban) of Robostan - 'Other Ranks' with The MacKinnons.

John McEwan (younger) of Muchlie, with Col. Roy Stewart's regiment, killed at Culloden

#### **2 - The Prisoners of the '45 (vol. 3); Scottish History Society 1929**

John McEvan (or McEwen) of Glenmoriston, with Glengarry's regiment - taken prisoner.

William McEvan (or McEwen) of Glenmoriston, with Glengarry's regiment - taken prisoner.

### **3 - Jacobites of the '15; by David Dobson 1993**

McEwen, John, merchant in Dunkeld; Subaltern in Murray's Battalion, taken prisoner at Preston, possibly died at Lancaster.

McEwen, John, transported from Liverpool to Virginia on the ship Godspeed 28th, July 1716. Landed in Maryland - October 1716.

I could find no information at all on troops supporting the Hanoverian cause.

Did the McEwans not play a greater role? Maybe with the defeat of the Jacobite army, its supporters were loathe to 'advertise' the fact - and many McEwans managed to avoid being 'on the record'. Were there McEwans following the Duke of Cumberland, and supporting the Hanoverian cause? (Again, maybe a reluctance to publicise this fact?) Are there other records indicating a greater involvement? If any readers have any thoughts / ideas, do please send them to the Editor. It would be good to have a 'discussion' through the pages of the Bulletin on this subject.

**Murdo McEwan, Edinburgh - November 1998**

### ***McEwan's involved in the '45 and at Culloden.***

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**A**S A postscript to Murdo's report on the Muster Roll of McEwan's listed at Culloden and as a further point in discussing the subject amongst members, here is some more information to ponder on. Although only five members of the Clan are officially recorded, there were obviously many more present at this engagement and earlier in the campaign. They probably took part as individual family groups, rather than any specific Clan companies, or as a regiment. It is significant to note, that of those five registered individuals, they range from being shown in The Atholl Brigade, The MacDonnell's of Glengarry, The Stewart's of Appin, The MacKinnon's, who were drawn up alongside the Camerons of Locheil and lastly the Edinburgh Regiment of Colonel Roy Stewart.

The Jacobite front line, as it faced the Hanoverian forces, consisted of the following regiments. On the furthest left flank were the Clan MacDonald, seething mad for being put in this position. For it was their right by tradition, to fight at the right hand of their King. A bad error made by one of the King's Officers who came with him from France. Whether it was made deliberately, we shall never know. Next in line was Roy Stewart's regiment, followed by the Chisholms, MacLachlan-MacLean regiment. Then came the Farquharson's, and Clan Chattan, with the Frazer's; these regiments formed the middle of the line. It was these central brigades which took the heaviest of the fire from the enemy artillery. The right-wing was held by The Stewart's of Appin, the Cameron regiments including the MacKinnons and the Atholl Brigade. As you can see, if there were other clansmen present, they would certainly be all concentrated in the first line.

It was the right-wing which finally advanced and smashed into Barrell's regiment of foot, taking the rest of the whole line with it. It might be assumed that the reason the right hit so hard was to try and get at the Campbell Argyle Militia who were massed behind Barrell's regiment in the second line. However, this had been anticipated, for the Clansmen were met with a terrible massed volley fire of three ranks of infantry in the second line, as a consequence, firing into their own men as well as the highlanders. They also had to contend with an enfilading fire from the Militia, who broke away to the right behind a stone wall. The highlanders, caught in a crossfire, were killed in their hundreds. More than half of the total killed, were behind Hanoverian lines. The total Jacobite casualties were well over twelve hundred killed at Culloden, nearly all from the front line regiments. We were represented in at least five, possibly more, of those leading regiments. So, although we are listed as only five clansmen taking part, personally, I think many more were involved. It also claimed nine hundred men captured during or after the battle, who were either, hung later, if they were officers or Clan Chiefs, or were transported to the New World Colonies as slaves.

**Editor**

## *Queries*

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*Please keep queries on a separate sheet of paper from other correspondence and ensure that your name and address is included.*

McEwan / Petrie - George Wilson McEwan 1879-1935 and Isabella Petrie 1871-1938 living at 327 Dalmarnock Road, Bridgeton, Glasgow.

George McEwan 1908-1957 and Jemima Steel McKnight 1907-1987, 327 Dalmarnock Road, Bridgeton, Glasgow.

Any information on descendants would be gratefully received by George McEwan, 1 Eimtree Cottage, Ousebank, Selby, N. Yorkshire YO8 7AY. E-mail: georgemcewan@compuserve.com

Ewan / Christie: John Ewan married to Margaret Christie traced to Baldevie Mills, Dundee in 1861. Family, William, Betsy, Isabella, Mary, Jane and John my great grandfather.

Any information on the relatives of the above would be gratefully received by Heather Canevaro, Box 51, Viscount, Sask., Canada S0k 4M0. E-mail: caro@sk.sympatico.ca

Bridgeman / Ewin: I am seeking information regarding a Francis Myrah Ewin, an ancestor of my wife's. She was born May 5, 1854 in Quinton, Leicestershire, UK. She married Charles Walter Daniel Bridgeman on March 9, 1875 in Dalby, Queensland, Australia. Her parents are Francis Ewin and Jane Davis. We have been unable to trace the family tree beyond this point. Any help would be appreciated. Gerard Verhoeven, 5 Groveland Crescent, Isabella Plains, ACT 2905, Australia. E-mail: csalins@ozemail.com.au

## *Is there an earlier Ewan?*

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THIS IS a short article to add some more information on a query raised by Cameron McEwing, who is our New Zealand correspondent. In a letter, first sent to Murdo, our Clan genealogist, Cameron asked about the connections on the Conjectural Family Tree, which was researched by the Lord Lyon, King of Arms. A part of that work deals with the descent of the Clans from our common ancestor Anradan. In most of the Clan history books the Clan Ewen's first Chief is noted as Suibhne

or Suiffne. There is some difference of opinion as to whether Suibhne is the brother to Fearchar son of Dunsleve, or could there be a brother called Ewen? What is also possible, is that a whole generation has been missed out and Ewen is the Father of both Fearchar and Suibhne. To follow the complicated ancestral lines, you can trace the individuals on the chart on the following page.

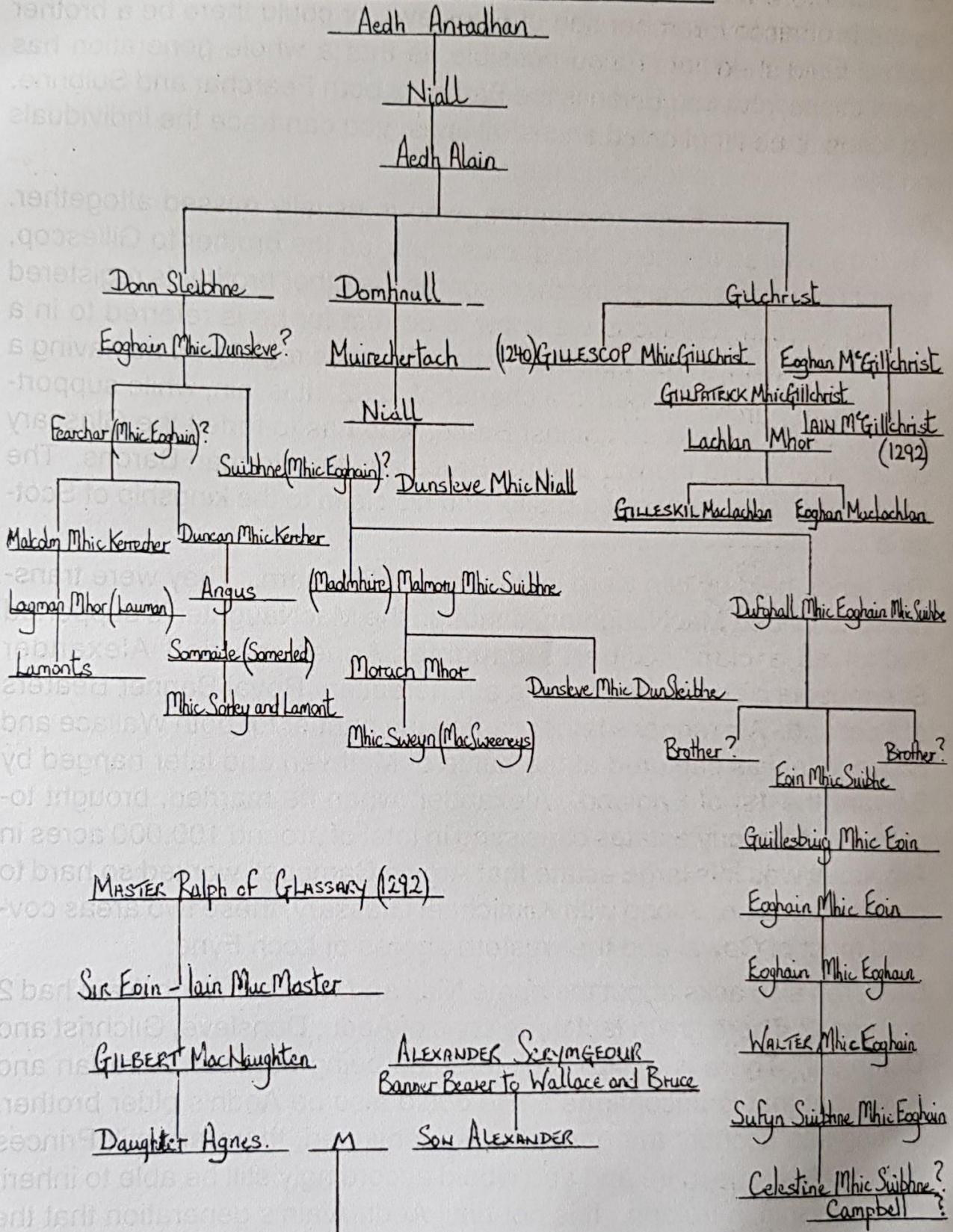
There is another Ewen to mention, who is usually missed altogether. He is registered in one of the manuscripts, as the brother to Gillescop, son of Gilchrist, although in other records the other brother is registered as GilaPatrick. Gillescop we know is correct for he is referred to in a charter of 1240. To complicate matters Ewen is registered as having a son Iain who is mentioned in a charter of 1292. It is Iain, while supporting the Lord of the Isles against Bruce, who has to forfeit the Glassary estate after losing the war against Bruce and the Norman Barons. The Lord of the Isles, supported Balliol and his claim to the kingship of Scotland.

The lands held by Iain were in the area of Fincharn. They were transferred to Gilbert MacNaughten, although the MacNaughten's supported Balliol as a clan. Gilbert's daughter Agnes married Alexander Scrymgeour. The Scrymgeour's are hereditary Royal Banner Bearers of Scotland. Alexander's father carried the banner for both Wallace and Bruce. He was captured at the battle of Methven and later hanged by Edward the 1st of England. Alexander, when he married, brought together two Barony estates consisting in total of around 100,000 acres in Argyle. It was this large estate that Argyle Campbell worked so hard to get his hands on. Along with Kilmichael Glassary, these two areas covered most of Cowal and the western shores of Loch Fyne.

Cameron also asks about the name Niall and whether Aedh Alain had 2 or 3 sons? There are in fact three sons of Aedh; Dunsleve, Gilchrist and Domhnall. There is a Niall registered as being between Anradan and Aedh, but that is unconfirmed. He could also be Aedh's older brother. Taking into account the generations mentioned, there are still Princes of the O'Neill line in Ireland and would accordingly still be able to inherit the Chiefship in Ireland. It is not until Aedh Alain's generation that the split in the family becomes wider and ties are more permanently secured in Scotland.

It goes without saying that these family trees are not exact or complete

Descent of Clans From Aedh Anradhan.



MASTER Ralph of GLASSARY (1292)

SIR Eoin - Iain Mhic Master

GILBERT MacNaughten

Daughter Agnes.

ALEXANDER SYRMGEOUR  
Banner Bearer to Wallace and Bruce

SON ALEXANDER

ALEXANDER NOW HEUD THE TWO BARONY'S  
CONSISTING OF OVER 100,000 ACRES  
OF COWAL AND ARGYLL GLASSARY LANDS IN 1370.

Descent of the McEwans.

and therefore much conjecture is used to link them together. There remains undiscovered, sources of information within private manuscripts which could shed light on our earlier history. The Lord Lyon's descent of the Clans, gives a good overall picture of the line of descent, but there are gaps to be filled on certain generations.

*Editor*

## ***Society Manager's Report***

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I AM very pleased to inform all Society members that the Clan merchandise available, has considerably widened in choice and range of items for purchase. The extended range should be available by early summer from the Clan Gathering at Kilfinan. The list of items will include Clan crested ladies carrying bags, waistcoats, table mats, napkins and cushions, etc. These items will also be available by mail order.



**M** MacDonald  
**M** MacKay  
**Highland Outfitters**  
*Full Highland Outfit*  
*Made by Experts  
Sold by Professionals!*  
*Extensive range of Kilts  
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Visit our new bigger, brighter premises at  
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Telephone: 0141 204 3930  
Fax: 0141 204 3250

We are also now in a position, to fully kit-out, anyone who requires a kilt, or jacket, brogues, ladies Clan skirts, sashes all in our own tartan or in any other Clans' tartan. Anything, which is now available in the shops will be able to be purchased through the Clan Society.

I cannot list the full range here, due to space, but the full range covers over 40 items in total at present. They should be in stock by the Gathering, with further items to follow, which means, if you are coming to the Gathering in June, do not forget your cheque books. There will be something of interest for everybody, even if you do not purchase anything on the day,

you can still order through the mail.

The Annual Gathering takes place on the 5th of June this year, at Kilfinan Church Hall which is opposite to the Hotel. This year we also have an invitation to join the Reverend Kellas at Kilfinan Parish Church, who

is holding a service there, at 12.00 o'clock midday. All members of the McEwan Society are invited to join with the congregation for the service, as well as any visiting guests. Everyone will be most welcome.

*Society Manager, Jim McEwan*

## ***Editor's Page***

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THIS YEAR'S Annual Gathering I am looking forward to with great interest. There are many visitors coming from abroad. Last year, I missed a lot of our overseas members who came over, so I will be making up for lost time. I'm hoping also, that the joining of our society with our American counterpart will bear fruition very soon.

As our Clan looks forward to the new Millennium, swiftly approaching, it can gain strength from the knowledge that as we go into the next, we are growing - present in more countries and states than we have ever been before and also knowing we have the prospect of achieving one of our main goals, which is to have a Chief appointed for the Clan.

The next step on from there, would be to find a permanent homebase for the Clan in its own heartland, to establish or acquire a property, which will serve as an information point about the Clan, to maintain a genealogical database with access to it for all visitors, to promote and advance the Clan's future, as well as to record and research its history, to put down the first roots for re-establishing the Clan back in the area over which it originally held title. That position may still be some distance away though I believe it is something we can aspire to reach.

At present we maintain our link with the area when the Gathering takes place once a year for the A.G.M. and to visit the castle site and Cairn Memorial. If we can establish a permanent site in the area, then I believe it would give the opportunity for the A.G.M. to move around more, to visit other areas where McEwans settled in numbers and reach members who possibly cannot get to Kilfinnan. A permanent base would remove the view, the feeling that we are abandoning our roots if we move away from the immediate area for meetings.

This is my own personal view, and I would welcome any comments or observations on what direction you think the Clan Society should be moving in the next millennium. The next generation of Clan members is as important as the present and the previous ones. We should hear your views, on how we can grow and develop in the future.

***Editor.***

## *Obituary*

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IT IS with great sadness that we learn of the recent death of Mr. J. A. McEwen of Ashford-in-the-Water, Derbyshire. Mr. McEwen had been a loyal member of our Society since its inception in 1977 and will be sadly missed. Our deepest sympathies are extended to his widow and members of his family.

*Alan Ewing*

## *Engagement*

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**McEWEN - SOANE:** The engagement is announced between Sir John McEwen, son of the late Sir Robin McEwen and Lady McEwen, of Polwarth, Berwickshire and Rachel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Soane, of Wallington, Surrey.

## *New Members*

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The Chairman welcomes into Clan Ewen the following new members who have joined since our last publication:

Ms. Peggy A. Jeffra, P.O.Box 313, Millersville, **MARYLAND** 21108-0313, USA.

Mr. Currier McEwan, RRI, Box 818, Hartswell, **MAINE** 04079-9739, USA.

Mr. Andrew McEwan, 73 Elliston Street, **CHESTER HILL**, N.S.W. 2162, Australia.

McEwen Coplans Family, C/o 3 Rectory Lane, **TOOTING BROADWAY**, London SW17 9PZ.

Ian McEwan, 20 Firs Close, **HAZLEMERE**, Bucks., Surrey HP 15 7TF.

Dr. Peter McEwan, MA. PhD., Glengarden, **BALLATER**, Aberdeenshire AB35 5UB.

Mrs. Sidnie Sheriffs, Old Stream Cottage, Old Struan, **CALVINE**, Perthshire, PH18 5UD.

Mr. George McEwan, 1 Elmtree Cottage, Ousebank, **SELBY**, Yorkshire YO8 5AY.

Mrs. Jean North, 31 Grampian Way, Langley, **SLOUGH**, Berks SL3 8UF.

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& Secretary:** Miss E. Williamson, Bellcairn Cottage, Cove, by Helensburgh, G84 0NX, Scotland  
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- New Zealand  
Correspondent:** Mr. Cameron McEwing, 54 Glen Lynne Avenue,  
Hamilton, New Zealand.

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