

# CLAN EWEN SOCIETY



No. 40

*Bulletin*®

NOVEMBER, 1998

## *FAILTE*

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ONCE again I start my report by having to announce the death of one of our Nonagenarian members - Robin MacEwen of Inverness. An obituary appears later in this issue.

At last, at last, we have a treasurer. The name of Dr. John McEwan of Montrose was proffered by his son of Aberdeen, and Dr. John joined the society to become treasurer. Before I go any farther I should say that he prefers to be called Iain and as he has dropped his title since retiring, he prefers the accolade of Mister, so, henceforth, Dr. John you will be Mr. Iain.

Iain comes with more than adequate experience, having been treasurer to Montrose Rugby Club, whose accounts are much more substantial than ours. He also has been treasurer to other local amateur sporting and suchlike clubs. We were all pleasantly impressed with him when he attended his first meeting in August, held in the Copthorne Hotel in George Square in Glasgow.

The meeting was supposed to have taken the form of a working lunch. The working was satisfactory, but the lunches were a disaster. The service was poor - almost non-existent at times, and then we were overcharged! But, being MacEwens, they were "brought to heel". I mention this because our members coming from overseas might be tempted by the general appearance of this establishment.

Talking of visitors from overseas Rob Ewen, treasurer of Clan Ewen Society of USA visited Scotland during September and wished to meet members of our committee.

This meeting took place in East Kilbride, home of Charles Ewen, where we had a full and frank discussion of the possibility, and the Pros and Cons of the Clan Ewen Society USA becoming an affiliate organisation to the parent Society. Having discussed the subject at length I'm happy to say that we found more Pros than Cons and as a result the desire will be achieved, and that the two societies should be mutually beneficial. I had had a communication from Forrest B. Ewen, President of the American Society, prior to the event, setting out their proposals and had circulated all committee members here, so that they could send in their comments if they were unable to attend.

During our discussions I made Rob aware that we had a serious claimant for the position of Chief, but that to prove his claim he would be obliged to employ an advocate of the court of the Lord Lyon King at Arms, in Edinburgh and all that that would entail moneywise. Rob, immediately, suggested that we should launch an appeal world-wide as he thought that MacEwens everywhere would be happy to contribute. This we will do in the new year.

Talking of New Year, may I wish all members of this society a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Nollaig math is bliadhna mhath ur.*

*Alan Ewing*

## ***THE CLAN EWEN SOCIETY GATHERING & A.G.M.***

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THE MEETING was held on Saturday, 6th June, 1998, at the Kilfinan Hotel, Argyll starting at 1.30 p.m.

Chairman, **Alan Ewing** welcomed all members and friends, as there were quite a number of new members from home and overseas, each was given a chance to introduce themselves. A special welcome to:

**Sir John McEwen, Bart.**, of Marchmont and Bardrochat, whom we were delighted to have with us.

**Donald Ewing**, South Australia.

**Bob** and **Judith Massena**, New Jersey.

The **Niemeyer Family**, Mississippi and Florida.

**Lynn Gehling** and **Jill Young**, Skandia, U.S.A.

**Robert Ludlum**, Amsterdam.

**Andrew McEwen**, New Zealand and **Ian McEwen**, his brother, resident in North Wales.

**Bruce McEwen**, New Zealand, living in Copenhagen.

With greetings extended to all committee members and friends who support the gatherings.

Apologies received from:

**Mary Barnes**, Ipswich.

**Colin Davies**, Liverpool.

**Nicholas Wills**, Honorary Member.

**William Ewing**, South Australia.

**The Chairman** then paid tribute to three members of the Society who had passed away in the last year:

**Jock McEwan**, New South Wales, Australia.

**Margaret Ann Ewen** and **Phyllis McEwan**, both of Scotland.

**The Chairman** at this point made an appeal for the **Erskine Hospital** which is trying to establish satellite units working in other areas of Scotland. The hospital's expertise is in the field of artificial limbs, working for and alongside ex-servicemen and women and their families, to further improve and develop the field of prosthetics. Erskine Hospital was founded by **Sir William Mcewan** and leaflets and information were distributed.

**Minutes of previous A.G.M.** were read, approved and signed. The secretary reported on her busy year with a constant stream of enquiries and a satisfying result in new members joining the Clan. In the absence of a Treasurer, the Secretary also had the added responsibility of banking subscriptions and donations. Two sizeable donations had been received from members in **Skandia** and **Florida** for which thanks were given.

A **Financial Statement** was passed round by **Charles Ewen** giving an update of Clan finances. He also gave a short e-mail report and offered to give access to the Web page to those people who wish to use it.

**Genealogist Murdo** said a few words about his latest correspondence.

There followed then a happy event: Lynn Gehling presented a very handsome staff to the Society with silver mounted band and Clan motto, **Reviresco** which he was warmly thanked for and **Donald Ewing** presented a lovely wooden box covered with Emu skin which he also was thanked for. The box was later raffled and won by Bruce McEwen.

The meeting continued with the election of Office-Bearers and as before, the present committee were re-elected with the exception of several positions. The Clan Society Office-Bearers are as follows:

Chairman .....	<b>Alan Ewing</b>
Vice-Chairman .....	<b>Eleanor Williamson</b>
Secretary .....	<b>Eleanor Williamson</b>
Treasurer .....	<b>Still vacant at present</b>
Genealogist .....	<b>Murdo McEwan</b>
Membership Secretary .....	<b>Gudron McEwan-Joyce</b>

The Society Manager, **Ron Ewing** offered his resignation and **James McEwan** was proposed and accepted in this position.

**Colin Davies** continues as *Bulletin Editor* and **Charles Ewen** as e-mail correspondent.

*General Committee* - **Duncan** and **Barbara**.

There being no further business the meeting closed with thanks to the Chair and Committee. The A.G.M. and Gathering would be as usual on the first Saturday in June at the Kilfinan Hotel.

The meeting as usual was followed by the traditional walk to the Cairn, for those who wished to go. To follow later, was the evening Ceilidh at the hotel.

**Evening Ceilidh:** This was an enjoyable evening of music and dancing and greatly appreciated by the overseas members who were initiated into some of the Scottish Country Dances. It was a very friendly occasion with a chance to talk to new members.

**E. McEwan Williamson, Secretary**

Committee Meeting on Thursday, 27th August at 12.30 p.m. at the Copthorne Hotel, Glasgow.

*Present:* **Alan Ewing, Charles Ewen, Eleanor Williamson, Gudron McEwan-Joyce, Jim** and **Barbara McEwen** and **Iain McEwan**.

*Apologies* from **Murdo** and **Duncan**.

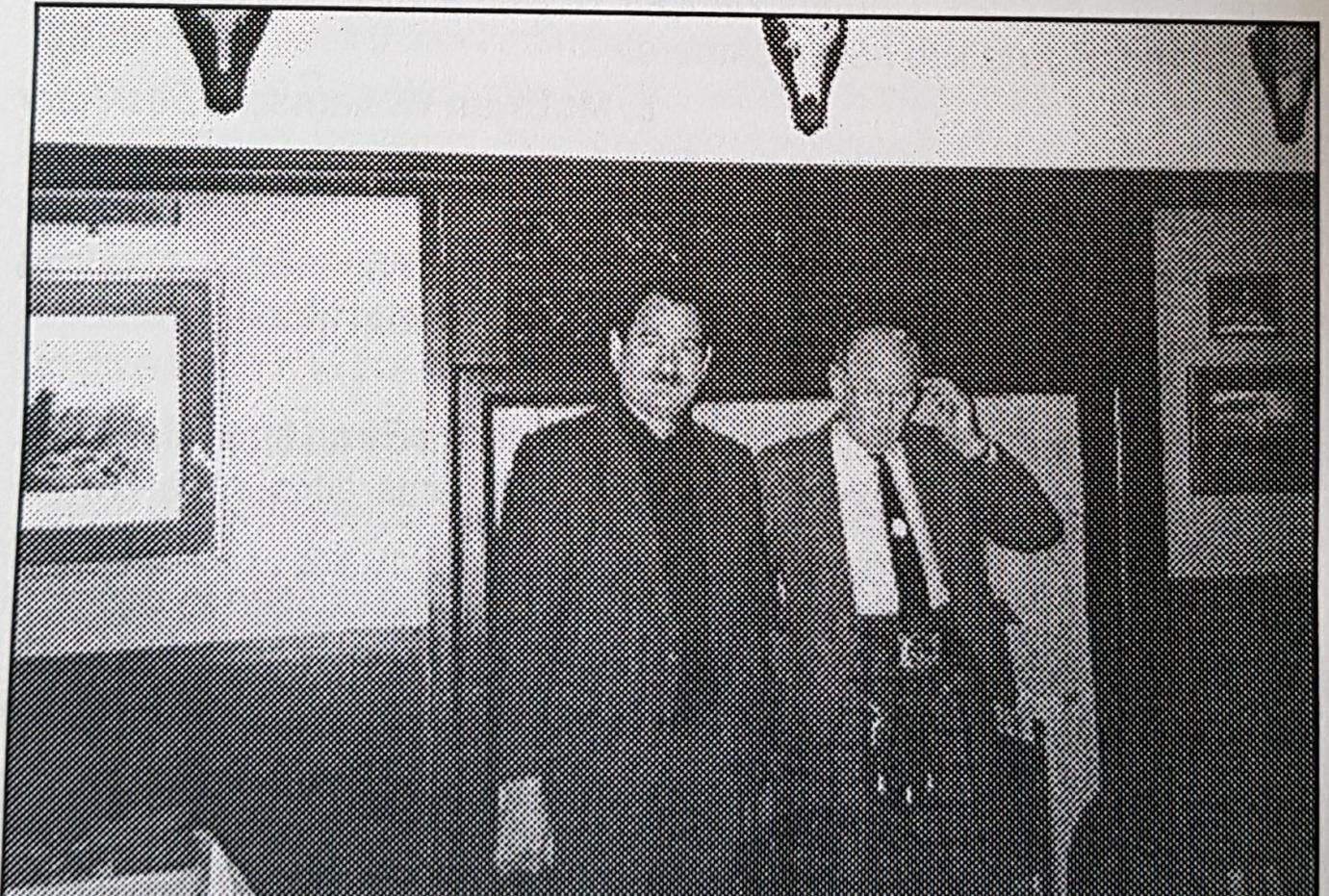
*Business:* Welcome to new Treasurer Mr. Iain McEwan from Montrose. Mr. McEwan has taken over the financial statements, accounts and monies, etc., for the Society.

*History Book:* Alan has received estimates for the printing in Scotland and he and Jim will pursue the matter and report back.

*American Clan Society:* Committee members all quite pleased with the suggestion of future co-operation with the **Clan Ewen Society, U.S.A.** and agreed to an informal meeting at East Kilbride to discuss the proposal with **Rob Ewen**, a member of the American Society. (Cont. Page 554)



*Left: Lynn Gehling, Michigan, Skandia*





*Lynn Gehling and Jill Young, Skandia, Michigan, U.S.A.*



*Left to Right: Rob Ewen (U.S.A.), Matt Ewen, Irene Ewing, Eleanor Williamson, Alan Ewing, Murdo McEwan, Barbara McEwan, Jim McEwan attending extraordinary meeting at East Kilbride, September, 1998*

*Chiefship:* No further developments as yet.

*Society Manager,* Jim suggested buying more reasonable items for sale and also some rolls of tartan from **McArthur & Co. Ltd.** This was agreed upon by the Committee and the meeting was then closed.

*E. Williamson, Secretary.*

We now have a roll of 100 per cent pure new wool Worsted, skirt weight, Ancient McEwen tartan, double width offered for sale at £15.00 per metre, plus post and packing.

## ***GORDON DROVE A HARD BARGAIN***

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CHAUFFEUR Gordon McEwen has his cherished Frank Sinatra autographs under lock and key as the price of Ol' Blue Eyes' memorabilia goes sky-high following the singer's death.

Gordon, now 50, ferried Sinatra to and from his 1990 show at Glasgow's Ibrox Stadium.

But too shy to ask himself, he sweet-talked the singer's wife Barbara into asking the star to sign for him.

Autograph dealers Fraser's in London, said Sinatra autographs were rare, and some examples were worth £600 each.

Gordon recalled: "All I had on me was a business card and a leaflet, which he signed.

## ***NOVA SCOTIA: WITHIN LIES THE HEART OF OLD CALEDONIA***

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**U**P ON THE Halifax Citadel, 15-year-old Geoff Peladeau strikes up "The Black Bear" under the appraising eye of Captain David Danskin, President of the Halifax Police Band. Under a breezy Nova Scotia sky, the 78th Highlanders drill with a will, kilts a-swirl. Pure theatre this may be; for the 78th after all square-bashed its last parade in 1870. However, reinforcing your roots is a serious business in a country where 20 percent of the populace claim Scots ancestry.

Nova Scotia, a beckoning finger extending eastward from Canada's At-

Atlantic seaboard, has gathered the major share of Highland immigrants over the past 200 years; this is the province, above all, where Caledonia is cool. Halifax alone has five or six pipe bands competing in the International Gathering of the Clans, which happens as often in Nova Scotia as it does in Old Scotia. Where after all, could an exiled clansman feel more at home than in a country watered by rivers called Forth and Clyde and dotted with places called New Glasgow, Inverness and Glengarry?

Visitors from Old Scotland can easily lose their bearings in the looking-glass world that is Nova Scotia's Cape Breton Island. You can enjoy a map that puts Loch Lomond on the way to Sydney, sets Iona opposite Christmas Island and has you driving to Inverness and Glencoe station by way of Margaree Forks.

Though the 75,000 Gaelic speakers who populated Cape Breton at the turn of the century has now dwindled to only 500, the island still remains and supports the only major Gaelic speaking community outside the Highlands and islands of Scotland.

Driving through you can count mailbox after mailbox at the end of each neat driveway the names MacEacherns and Macleans, the MacLellans, MacDougalls and MacLeods, whose 19th century forebears set about creating in Cape Breton a semblance of the lives they had left and been forced to abandon in Scotland. An excellent museum has been set up further south in Pictou, where homes have been re-constructed in the style left behind in the Western Highlands by the pioneer passengers of the ship *Hector*, who arrived in 1773.

Following the Cape Breton Ceilidh Trail as it winds its ribbon of tartan nostalgia down the rocky south-west coast, visitors are reminded that here Nova Scotia takes its cue from Old Scotia. At Antigonish you might stay at the Inverary Inn or the MacPuffin Motel, spending your evenings feasting on MacDonalds lobster. On the east of Cape Breton near Ingonish, the Gaelic College lays on week-long courses in dancing, piping and Gaelic, with a spot of Cape Breton step-dancing.

Driving the rocky coast road between Halifax and the pine forested inlets of Liscomb Mills, passing the hard won pastureland around Bras d'Or lake, or watching the lobster boats haul up their pots in Ingonish Bay, it's easy to see how Nova Scotia and its newcomers felt they were made for each other. At the Highland Village, Scots roots can be traced and guests

are greeted in Gaelic inside a series of reconstructed immigrant homes. Catriona MacNeil, a village guide, tells of her parents speaking Gaelic at home until they died; she sums up the argument for a last ditch retrieval of their vanishing community in a single line: "When everyone's gone, you start wondering who they were."

Guide for further reading: *A Dance Called America*, by James Hunter tells the story of Scottish emigration to the U.S. and Canada.

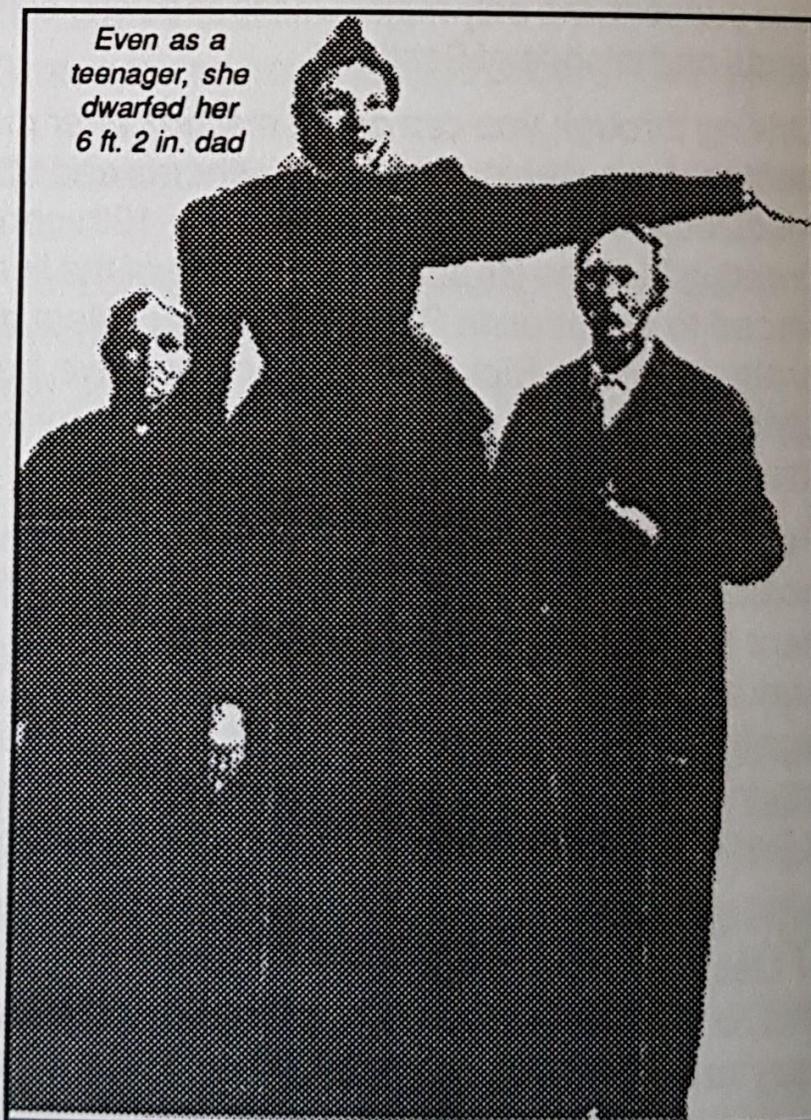
*With full acknowledgment to the writer, Juliet Clough, edited from an article taken from a travel supplement.*

## ***TALLEST WOMAN WHO EVER LIVED***

**S**HE TOWERED 8 foot 4 inches and lived in a special oversize house!

Ella Ewing who was the tallest woman ever, at well over 8 ft, but her skyscraping stature only ever brought her heart-break until the gentle giantess began using her own height to make money and improve her and her family's way of life.

Born on 9th March, 1872, near the tiny town of La Grange, Missouri, "Ella was a normal and healthy child in every way, she just got bigger", said her biographer Bette Wiley, author of "Our Miss Ella". But by the age of 10, Ella was as tall as her 5 ft. 4 in. mother. By the age of



12, she was the tallest girl in her one-room schoolhouse. As a teenager at 13 she stood eye-to-eye with her father at 6 ft. 2 in. Before she turned 16, Ella had shot up to well over 7 ft high, when she posed for a picture with her parents.

Her folks were hardworking farmers, who could barely afford to keep Ella clothed. Even worse, Ella had outgrown all their furniture and could not stand up in their small cabin home. Finally, when Ella reached the age of 17, fate intervened.

A Chicago Museum curator, persuaded the towering teen to show everyone her extraordinary height at an exhibition in the museum, for one month, at a weekly fee of \$250, a lot of money to her farming family.

Desperate to help out financially, Ella agreed. She was an instant success. Moving from the Museum, she appeared at fairs, circus's and travelling shows. Her earnings paid off her parents family farm and built Ella's dream home. It boasted a 10 ft high ceiling and 9 ft. doors, with 8 ft. windows and a massive 9 ft. bed for her colossal frame.

When Ella was 29, the *New York World* reported she stood 8 ft. 4 in. and weighed 265 pounds, had a 47 in. waist, with a 50 in. hip measurement. Her feet reached a length of 16 in. Before she died at the early age of 40, on 10th January, 1913, Ella "praised God and even blessed Him for her extreme height".

Despite some claims to the contrary, Ella still holds the title of the tallest woman ever. The undertaker who buried her, measured her height at still over 8 ft. 4 in. According to the *Guinness Book of Records*, today's tallest woman is 38-year-old Sandy Allen at a height of 7 ft. 7¼ in, exactly 8¾ in. shorter than the amazing Ella Ewing.

*Our thanks to Major Hugh C. McEwan of Lexington, Kentucky, for sending in the article.*

## ***IN MEMORIUM***

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**A** REMEMBRANCE tribute to my father William Davies, a summary of his life, family and general interests.

William was born on 16th September, 1918, at number 259 Mill Lane, Sutton, St. Helens, the third son of Alice (Kerry) Davies and William Davies.

Earlier generations of the family were well known in the area as "Potters", making clay pots, porcelain and clay bricks for building work. The Kerry side of the family were from Springburn, a district of Glasgow. The father of Alice, was Peter Kerry, coming from Glasgow to manage a pottery in St. Helens. It was through the influence of his mother Alice and grandmother Margaret McEwan, that my father maintained a strong attachment to Scotland all through his life.

My father grew up with the children from Sutton Heath, many of whom had pottery connections, or their families either worked in the coal industry as Miners or were involved in glass production at Pilkington's or watch-making in Prescott.

The Davies' family at one time, managed or owned up to five potteries in and around the local area, the main pottery being at Sutton Heath Hall, better known to the family as Pottery House. The owner was Richard Davies, my father's grandfather. On the day when the staff were paid their wages, who were mostly family, he would line all the grandchildren up in a descending order by height and give each one a penny from the paybox; it was a considerable number amounting to about 20 in all.

When my Dad was little, he always remembered sitting under the large dining-room table which was covered by a large red velvet throw and therefore well hidden, while he could watch the family enjoying musical entertainment and celebrations. The whole family were great supporters of the "Caledonian Society". Several family members were also lay preachers in the Wesleyan church.

Cowley High School, was where my father finished his schooling, excelling in both English and Maths, but also, particularly in sports, playing both rugby football and cricket for Cowley Boy's. Leaving school, Dad started work at 15, with St. Helens Borough Council as an admin clerk. It was the early thirties and things were improving after the depression and the general strike. It was five years later that things changed dramatically, the War began in earnest and my father was called up at 21.

He was posted to the King's Own Regiment, which included a lot of local lads, including a certain Ernie Moss who would become a lifelong friend and also his brother-in-law. They both saw action in the North African campaign, my uncle as a platoon sergeant and my dad in a mortar team. They served all through Libya, Iraq and Egypt. Eventually they were split

up when my dad was transferred to the Greek Islands, in the ill-fated attempt to hold onto Leros, without air support. They never saw one another again for four years.

My father could never forget the Leros debacle. A mixed bag of defenders hastily brought together without air defences or heavy weapons. They included S.A.S. and S.B.S. elements, Commandos, Engineers and companies from the King's Own Regiment and Light Infantry. They were attacked from two sides by German marines from the sea and then elite paratroops dropped into the hills. The British H.Q. staff were captured within the first couple of hours. The troops cut off and isolated into pockets without communications, were gradually picked off, my dad's detachment, being eventually captured in the mountains by paratroops, after several days of attacks by Stukas and heavy mortar bombardments.

After capture, he was transferred by ship to Italy, then by train through to Germany and a prisoner of war camp on the Elbe. He never forgot that train journey through Europe. The trip was by enclosed boxcars and cattlewagons, 40 or 50 men to a wagon, quite a few of which were wounded in the fighting. Several of them never completed the journey. All through the rest of his life, my father never liked enclosed spaces such as cars or lifts; too many memories flooded back.

After four years in a prisoner-of-war camp, my father returned to Britain and met up once more with his old friend Ernie Moss, who was getting married and asked my dad as one of his old Army friends to the wedding. My father was introduced to a very attractive A.T.S. girl who was up from London to see her sister get married (now my Aunt Hilda). This particular girl was Marjorie Wilson Davies, later to become my mother, who was, at that time, serving in London on A.A. guns at Hampstead Heath. She later went on to join the stars in battledress organisation, being a very talented dancer and ballerina.

It was certainly a true love story, my dad as thin as a rake from the prison camp, but a shy, blonde, gentle giant. My mother, a vivacious auburn haired beauty, with a zest for life and a wonderful laugh. They were married in 1946. Almost exactly a year later, the twins were born, my older brother and sister. At first living with my mum's parents in Wallasey, they found a house at Huyton, mid-way between the two families. It is the same house I now own and still live in. My parents moved to the Wirral, when dad retired in 1979, to be closer to the family.

Dad had continued his service with the Borough Council after the war, working in the Engineers' department. He always took part in the district Crown Bowls competition, a talented player, he went on to win the competition four times and came runner-up on several occasions. In winning the cup three times in a row, he was awarded the cup permanently, which did not go down well in some quarters, because they had to order a new one made. On winning the cup for the third time he took it home with him as he was retiring shortly after.

He had many interests, not least, collecting music. In particular, Big Band music and traditional jazz which he loved to listen to. Also, he very much enjoyed pottering about in the garden, pruning and dead-heading the roses, spending all day outside at the weekends. Dad had a deep understanding of nature and wildlife, probably first initiated by his father, who was a schoolteacher of gardening. Dad just loved the wide open spaces of the hills and mountains of Wales and Scotland, especially the Ogwen Valley in Snowdonia and the Torridon range in Wester Ross. They were special places to him; the family holidays were never far away from one or the other.

All through his working life, my father never took his driving test, he had driven during the war, on occasion, driving a 3-ton truck. But he preferred walking the 12 mile round trip every day. It certainly kept him fit, but I think on a number of occasions my mother would have settled for a car.

Having a very dry sense of humour and a wry wit, dad gave as good as he got in conversation. He could discuss any kind of subject at great length. Within the family we often had long discussions on topical events, very frequently being told off by my mother for allowing everybody's dinner to go cold, mainly due to starting an open house debate on politics or religion and then sitting back and watching the cut and thrust of opinion. He loved the to-and-fro of debate.

Once retired, dad was able to concentrate more on his avid interest in the family ancestry and the roots of the family. He had more time to seek out information on the connections in St. Helens and in Scotland. The McEwans were a special interest in themselves, coming from the Aberfoyle area. Our McEwans in the family were farmers in the early 1800s moving to Glasgow about 20 years later due to a cattle plague wiping out their stock. The farmer David McEwan had 12 sons, 10 of which emi-

grated to the New World colonies. It was the love of family history first explored by my father, later passed on to me, which brought me to the Society and an association, which I hope will continue for a long time to come. My father, from its early inception till actually joining in 1981, was deeply interested in the Clan Ewen Society.

It was in the last couple of years that my father developed cancer. He coped with it extraordinarily well and never lost his sense of humour. In the last couple of months leading up to his death he was in considerable pain and got very little sleep. He carried that burden with great courage, as my mother did also. Through over 50 years of marriage, their unique bond was never broken, it still isn't. They are both exceptional people and I am extremely proud to know them as my parents.

This is a tribute to my father, who passed away on 29th August, 1998.

***Bulletin Editor***

## ***LETTER TO THE EDITOR'S PAGE***

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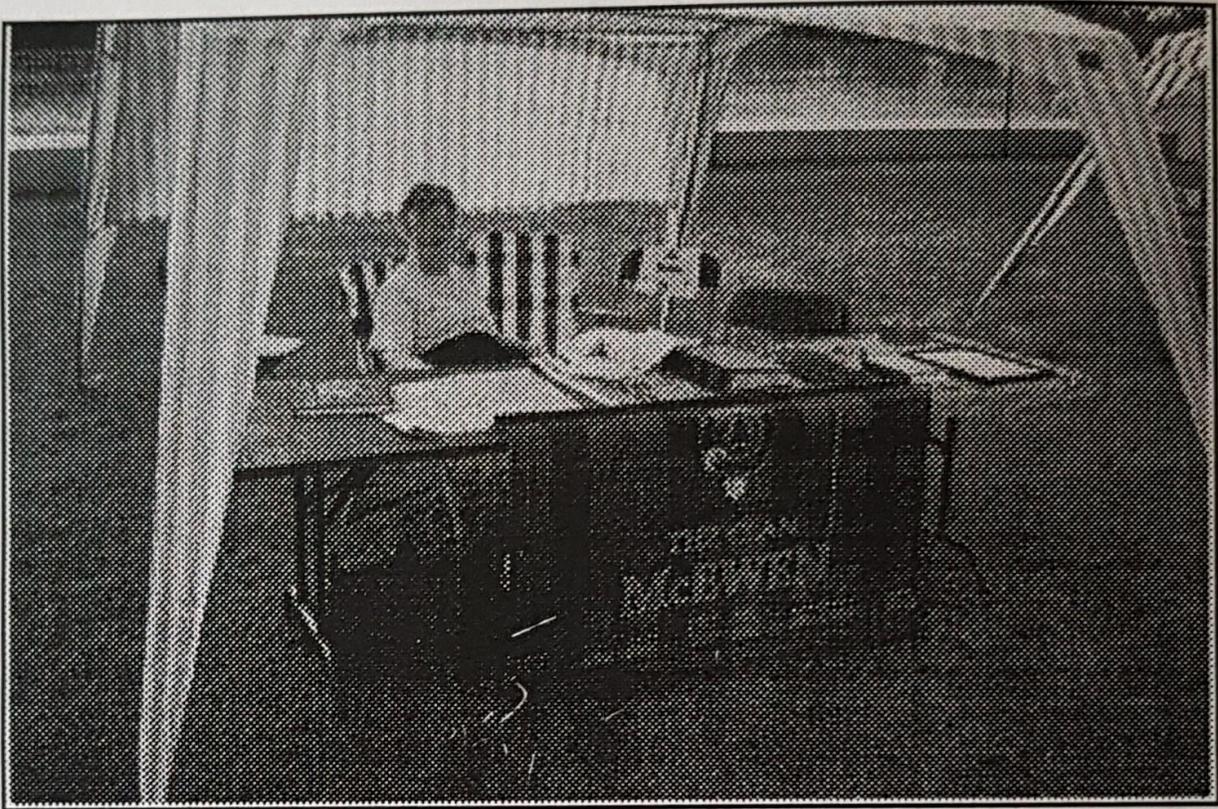
*This is an interesting letter, sent in by Betty Brown of Rockford, Illinois. With thanks to Betty for allowing me to publish its contents.*

Dear Mr. Davies

I'm writing in response to your Bulletin appeal. Here in Rockford, Illinois, U.S.A., we also have Scottish games. This will be the fourth year. Last year our family attended, proudly wearing our Clan (McEwen) colours. We had an artist friend paint our banner, faithfully copying the plaid on the McEwen Clan Book. In the centre he painted the Clan crest and below in large letters, McEwen Clan. He did a wonderful job. We were very proud to represent our Clan in the march of the Clans. There were 17 different Clans represented last year.

In 1996, my husband, Carl and our son, Bill and his wife Chele, visited Scotland and England. We found the family Castle ruins at Otter's Ferry and walked to it. It was a very emotional experience, especially for my son and I. We both felt we had indeed come home.

My mother was Evelyn McEwen, born in Australia. At age six she moved to Zion, Illinois, with her parents and family. My grandfather, Thomas



McEwen, was born near Ayr, Scotland. Then at a young age, he moved to Australia with his parents. He met and married Jessie Patterson Ower and moved to America.

Next year, 1999, my husband Carl, daughter Melanie Kuligowski, sons Scott and Bill Brown and myself, all plan to attend the June gathering of the Clan. We are all very excited about this. We also plan to visit Causewayhead, near Stirling, birthplace of Alexander Leitch and Catherine McKintosh, great-great grandparents of my husband, Carl.

I enjoy the Bulletin very much. If I can help in anyway from this distance, let me know. Looking forward to meeting you all next June.

**Betty Brown, Rockford, Illinois.**

## ***CLAN EWEN MANAGER***

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OUR new Clan Manager has asked that the following advert be placed in the Bulletin on a regular basis. Jim has also asked that any members who require Clan memorabilia or specific requests for Clan mementos to

**M**acDonald  
**M**acKay

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let him know their wishes for the future purchases of goods. This request, is for all members both home-based and abroad. It will give Jim a better idea of the requirements of members, what merchandise to buy in and what is proving most popular as an item of sale.

Could members if possible, also let Jim know, if there are any suppliers of Clan merchandise they are aware of who could supply our Society.

The advert shown is from Highland Outfitters, MacDonald and MacKay, who are prepared to give a 10 per cent discount to any customer from our Clan Society on proof of membership.

## ***EDITOR'S REPORT***

**A**S SOME of you may have realised already, this year has seen both sadness and joy in my own family. In March we had the birth of our son, Isaac. Then in August I lost my father, William Davies. Isaac is now seven months old, a mass of blonde curls, a cheeky grin and a disarming charm. At the same age, he is exactly like his grandfather.

Speaking of change and renewal, we have also lost our Clan Manager, Ron Ewing who has resigned his post and moved on to other things. Our best wishes to both Ron and Carole. Taking over the post of Society Manager is Jim McEwan, who is enthusiastic to renew and develop the role. With this in mind, Jim has placed an advert which you can see in this

Bulletin from Highland Outfitter's, MacDonald and MacKay. They are willing to give a discount of 10 per cent to any fully paid-up Clan member who buys any merchandise. Jim also asks, if any members here, or abroad, know of any similar firms which could produce Clan merchandise? Then if any goods are bought through them, due to their wares being advertised by us, would there be a similar discount available to Clan members?

We also have a new treasurer, in the person of Mr. Iain McEwan, who is most welcome and sorely needed to maintain the financial status of the Society. I understand that John has sound knowledge and experience working as a Treasurer with other Societies. Lastly, but not least, Eleanor Williamson, who works tirelessly for the Society, has agreed to become the Vice-Chairman, as well as being Secretary. I know you could not make a better choice. I just hope that the joint workload of the two posts, does not become too heavy. Personally, I think Eleanor could do with an assistant to help out, as both posts are very demanding in their time.

I see there are further developments in two other key areas of the Society. First, Sir John McEwen is to continue to move towards possibly becoming Chief. The next stage on, is to see if Sir John can be designated as Clan Commander, by the Lord Lyons Court. Then the process continues, in that, the line of ancestral descent from the Chief's line must be proven, to become Chief of Clan Ewen. This can be a long drawn out affair and very expensive to establish.

*Colin and Family*

## ***OBITUARY***

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IT IS with great sadness that I have to announce the death of Robin MacEwen of Inverness. Robin, who was in his 92nd year, was a great supporter of the Clan Society and proved to be very helpful on the occasions when the Society sought his counsel.

He was no ordinary member, being the grandson of R. S. T. MacEwen author of *The History of Clan MacEwen*.

He was no ordinary member of the town of Inverness either, having been admitted to the Faculty of Solicitors of the Highlands in 1929. He was a

former Dean of the Faculty and latterly acknowledged as the father of the Faculty.

Robin was the founder of the Balnain Trust from which the establishment of Balnain House came into being.

Balnain House, a refurbished town house on the west bank of the River Ness, forms a base for Scottish culture, embracing poetry, literature and music, including pipe, fiddle, clarsach, etc., where anyone can enter and acquaint themselves with any of the subjects, or even "have a go" on any of the musical instruments. At the request of Robin, the committee held an open meeting here in October, 1996, see *Bulletin* No. 36.

*Alan Ewing*

## **INTERNET SERVICE - SCOTS ORIGINS**

THE GENERAL Register Office for Scotland Internet Service was formally launched on Monday, 6th April. The service provides World Wide Web access to a fully searchable index to birth / baptisms and bann / marriages from the Old Parish Registers dating from 1553 to 1854 and births, marriages and deaths from the Statutory Index for 1855 to 1897.

G.R.O. is planning to eventually add an index to the census registers to this database, beginning with 1881.

The index constitutes one of the world's largest databases on genealogical information including nearly 30 million names.

Users are able to order Register extracts (eg. a birth certificate entry from the G.R.O.) via the Web. Charging for the service is by credit card using a high secure payment mechanism. This is an online pay-per-view service which costs £6 (Sterling) for 30 pages. Each page consists of 15 search results. Extract orders are processed by G.R.O. and sent by ordinary mail as paper documents. The cost of each extract is £10.

The main page for Scots Origins is:

<http://www.origins.net>

*Charles Ewen*  
*e-mail Correspondent*  
*cewen@msn.com*

## ***FROM YOUR U.S.A CORRESPONDENT***

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THIS IS a pep talk to the youth of the Ewen Clan. Many cultures of all kinds honour their ancestors. When the Ewen Clan Cairn was built, such an event took place. My parents for example, passed away, but they remain alive in my memory. They did not live to see me be involved with my Scots heritage, but I tried to give them that honour by doing so.

When I was young I gave little thought to my Scottish heritage, or the loss of my parents and how much that means. But until God called them to his side, where they dwell today, the question of my roots had not come into play. I just wish I had looked into my Scottish roots before they had died to share that information with them. When I did my research on the McEwan Clan history over a period of 17 years, I always felt in close contact with my parents. Within the Bible it says "Honour thy Mother and thy Father". The young people of the Ewen Clan could do it by preserving their heritage with involvement in the Ewen Society, not only in America but in Scotland as well.

Burn the motto "Reviresco" into your hearts. The new growth on the Crest represents you the youth who will hopefully carry on the work of the Clan, if you are so willing.

**Paul McEwan**, *American Correspondent.*

## ***NEW MEMBERS***

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The Chairman and members of the Committee welcome the following new members:

Sir John McEwan, Bart, **Greenlaw**, Berwickshire, Scotland.

Mr. Iain McEwan, **Montrose**, Scotland.

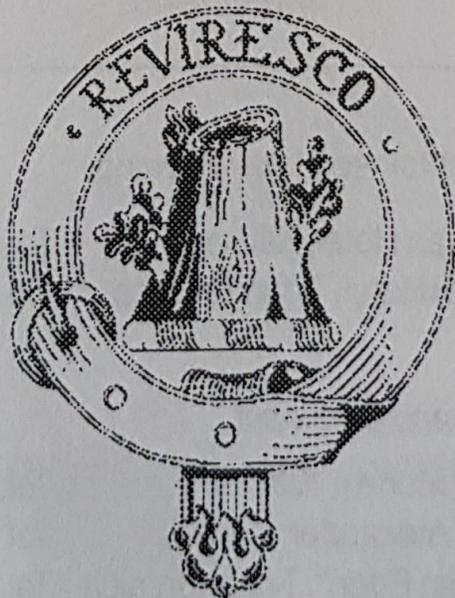
Dr. Peter Robinson, **Northampton**, England.

Mrs. Jean Willis, **Mayfield**, E. Sussex, England.

Mr. Eliot McEwan, **New Dunstan**, Northants, England.

Ian and Sue McEwan, **Prestatyn**, Wales.

Ms. Judy Mallet, **Pudleston**, Herefordshire, England.  
Mr. Robert McEwan, **Thurnby**, Leicestershire, England.  
Mr. Robert Ludlum, **Amsterdam**, Netherlands.  
Mr. Bruce McEwen, **Copenhagen**, Denmark.  
Mr. Andrew McEwen, **Kaiapoi**, New Zealand.  
Mr. Garry MacEwen, **New Maryland**, New Brunswick, Canada.  
Ms. June Hildred, **Mars**, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.  
Mr. Terry Heiser, **Philadelphia**, U.S.A.  
Mr. Ronald Ewan, **Tahlequah**, Oklahoma, U.S.A.  
Mr. Matt McCuen, **Greenville**, S. Carolina, U.S.A.  
Mr. Linford Niemeyer, **Gulf Breeze**, Florida, U.S.A.  
Ms. Katherine McEwen Niemeyer, **McComb**, Mississippi, U.S.A.  
Michael and Susan Brutsch, **Garland**, Texas, U.S.A.  
Mr. Joseph Neff Ewing, Jr., **West Chester**, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.  
Mr. Lynn Gehling and Jill Young, **Skandia**, Michigan, U.S.A.  
Mr. Christopher McEwen, **Rio Rancho**, New Mexico, U.S.A.



**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
	"Arden Eden", Tighnabruaich	Tel. 01700 811354

# CLAN EWEN SOCIETY

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT - 3rd JUNE, 1997 to 22nd MAY, 1998

### INCOME

Subscriptions Year .....	£641.43	
Subscriptions Life Single .....	113.42	
Subscriptions Life Family .....	150.00	
Interest on Treasurer's Account .....	66.26	
Donations .....	44.64	
Donations to Heritage Fund .....	342.37	
Sale of Clan Merchandise .....	409.90	
(Inclusive of £96.50 uncleared cheques)		
Clan Ceilidh .....	74.50	
		£1842.52

### EXPENDITURE

Printing of two Bulletins .....	627.00	
Postage of one Bulletin .....	119.36	
Other Postage .....	72.43	
Purchase of postcards (Clan Merchandise) .....	19.56	
Adverts in Scots Magazine and Oban Times .....	253.86	
Clan Ceilidh Musicians .....	100.00	
Photocopies .....	49.46	
Income over expenditure .....	600.85	
		£1842.52

### TRADING ACCOUNT

Opening Stock .....	£1015.87	Closing Stock .....	£739.25
Purchases .....	19.56		
Profit .....	113.72	Sales .....	409.90
	£1149.15		£1149.15

### Assets at 22 May, 1998

Closing Stock .....	739.25
Heritage Fund .....	1113.96
Treasurer's Account .....	1431.23
	£3284.44

### Assets at 2 June, 1997

Closing Stock .....	1015.87
Heritage Fund .....	771.59
Treasurer's Account .....	1190.82
	£2978.28

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
- Vice-Chairman & Secretary: Miss E. Williamson, Bellcairn Cottage, Cove, by Helensburgh, G84 0NX, Scotland  
TEL: 0143 684 2352
- Treasurer: Mr. Iain McEwan, 3 Wellington Street, Montrose, Angus, DD10 8QD, Scotland.  
TEL: 01674 673364
- Genealogist: Mr. A. G. M. McEwan, 25 Carnethy Avenue, Edinburgh EH13 0DL, Scotland  
TEL: 0131-441 5034
- Membership Secretary: Mrs. G. McEwan Joyce, "Ballraig", By Comrie, Crieff, PH7 4JY, Scotland  
TEL: 01764 670261
- Society Manager: Mr. J. McEwan, 30 Glenluggie Road, Waterside, Kirkintilloch, Glasgow, Scotland.  
TEL: 0141-578 0657
- E-Mail Service Correspondent: Mr. C. Ewen, 3 Havelock Park, East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 8QL, Scotland  
TEL: 0135 52 36375  
e-mail: cewen@msn.com
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TEL: 0151-480 8239
- Canadian Correspondent: Mr. W. H. MacEwen, P.O. Box 3, St. Peters, Nova Scotia, BOE 3BO, Canada.
- U.S.A. Correspondent: Mr. Paul McEwan, Saraland Apartments 105B, 8010 Highway 49 Gulfport, Mississippi, 39501-7015, U.S.A.
- Australian Correspondent: Mrs. Evelyn Jean Forsyth Mason, J.P. 88 Laura Street, Tarragindi, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.
- New Zealand Correspondent: Mr. Cameron McEwing, 54 Glen Lynne Avenue, Hamilton, New Zealand.

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