



CLAN EWEN SOCIETY *Bulletin*

No. 30

NOVEMBER 1993



*Photograph taken at the unveiling of the Clan Ewen Memorial Cairn
on Saturday, June 9th, 1990, at Kilfinan, Argyll*

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
will be held
on Saturday, 4th JUNE 1994
at Isle of Skye Hotel, Perth
at 2.00 p.m.

CEUD MIL FAILTE

The theme of "McEwens in the News" comes closer to home this autumn when we hear of Ian Robin McEwan, son of our auditor, Ian McEwan, who has recently been appointed assistant musical director to the Andrew Lloyd Weber musical - "The Phantom of the Opera" - currently playing in the Opera House, Manchester.

Robin, who is an accomplished musician, had his own orchestra in the Channel Islands - The Jersey Symphony Orchestra - prior to this latest success.

We congratulate Robin on this prestigious appointment.

On a sadder note, we learn that his mother, Phyllis, is in hospital recovering from a serious operation.

We wish her a speedy and complete recovery.

An article from "The Herald" published in Glasgow reads:- "A man who left school at 16 without a single qualification was yesterday named Young Entrepreneur of the Year.

Glaswegian Gary McEwan, 26, started Associated Freight after a year on the dole, to train people to drive heavy goods vehicles.

Now he has two cars, a truck and a turnover of £80,000 all within a year.

"It's a dream. I left school as soon as I could and a lot of people thought I didn't stand a hope", said Gary at the London Awards Ceremony.

As we approach the end of another year I take this opportunity to wish all our members throughout the world my very best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

"Nollaig Math Agus Bliadhna Mhath Ur".

Alan Ewing, Chairman

1994 POCKET DIARIES

Would those members who ordered a Clan-Crested Pocket Diary with the Chairman at the A.G.M. this year, please re-affirm their order by contacting: Alan Ewing by December 9th at the latest, as the price has increased to £5.20 each.

CLAN EWEN SOCIETY - A.G.M. REPORT

Members and friends of the Clan Ewen returned to their homeland in Argyll for their A.G.M. held on Saturday, 12th June, 1993, meeting at the Kilfinan Hotel.

Again blessed with a most beautiful day, Loch Fyneside was looking its loveliest. Clan members were made very welcome at the hotel and the meeting was arranged for 11.30 a.m. to allow plenty of time for lunch and a walk to the Memorial Cairn in the afternoon.

The Chairman, Alan Ewing, welcomed members old and new and as usual a special greeting was given to those who had come so far to be with us - Betty and Bruce Hellyer from New Zealand, Major Hugh McEwan from Kentucky, Byron and Deanne McKeown from Arizona, Douglas and Jean MacEwan from Ipswich, and Tim and Mary McEwen from Plymouth. A special message was read out from Paul McEwan in Massachusetts.

The Minutes were read, approved and signed and Treasurer's and Secretary's reports were given. The Membership Secretary gave an update on Clan membership numbers. Genealogist, Murdo, stated that he had 25 Pedigree Charts returned to date and noted the success of this project. He reported that the Ordnance Survey was offering their "Trig Points" for adoption and suggested that Clan Ewen should adopt the one in the vicinity of the Castle Site. It was agreed by all to seek the permission of the landowner and go for it!

Charles Ewen made it known to the company that there is a McEwan Badged Diary available ~~on sale~~ and that Bunty Mason, our Australian correspondent, will be visiting Scotland in July.

There being no further business the meeting continued with the election of office-bearers and as on previous occasions the present committee were re-elected.

Discussion took place on the date and venue for the next A.G.M. and it was agreed to hold it in **PERTH** on **SATURDAY, JUNE 4th, 1994** at the **Isle of Skye Hotel** at **2.00 p.m.**

The meeting was closed with thanks to the Chair. After a pleasant lunch all together, the majority of the group set off on the walk to the Cairn which was most enjoyable, a lovely day, good company and lots of photographs being taken and everyone ready for a cup of tea back at the Hotel.

E. McEwan Williamson

STATISTICALLY SPEAKING

By Alec McEwen, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Mention the word "statistics" and many of us think immediately of incomprehensible graphs or tables of figures. Originally used to describe the political strength of a nation, "statistics" was given a different meaning 200 years ago by Sir John Sinclair, a Scottish agriculturalist and prolific writer. He chose the word to signify an orderly inquiry into the state of a country, to find out to what extent its people were happy, and to discover any means for their improvement. Sir John's masterpiece was "The Statistical Account of Scotland," published in 21 volumes between the years 1791-1799.

Far from being dry reading, this collection is a treasure house of information about Scotland's social history. Every chapter deals with a particular parish, compiled in narrative form from questionnaires completed by the respective church ministers. For example, my own ancestral parish of Kilfinan, on the eastern shore of Loch Fyne in Argyll, occupies 34 pages of fascinating detail. This lively account was provided by the Reverend Alexander McFarlane, in about the year 1793 when he was a bachelor in his thirties. Not content with giving dutiful responses to the usual questions about the number of inhabitants and the types of crop, the learned minister wrote about the people of the community, how they lived and what they did.

The 1400 residents of Kilfinan in McFarlane's day were fortunate, for they could make a living from land or sea. Faced with a choice of farming or herring fishing they often tried both, sometimes without paying sufficient attention to either. Growing oats and barley, cutting peat and gathering kelp competed with a fishery that kept most members of the parish busy from July until Christmas. Nearly everyone at that time seems to have been gainfully employed. Welfare payments to the poor came from a permanent fund of 10 shillings a year for the entire parish, supplemented in part by burial-cloth fees and also by fornication fines levied on the appropriate offenders.

Anyone searching the old Scottish parish records to trace family

history soon discovers that entries were made mainly for baptisms and marriages. Dates of birth and death were seldom recorded. In Kilfinan, and no doubt in other areas, parents were afraid that their new-born child might die unbaptized. Instead of waiting a few days until the christening could be performed in their own house, many parents carried the infant perhaps seven or eight miles to church for baptism on the second day after its birth.

Very often this journey took place in such inclement weather that the baby died as a result of exposure to the elements. In McFarlane's disapproving words, the people "too often sacrifice the lives of their infants to the phantom of superstition."

Kilfinan, although a church-going community, boasted no fewer than 11 public houses. McFarlane found all of them to be in such bad repair and so poorly looked after that a traveller could scarcely get a comfortable bed or a decent breakfast in the best of them. Kerry, the southern division of the parish, where my paternal great-grandfather was born in 1801, had been notorious for its inhabitants' addiction to liquor, the source of which was their contraband trade with the Isle of Man. At first this commercial enterprise made them wealthier than their fellow parishioners but the bankruptcy and poverty resulting from their drinking habits caused most of them to give up their land and leave the district. Perhaps because of their greater sobriety, the residents of the northern division of Otter remained on their farms and tended to live longer. One of them, who reached the grand old age of 118 and was working in the harvest just before his death, was famous for his bodily strength and even temper. His role in settling local squabbles, which usually occurred in the Kilfinan churchyard, earned him the title of peace-maker.

Although every inhabitant of Kilfinan was claimed by McFarlane to belong to the Established Church, only about one-third of the parishioners were listed by him as communicants. This apparent lack of faith may have been partly due to the ill health of the minister's two immediate predecessors, which had led to the administration of the sacrament on only one occasion during the nine years before the start of his own incumbency. His flock was in any event becoming smaller, for the parish population had decreased by nearly 400 during the past 38 years. The

replacement of farming by pasturage, the frequent consolidation of several small farms into a single landholding, and the decline of smuggling caused many families to move elsewhere.

Life in Kilfinan meant farming and fishing; there was no manufacturing and little potential for it in the absence of suitable fuel. Remoteness and poor communication was another factor; the nearest post office was at Inverary, about 30 miles away, which put the community to the expense of hiring a runner once a week to carry the mail.

McFarlane painted a picture of a simple, rustic yet largely contented community, where most people spoke Gaelic, were "in general sober" and had all the fish they could catch. No native of the parish had every been executed for crime, and the only deliberate deaths on record were two suicides committed 20 years ago.

Sinclair's compendious volumes, which helped to influence the concept of a modern census, have never been equalled as a description of contemporary Scottish life. Ten years after his death "The New Statistical Account of Scotland" appeared as an intended replacement for the earlier work. It too comprised many volumes, with individual contributions by parish ministers. Kilfinan, with an 1841 population of 1,800, received only 13 pages, written by the Reverend Joseph Stark, a subsequent adherent of the Free Church. By then the number of public houses had shrunk to five and the congregation of communicants to 300. On the other hand, there was now a local post office, a steamboat service on Loch Fyne and the manufacture of gunpowder to augment the traditional economy.

"The Third Statistical Account of Scotland", published in 1961, is even more matter of fact than the 1845 compilation. Only eight pages are devoted to Kilfinan, supplied by the Reverend George Cairns, who, like Joseph Stark, was not as literary adept as Alexander McFarlane. The population had now dwindled to about 1,200, the powder works had long been closed, and English had become the common language. Cairns described the members of the community as kindly, quiet and industrious, always upright and honest in their habits.

Taken separately or together, the three statistical accounts offer a valuable, easily readable chronicle of Scotland's parishes. They provide a vital link with the country's past.

TO THE YOUTH OF CLAN MacEWEN

It is vital to the continuation of our Clan that we involve the younger folk. Although we, the senior generation, have a measure of wisdom, we do not have all the answers. Your ideas could be new and refreshing. Let's hear from you and remember you are the future leaders of the Ewen Society who will follow and carry on the proud heritage of your Clan.

C. EWEN

FAMILY TREES

Thank you, again, to everyone who has sent in their completed family tree "Pedigree Charts" since the last "Bulletin". (I should perhaps say "filled in", insofar as possible rather than "completed". Following on from the last "Bulletin" and in the light of further pedigree charts received, I have found two sets of "common ancestry" - from that alone, the exercise has been a success.

The first of these relates to Edward E. McEuen (born C. 1760 in Belfast) who featured in my report in the last "Bulletin" (top of page 322). Descended from Edward's daughter Margaret McEuen is one of our members - Walter McWilliams from California. Another of our members, Ruth Richtermeyer (from Missouri), is descended from Edward's son Oliver McEuen.

The other link has come down from a Timothy Ewen (died 1829), son of Julius Ewen who had married Sarah Middleton in 1752. Clan member Joe Ewen (Texas) is the great-great-grandson of Timothy. A general query, wondering if we might know anything about his forebear Julius Ewen has just been received from Michael Noftsger in Virginia.

There is no doubt at all that it is the same Julius - genealogy is so much

easier when there are "uncommon" names; any prospective parents, please bear in mind! Hopefully, Michael will join the Society.

Anyway, it just goes to show that there **are** connections to be made. If you have not already done so, do please send your pedigree chart to me, filled in as much as possible - it doesn't have to be complete. The more charts I receive, the more chances of identifying more "common ancestry". Meanwhile, here is some brief information from the pedigree charts received since the last "Bulletin":

Hugh McEwen, married Christian (Christina?) Cameron on March 23rd, 1828 in Perthshire. Their son, Hugh Cameron McEwen (1838-1879), born in Ontario, Canada worked as a farmer.

George Samuel Ewing (1805-1883) was the son of John Ewing (born in New York) and Lucy Williams (1785-1856).

Stewart McEwan, born in Edinburgh in 1857, was the son of George McEwan (born in Crieff, 1822) and Ann Stewart (1823-1905). He was descended from William McEwan of Glenboig who was granted Coat of Arms by the Lord Lyon in 1796. By 1885, when he married Mary Scott, Stewart had emigrated to New Zealand.

John Ewing (farmer) 1730-1804, born in Maryland, died in North Carolina, was the son of John Ewing (born c. 1693). John junior married Mary Pratt in 1759; their son Isaac Ewing (1774-1857) married Phebe Jackson in 1796.

Albert Luther McEwin, born 1899 in Missouri, was the grandson of John L. McEwin (born 1828) and Matilda Strong (born 1834).

Stanford George McEwen, blacksmith, born in New Brunswick, Canada, married Mary Jane Livingstone in 1918. They later moved to Arlington, Maine.

James McEwen (1813-1887), shipwright, was the son of James McEwen, maltman, from the Parish of Kilmaronock (by the south-east shore of Loch Lomond) and Elizabeth McLuckie. James junior moved to Greenock where in due course his grandson, Alexander James McEwen (1876-1971) worked as an Excise Officer.

Joseph Ewing, stationary engineer, born 1879 in County Londonderry, Northern Ireland, was the son of Thomas Ewing (farmer, died 1912) and

Mary Ann Bell. In 1902 Joseph married Rebecca Margaret Bricker in Pittsburgh, P.A.

Archibald McEwan (1816-1865) herring fisher, son of Colin McEwen (1788-1877) married Janet Dawson at Kilfinan in 1851.

Ann (or Nancy) McEwan, daughter of Thomas McEwan and Catherine Weir, was born at Kilfinan c. 1809 and died at Kilfinan in 1872. She married a John Gillies and they had a son John (1852-1917) who worked as a gunpowder maker.

The "Record of Ancestors" of Dr. Alec McEwen (Calgary, Canada) is published in this "Bulletin". He too had forebears from Kilfinan but no definite link has (yet) been established with those mentioned above.

At the A.G.M. at Kilfinan in June, 1993, I was handed a black and white photo by Byron McKeown (from Arizona, U.S.A.). The photo shows a young man wearing Royal Flying Corps (R.F.C.) uniform, probably taken during the period 1914-18. On the reverse side is written "C. M. McEwen 20 V". He looks about 20 years old, which would put his birth date as around 1895. If anyone has any information regarding who this might be, I'd be interested to hear from them. Also, any explanation of the "20 V".

A. G. MURDO McEWAN

SOME McEWEN FAMILY ROOTS

By Robert McEwen, Geneva, Switzerland

INTRODUCTION

For some years I have been interested in the history of my forebears, and especially the male lineage from Scotland to Ireland, and to the colonies of America. I was born in Ohio in 1914. Most of my father's family were scattered and not very interested in their family background and history. The one exception was my Aunt Lillian McEwen Summerfield of Findlay, Ohio, who in 1929 gave me what she knew about her generation, her father's and grandfather Francis McEwen (1802-1881). With my cousin, Jo Ann McEwen McClosky of Toledo, Ohio, we were able to supply information of the family since Francis noted above.

Mrs. Jeanne Waters Strong of Los Altos Hills, California, a professional

genealogist, did research of the McEwens in Pennsylvania and Ohio up to and including Francis McEwen (1801-1881).

Information up to the 20th century was found from books, marriage and census records, church and cemetery records, probate records, deeds, historical societies, as well as the Mormon Library in Salt Lake City, Utah.

As of this date, two information voids exist. One is the data on the McEwens going from Scotland to Ireland. The second is data on James McEwen and his family's life in Ireland in the early 1700s, and their route to and landing in what was probably Pennsylvania. Ship manifests and passenger lists cease to exist in England and Ireland before 1800. It is reasonably certain that James McEwen and family left Ireland soon after 1736 for the colonies and arrived in Centre County, Pennsylvania, where the trail leads through several generations and then to Ohio, where I was born.

There were many forces behind emigration from Europe to the new world. Eighteenth and nineteenth century history in Europe helps to explain the movements of people from Scotland to Ireland to the colonies of America. In the Middle Ages most all of Europe was at war, including England, Scotland and Ireland. In 1603 James VI of Scotland became James I on the English throne. In 1707 Scotland was forced to become part of England to form "Great Britain". In 1800/1 Ireland was included to form the "United Kingdom".

Changes were going on in the colonies as well. In 1686 the English colonies in America combined to form the "Dominion of New England" with Sir Edmund Ambros as governor (1637-1714). From 1688 to 1697 France supported the uprising in Scotland in an attempt to restore James II to the English throne. The revolt was settled by the treaty of Ryswick in 1697. Queen Anne's war (1702-13) involved the new Americas, when in 1710 English troops captured French Arcadia, which then became the British province of Nova Scotia (New Scotland).

THE NAME McEWEN

Through the ages, the name has gone through many spelling changes resulting from phonetic speech. For example, note the following: McEwen, McEwan, Ewing, McCune, Maccune, MacKeon, McKeown, McKeun,

McKune, McKewn, as well as "Mc" changing to "Mac". The Irish MacEoghain was common. Ewen (Eogen) was an ancient baptismal name meaning "a philosopher". (Reference: "McEwens and Their Name", 1985, Media Research Bureau, 1110 F. Street, Washington D.C.; also "The Name and Family of McCune, McCuen, McEwen and McEwan", No. 1778, Roots Research Bureau, 1984).

EARLY SCOTTISH ANCESTORS

Since the middle of the 15th century, the ancient clan MCEWEN or McEwen of Otter was scattered. They came from the Dalriada Scots with origin believed to have been about A.D. 503; their first king reigned in Argyllshire (N.W. of Glasgow). They became the subjects of the Picts in 736-800. Picts were ancient Celtic peoples who in the 9th century united with the Scots in N.E. Scotland to form a new kingdom. They were of several tribes, or five great clans, the second of which later formed the clans Neill, Lachlan and Ewen. The chiefs of each clan were McNeill, McLachlan and MacEwen, as "Mc" and "Mac" meant "son of". About 1470, the McEwens were deposed by Duncan Campbell. (Reference: "Clan Ewen Society", by R. S. T. MacEwen, The Celtic Monthly, Glasgow, 1904; Clan Ewen Society Publication No. 28 of 11, 1992).

THE McEWEN "CASTLE"

My wife and I visited the site of the castle in 1977. With "wellingtons" (boots) borrowed from the farmer, we walked through the Scottish lambs toward the castle ruins. Rock foundations are all that are left today. The ruins are located on the west end of the peninsula at Kilfinan on Loch Fyne. The castle is between the old sites of the MacLachlan and Lamont clans. In 1968/9 the Cowal Archeological Society excavated the site and reported their findings. They found that the first people occupying the site lived in huts. The original castle was thought to have been built in the iron age. The later building was about 8 x 10 yards with walls of stone about 0.7 yard thick. The Cowal diggers found a 12th century crucifix, and an early 15th century James I four penny coin issued during 1279-1662. Carbon dating of carbon found in postholes gave 1530 plus or minus 70 years. A 13th century green glazed pottery was also found. In the 17th century a grain grinding mill was built on the site. (Reference: Clan Ewen Society given above; also "McEwen Castle" by Archibald MacIntyre, Ashgrove, 12 Broomfield Drive, Dunoon, Scotland).

RECORD OF ANCESTORS

Name Dr. Alec McEwen
 Address 2129 2nd Avenue N.W.,
 Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2N 0G8
 Date July 5, 1993

YOUR FATHER

1 Walter Scott McEwen
 Born 20 August 1876
 Place Coleman, Texas, USA
 Married 22 November 1915
 Place Binstead, Isle of Wight
 Died 4 March 1946
 Place Binstead, I.W.
 Occ Smallholder

YOU
 Alexander (Alec)
 Campbell McEwen

Born 22 August 1926
 Place Binstead, Isle of Wight
 ** Married
 Place University Professor

- ** 1. 27 July 1956
 Toronto, Ontario, Canada
 2. 13 June 1993
 Calgary, Alberta, Canada
 to Sherry Lee Wilson

YOUR MOTHER

2 Florence Lilian Goodall
 Born 11 February 1884
 Place Camberwell, Surrey
 Died 2 January 1974
 Place Newport, Isle of Wight

Your Father's Father

3 Archibald McEwen
 Born 20 February 1844
 Place Mt. Pleasant, Ont.
 Married 20 October 1875
 Place Mount Pleasant
 Died 31 May 1919
 Place Coleman, Texas, USA
 Occ Farmer and Stock breeder

Your Father's Mother

4 Emma Wray
 Born April 1848
 Place Mt. Pleasant, Ont.
 Died 1 August 1930
 Place Coleman, Texas
 U.S.A.

Your Mother's Father

5 William John Goodall
 Born 12 April 1854
 Place Married
 Place Died
 Place Post Office employee
 Occ

Your Mother's Mother

6 Amelia Elizabeth Legate
 Born 8 April 1854
 Place coachman
 Died 1935
 Place Phillis Legate
 Felixstowe, Suffolk

Archibald McEwen

7
 B 14 February 1801
 P Kilfinan, Argyll
 M 17 October 1839
 P Mount Pleasant, Ont.
 D 17 March 1885
 P Mount Pleasant, Ont.
 O Farmer and Merchant
 Agnes Kinnear
 8
 B 25 March 1819
 P Glasgow, Scotland
 D 20 May 1901
 P Mount Pleasant, Ont.

15 Peter McEwen b. 1772?

16 Annabella McFarlane
 b. 1780, d. Kilfinan 1857
 b. Buckhaven, 1771, d. Ontario
 Bernard Kinnear 1847

b. Glasgow
 Marion Bennie d. Ontario

William Wray

9
 B 1804
 P 1 February 1876
 M Mount Pleasant, Ont.
 D Sheep Farmer and
 P Butcher
 Mary A. Wray
 B 1808
 P 24 May 1870
 D Mount Pleasant,
 Ontario

23 Goodall

Goodall

11
 B
 P
 M
 D
 P
 O

12
 B
 P
 D
 P
 O

13
 B
 P
 M
 D
 P
 O

B
 P
 C
 P

James Legate

29 coachman
 Phillis Legate

29 Chandler

McEWENS IN IRELAND

We have been unsuccessful in finding the route, dates and ports of the family's move from Scotland to Ireland. The lands are close by each other and restriction not limited by borders. Before the 1700s, there were no passenger lists and boat records were often destroyed by fire as were parish records. It is probable that most emigrants went over the short route by ship from the western Scottish peninsulas to N.E. Ireland, Belfast or Larne, which is just north of Belfast. We have found that a James McKewn was christened September 16th, 1715 at Carnmoney, N.W. of Belfast and S.W. of Larne, Ireland. His father was Patrick McKewn. Another James, christened November 16th, 1715, was the son of Samuel McEwen. (Reference: International Genealogical Index, 1992, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah).

At some time before 1736, the family may have moved south to the Tully Corbet parish, Ballybay, County Monaghan, Ireland which is S.W. of Belfast, about 20 miles west of Newry. A minister's certificate dated May 19th, 1736 at Tully Corbet and signed by H. Thomson stated that "James McKeun with his wife Isabella and their children ... now designing to transport themselves into some of the protestant colonies of America ...". Minister Thomson's service dates and his locale have been confirmed by letter dated November 10th, 1992 from the Presbyterian Historical Society of Ireland, Belfast. What happened between 1736 and our Pennsylvania data is currently unknown.

McEWENSVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA, U.S.A.

Currier McEwen

A few years ago my wife, Elisabeth, and I were driving through Pennsylvania back to our home near New York City after a visit with our son, Ewen, and his family in Cleveland, Ohio. I was driving and Elisabeth was acting as navigator and studying a road map. Suddenly, she exclaimed that we were not far from a town named McEwensville. This, of course, led to a detour to visit the town where we spend a few pleasant and interesting hours learning what we could about its history.

The first settler in the area now called McEwensville was John Quigley

who built a log house there in 1805. Soon other settlers followed among whom was a Scotsman, Alexander McEwen, in 1809. He was unmarried and a weaver by trade. Three years after his coming, the War of 1812 with Great Britain broke out and he entered the army as a captain. He took part in the Battle of Lundy's Lane and either there or in some other engagement, was captured and became a prisoner of war in Canada. In 1815 at the end of the war, Alexander McEwen returned to the area again which had become known as Pine Grove because of the large pine forests there. He built and opened a general store and apparently prospered. In 1820 he built an inn, which is still standing although now as a series of private apartments.

In 1825, because of unrest among the local tribe of Indians in the nearby area known as Warrior Run, a military encampment of the Independent Battalion of Volunteers was established as Camp Calhoun, near Pine Grove. On October 28th, 1825 Brigadier General Adam Light came to review the Battalion and he, his staff, the field officers of the battalion, and "several respectable citizens" were invited by Alexander McEwen to a dinner in honour of the occasion. At that time a new town was about to be laid out. After much general and presumably convivial conversation, the topic of the selection of a name for the town was discussed. A toast, "Loudly and most heartily applauded by the company", was given by General Light: "May we shortly have the satisfaction of seeing a new and flourishing village situated in the immediate vicinity of Camp Calhoun and may it be appropriately named McEwensville".

The newly laid out town was, indeed, so named. A post office was established there the following year, 1826, and Alexander McEwen became the first post master.

In the year 1827, the final link in the road between Harrisburg and Williamsport was completed. The mail coaches began passing through McEwensville daily and new businesses moved to the small community. Alexander McEwen subsequently sold his hotel but continued as post master until April 14th, 1841.

Elisabeth and I have wondered, of course, whether we might be related to this Alexander McEwen. We believe our branch of the family started in America with Duncan McEwen who was born in Perthshire in

1755. He settled in Ellensville, Ulster Country, New York and later moved to Wallkill where in 1793 he purchased 100 acres. He served in our Revolutionary War, first in Arnold's unsuccessful expedition to Canada, later in the Battle of Monmouth, May 12th, 1778, and wintered at Valley Forge. He is believed to have been accompanied to this country by his brothers Alexander, William and John. John had a son named Alexander recorded as having been baptized in 1797. Assuming that he was then a child, he clearly would have been too young to have been in the War of 1812. Duncan's brother Alexander, if he was a much younger brother, might have been young enough to have been given the rank of Captain in 1812 but, unfortunately, we have not been able to trace these relationships more closely.

I apologise for the very inadequate genealogical data presented. My purpose has been merely to tell the story of how one town called McEwensville got its name.

STUDYING HIGHLAND HERITAGE

A linguist whose mother was a McEwen by maiden name ought by rights to work on an Argyllshire dialect, if she is going to investigate a Scottish Gaelic Dialect at all. When I began my dissertation research in 1963, however, the Linguistic Survey of Scotland's Gaelic division decided my fate by sending me to the east coast of Sutherland. Ever since that time I've been doing research on the dialect of the fisherfolk in the East Sutherland villages of Brora, Golspie and Embo. The dialect was disappearing even when I arrived there in the '60s, and my first job was simply to document it (*East Sutherland Gaelic*, 1978). By the time I accomplished that basic task I had become interested in the gradual process by which a speech form disappears, and as a result I also wrote the first full-length study of a language approaching extinction (*Language Death*, 1981). These books, especially the first, were written for an academic audience, and I felt I owed the endlessly kindly and hospitable Gaelic-speakers of East Sutherland something in return for the many kindnesses they had shown me. The fishing had failed even before I arrived in East Sutherland, but it had been a very distinctive way of life that coloured every aspect of people's daily existence: what they ate,

what they wore, their social relationships, and of course their economic role within the local and national economies. Working closely with a Golspie couple who had both been deeply involved in fisherfolk life, I gathered the materials for an oral history of the East Sutherland fisherfolk. In 1985 *The Tyranny of Tide* appeared, accessibly written so that the fisherfolk and their descendants at home and abroad could read it and identify with it. My work on East Sutherland Gaelic continues, with the result that it's now one of the best documented Scottish Gaelic dialects. Sad to say, there are virtually no Gaelic speakers left in the villages of Brora and Golspie at present, and the number of Embo speakers declines with every passing year.

During my years of fieldwork trips to East Sutherland, Easter Ross, eastern Inverness-shire, and the isle of Mull, I found that most contemporary speakers of Scottish Gaelic (and most Highlanders of any mother tongue) had very little knowledge of their ancestral culture and equally little sense of the sharp differences between the Germanic culture introduced into Scotland by the Anglo-Saxons and the Celtic culture brought to Scotland earlier by the Scots of Ireland. I had developed a course entitled "Introduction to Celtic Civilization" at Bryn Mawr College, where I taught, and drawing both on those materials and on my Highland fieldwork experiences I recently finished a small book called *Celtic Lifeways in the Scottish Highlands: Continuities of Celtic Culture from Ancient to Modern Times*. This will be published in paperback format by the Iona Foundation of which my Haverford College colleague Dan Gillis is founder and director, and we both hope that it can be co-published in Scotland so that it reaches the Highlanders whose ancestral culture it was intended to identify and make more vivid. Uniquely Celtic lifeways survived in the Highlands until modern times and in some cases they survive there still, but one has to know what one is looking for and where to look in order to see the evidence.

My mother's McEwen ancestry didn't lure me specifically to MacEwan country, but it did rouse my interest in the Highlands. What I found in both the linguistic and the cultural spheres, when I went to the Highlands in due course, was of more than enough interest to keep me busy at one or another form of Celtic research ever since.

NANCY CURRIER DORIAN

So. Harpswell, Maine

(Niece of Dr. Currier McEwen, So. Harpswell, Maine)

PIPES AND PRAYERS

The Home of Highland Music, Balnain House in Inverness, was officially opened with the sound of the bagpipes and verses from Psalm 50.



"Balnain House", referred to in the last publication by the Chairman was officially opened on April 23rd this year. Robin MacEwan who was instrumental in setting up the Balnain Trust said, "I am more than delighted that Balnain House has been restored so successfully. The whole set-up looks wonderful and I feel sure that it will be a tremendous success both locally and with visitors".

DEATHS

Katharine E. McEwan

Katharine "Kay" E. McEwan, 74, Burlington, died May 27th, 1993, in Memorial Hospital of Burlington.

She was born May 29th, 1918, to Elizabeth and John Reis. She graduated from UW-Milwaukee (formerly Milwaukee State Teachers College). She taught kindergarten in Mukwonago, Jefferson and Burlington.

She was married to Alex "Bud" McEwan for 46 years. They became the parents of Brian, Patricia (Dana) Chabot, Bonnie (Carl) Griswold, Sandra (James) Lewenauer and Sherry (Robert) Madison.

Her grandchildren are Chad, Craig, Erin and Ben. Other relatives include a sister, Marie (Henry) Lau, a brother, Joseph (Louise); and a sister-in-law, Margaret Thunnel.



Private family services were held. The Schuette-Daniels Funeral Home, Burlington, made arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to Memorial Hospital of Burlington or the National Cancer Institute.

Rev. Prof. James S. McEwen, D.D.

Peacefully, after a long illness, at Woodend Hospital, Aberdeen on Tuesday, May 4th, 1993, Rev. Prof. James S. McEwen, D.D., aged 83 years, dearly loved husband of Patty, father of Gavin and Kenneth, father-in-law of Aileen and grandfather to Neil and Ruth. The Service was held in the Langstane Kirk.

NEW MEMBERS

The Clan Society warmly welcomes the following new members:

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas B. Rowan, Jnr., 6413 Cloverbrook Drive, Brentwood, Tennessee, 37027-4721, U.S.A. Member No. 53.

Mr. Carl Judson McEwan, 9 Buschmann Court, Westfield, Massachusetts, 01085, U.S.A. Member No. 54.

Mr. Robert Campbell Hines, Hillside Colony, P.O. Box 92, Brooklin, Maine, 04616, U.S.A. Member No. 55.

Professor Raymond P. Ewing, 316 Richmond Road, Kenilworth, Ill. 60043, U.S.A. Member No. 56.

Mrs. Elizabeth Anne Hellyer, 6 Ryan Street, Portobello, Otago Peninsula, New Zealand. Member No. 4.

Mr. Colin Davies, 44 White Lodge Avenue, Huyton, Merseyside L36 2PU, England. Member No. 27.

Mr. Ron Ewing, 10 Pilden Lane, East Ardsley, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF3 2HP.

Mr. Michael Noftsgger, Box 969, Williamsburg, Virginia 23187, U.S.A.

Gordon Ewan, Dykelands, Abernethy, Perth PN2 9LW.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Dr. A. C. McEwen, 2129 Second Avenue N.W., Calgary, Alberta T2N 0GH, Canada. Member No. 2.

Mr. M. D. Ewen, On-The-Green, P.O. Box 283, Weston, Vermont, 05161, U.S.A. Member No. 24.

TREASURER

I wish to thank all those who have made donations to the Society.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

At a discussion held recently it was decided to ask Clan members their views on holding the 1995 A.G.M. at Inverness.

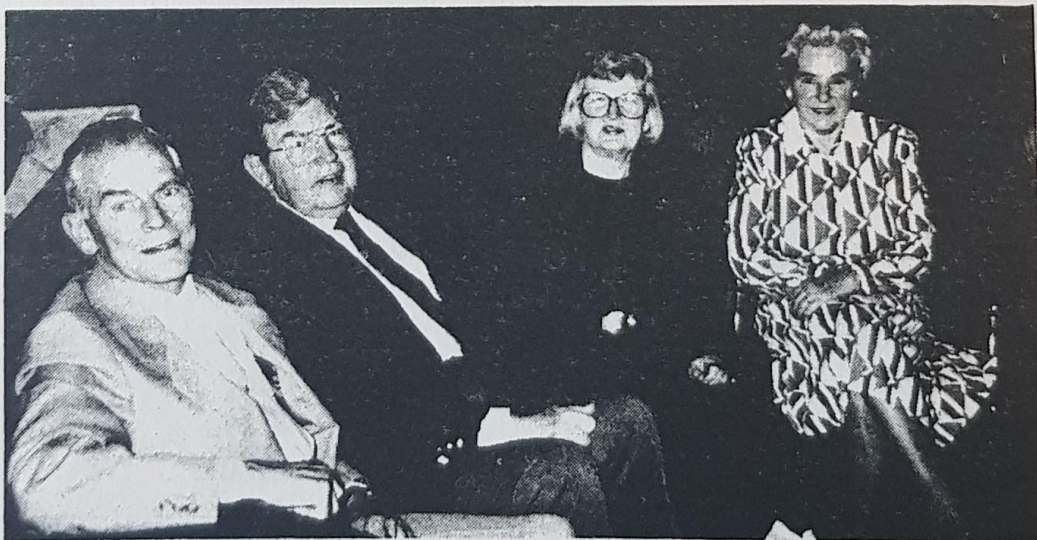
It is probable that the A.G.M. could be held in Balnain House which would also give members the opportunity of a visit to this historic house which now promotes an expanding knowledge of Highland music, etc.

For most of us it would mean an overnight stay. Accommodation can be arranged by one of our local members. This overnight stay would allow us to meet for dinner in the evening and enjoy each others company. This would be an improvement to what normally happens when members rush off home after the A.G.M. or their visit to the Cairn.

Please give us your views and if you would consider a visit to Inverness, complete the enclosed form and return to the Vice-Chairman, Charlie Ewen.

No cost is available at present but we will contact each member as soon as we know if sufficient members are interested.

RECENT CLAN VISITORS TO SCOTLAND



(Seated left to right) - Charles Ewen, Vice-Chairman, Raymond Ewing, U.S.A., his wife Audrey Ewing, and Martha Ewen.

CLAN EWEN SOCIETY

Financial Statement - June 3rd, 1992 to June 2nd, 1993

INCOME

Subscriptions Year Single (56 @ £5.00)	£280.00	
Subscriptions Year Family (27 @ £7.00)	189.00	
Subscriptions Life Single (1 @ £50.00)	50.00	
Subscriptions Life Family (1 @ £75.00)	75.00	
Subscriptions Late Payments	17.00	
Subscriptions Early Payments	62.00	
Donations	93.39	
Interest on Treasurer's Account	73.37	
Sale of Clan Items	137.24	
Letter in Scot's Magazine	10.00	
		£987.00

EXPENDITURE

Printing (Two Bulletins)	£369.00	
Printing 450 Subsistence Forms	32.48	
Printing of 450 Reminder Forms	28.00	
Printing of 400 sheets letter headed paper	51.70	
Printing of 300 Pedigree Charts	20.00	
Printing of 50 copies "Castle Ewen"	28.20	
Bulletin Postage	170.60	
Other Postage	97.14	
Purchase of Badges	28.20	
Purchase of copies of Excavation	6.15	
Ogam Cast VAT Duty and P.O. charges	16.66	
Membership of Glasgow Archaeological Society	12.00	
A.G.M. room hire - Bridgend Hotel	15.00	
Laser Labels for Bulletins	16.15	
Photocopies	10.80	
A4 Copier Paper	5.17	
Ink Cartridge	25.70	
A.G.M. Advert in Scot's Magazine	17.39	
Sundries	6.72	
Income over Expenditure	29.94	
		£987.00

TRADING ACCOUNT

Opening Stock	£224.90	Closing Stock	£134.51
Purchases	34.35		
Profit	12.50	Sales	137.24
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	£271.75		£271.75
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Assets at June, 1993

Closing Stock	£134.51
Treasurer's Account	1804.06
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	£1938.57
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Assets at June 3rd, 1992

Closing Stock	£224.90
Treasurer's Account	1774.12
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	£1999.02
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The foregoing accounts of the Society have been examined by me and found to be correct and properly vouched.

Ian McEwan, Auditor

OFFICE BEARERS

Chairman:	Lt. Col. Alan Ewing, T.D., Balgowan, Garngaber Avenue, Lenzie, G66 3AW, Scotland. TEL: 041 776 3525
Treasurer & Vice-Chairman:	Mr. C. Ewen, 3 Havelock Park, East Kilbride, Glasgow, G75 8QL, Scotland. TEL: 035 52 36375
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Genealogist:	Mr. A. G. M. McEwan, 6 Magdala Crescent, Edinburgh, EH12 5BE, Scotland. TEL: 031 337 0922
Membership Secretary	Mrs. G. McEwan Joyce, "Ballaig", By Comrie, Crieff, PH7 4JY, Scotland TEL: 0764 70261
Canadian Correspondent:	Mr. W. H. MacEwen, P.O. Box 3, St. Peters, Nova Scotia, BOE 3BO, Canada.
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Australian Correspondent	Mrs. Evelyn Jean Forsyth Mason, J.P. 88 Laura Street, Tarragindi, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

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