

The ancestry & family of Sir Harry Lauder (1870-1950)

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Harry Lauder's history as the world's highest-paid performer in 1911 \ the first British entertainer to sell one million records ^{1 2}, in the pre-mass electronic media age is well known. Churchill called him "Scotland's greatest-ever ambassador" as did others ³. His ancestry and family is not as well-known, and doubtless will be of interest to many people, especially genealogists, and all those who write to the author to say they think they are relatives!

His family are descended from the famous feudal barons, the Lauders of The Bass ^{4 5}, and were long settled at Morham in East Lothian, parts of which had, prior to the 1640s, been held by The Bass family.

In the testament of Robert Lauder of The Bass (d. June 1576) he mentions one of his younger sons, Patrick (d. bef. 28 March 1588) as having sasine of Bass's lands "of 'Gervat'" - a colloquial mis-spelling of Garvald ⁶ - the adjoining parish to Morham. Robert's grandson, George Lauder of The Bass (b.1597 - d. after **1641**), is recorded as owning the superiorities of 14 husbandlands [364 acres] in Garvald parish, doubtless the same property which his uncle previously had possession/fee of, and also "**lands and acres in Morham**", as well as "**two Temple-lands in Morham**" (which had originally been set aside to provide income to the Knights Templars). In a vast charter incorporating the new Barony of Drem for Thomas Hamilton, Lord Bynning, Secretary of State for Scotland, there are long lists of Templelands all over the country, including mention of those in Morham, Haddingtonshire, as being "formerly possessed by the Lord of The Bass". ⁷

A charter ⁸ dated 5 February **1598**, relates to a marriage contract whereby James Hepburn of Mainshill (a grandson of Sir Patrick Hepburn of Waughton who d. 1548/9) and Margaret Sinclair his wife [daughter of John (d. 1573), eldest son of George Sinclair, 4th Earl of Caithness, and John's wife, Jane, Lady Morham (d. before 1599), daughter of Patrick Hepburn, 3rd Earl of Bothwell (d. 1556)], on the occasion of their daughter Elizabeth's marriage (now passed), to **John Lauder** son of Maurice Lauder in Belhaven (a grandson of Sir Robert Lauder of The Bass, Knt., who had d. bef. Feb. 1508), invests John and Elizabeth in the lands of Mainshill at Morham of which James Hepburn had held the 'wadset' (security), and which his wife had "of the fee and liferent" (presumably from Francis Stewart, now forfeited Earl of Bothwell) consisting of 5 husbandlands and a third [139 acres] in the lordship of Morham.

Amongst the witnesses was Archibald Hepburn, (Burgess of Haddington), the granter's

¹ *The Times* 24 July 2005

² *Daily Examiner*, Grafton, New South Wales, 1st December 1928, p.8 citing Harry.

³ *Time Magazine*, 10 March 1930, "Sir Harry Lauder".

⁴ Lauder, Sir Harry, *Roamin' in the Gloamin'*, 1927, p.26,

⁵ Lauder, Harry, *Harry Lauder at Home and On Tour*, 1907, p.13.

⁶ *Great Seal of Scotland* indices.

⁷ *Great Seal* confirmations dated 30/7/1614, no.1100, 15/11/1641, no.1021, 18/1/1634, no.16, 29/6/1655 no.428, and Edinburgh Sasine vol. xxiii, fol. 54,1634.

⁸ National Records of Scotland, RH6/3512.

brother. James Hepburn signed in person. (By 1659 Mainhill farm was in the hands of Patrick Hepburn of Smeaton, a cadet of the House of Waughton.)

When the Hearth Taxes were collected in Morham village circa March **1691**, **John Lauder** (b. **cl630**), said to be descended from John Lauder and Elizabeth Hepburn of Mainhill, is recorded with one taxable hearth. He and his wife Grissel Aitcheson, were buried at Morham, she predeceasing him on the 3rd September 1695⁹ They had at least five identifiable children, all baptised at Haddington¹⁰:

(1) **David**, b. 23rd, and bapt. 24 November 1650.

(2) **John**, bapt. 23 April 1654. (died young).

(3) **John**, bapt. 3 November 1655, buried Morham 1695. Married 10th August 1686, Whittinghame, East Lothian, Elizabeth Broun, with descendants.

(4) **Janies**, bapt. 30 October 1658.

(1) Margaret, born 16 January 1664.

The above **David Lauder** is found in the *Rentall of Traprain & Morham 1682*¹¹ as paying rent on two husbandlands (52 acres) at Morham, the same two Templelands incorporated in the re-grant of the barony made to George Lauder of The Bass at Edinburgh on 17th February 1603, the superiority of which passed to his wife's family, the Hepburns of Waughton, in the 1640s. The senior line of the Waughton family ended in an heiress who married Sir Andrew Ramsay of Abbotshall, Bt. His son, another Sir Andrew, was retoured heir of the superiorities of all the great Waughton estates on 19th May **1680**. Included in the retour were the lands and barony of The Bass, fourteen husbandlands in Garvald, and two Templelands and other lands in Morham. Clearly the same Lauder of The Bass properties mentioned earlier.

What other land David also farmed is unclear but he was liable for tax on three hearths at Morham in March 1691, more than anyone else in the parish, and on 27th December 1692 was a witness to his nephew John's baptism in Haddington, which had been "transmitted from Morham".¹² "John Lauder son to David Lauder, farmer in Morham" died in 1701 aged 16 and was buried at Morham Churchyard in the same family grave where Grizzel Aitcheson & her husband John Lauder, David's parents, were buried.

The same "David Lauder, farmer in Morham" was witnessed a Tack (lease) by Robert Hepburn of Bearfoord (1655-1718) to "William Lauder, indweller in the town of Morham, his heirs and executors" of the lands of Northrig (excluding the mill) in the parish of Morham, dated 9th September **1698**¹³. David's mother had been a "servatrix" (which could mean an office person) to James Lauder, sometime Sheriff- Clerk, Provost of Haddington and later M.P. for Haddington, who was in also Factor of the Hepburn's Bearfoord Estate¹⁴, of which Northrig was a part. This William Lauder, almost certainly David's son, became an Elder of Morham Kirk. On the 9th May **1713** "William Lauder of this parish" and "Margaret Darling of Garvald parish" were proclaimed for marriage for the first time, witnesses being Patrick Lauder and William Goodale; Banns were

⁹ Stenhouse, Mary, .1 *History of Morham Parish*, pub.Garvald & Morham Community Council, 1986; and *East Lothian Hillfoot Villages M.I.s*, compiled by A & A Mitchell, Scottish Genealogy Society, 2004.

¹⁰ Old Parish Registers.

¹¹ National Records of Scotland, RH9/3/89.

¹² Old Parish Registers, 709/1.

¹³ Books of Council & Session, RD2/85, p.682, 25th August 1701.

¹⁴ National Records of Scotland, Mack/48/235.

called secondly on 10th May and thirdly on 24th May with no objections being offered, then married. George Lauder was now cautioner for William, and when George married William was his cautioner. Goodale was again witness. A debt of £2/13/0 was paid to William Lauder "for his account rendered" on 14 March 1730 by Mr. George Turnbull, the Factor of Col. Francis Charteris, who had bought the Bearfoord estate.¹⁵

Interestingly, a tenant living in Northrig farm in 1740 was a William Aitchison¹⁶, who subsequently purchased a tenement of land in the Poldrate in nearby Haddington in 1744, from Charles Lauder, Writer, the son of the late Provost, James Lauder¹⁷, who had been Factor to the Hepburns Bearfoord estate (C & S: Mack 48/235). The Aitchesons had long farmed at Morham, and a century later, in 1841, James Aitcheson, Esq., still possessed West Morham. (Surname spellings vary).

We are concerned with:

GEORGE LAUDER, (b. bef. 1690, d. after 1735), in South Westfield, Morham, the evidence suggests a son of said David and brother of William, the Kirk Elder. David, William, and John, were the favoured Christian names through several generations of George Lauder's descendants. For instance, when George's first son named William died young, a further boy born later was again named William.

In the front of the Morham Old Parish Register mention is made of money given to the church upon the marriage by an Archibald Lauder to a (unnamed) sister of George Lauder. She had subsequently died and a dollar was remitted to George on 23 March 1712. On 3rd November 1713 the OPR records that mortcloth dues were paid for the burial of a Andrew Lauder at Morham. Presumably a relative.

The Haddington Sheriff Court Registers¹⁸ contain a Protest, dated 10 May 1731, by George Turnbull, factor to Col. Francis Charteris of Amisfield, against George Lauder, tenant in South Westfield of Morham, who had owed £27 Scots from 16 May, 1730 and was late in repayment.

George married at Morham 25th November 1713, Jane Lauder [same surname], A witness to the first proclamation was Patrick Knox, probably a member of the family of John Knox, the Reformer, who had also farmed in Morham parish. Witnesses to the marriage of George and Jane Lauder were James Paxton, and William Lauder (the Kirk Elder for whom George had stood cautioner at his marriage) who was also George's cautioner. Normally only parents or siblings stood as cautioners.

The Statistical Account of Haddingtonshire (Edinburgh 1841) states that the earliest date in the Parochial Records for Morham is 22 February 1712. However, there is also a gap in the Morham Old Parish registers from late in 1714 until 1720.

George Lauder almost certainly would have had children (probably 3 or more if later patterns are anything to go by) during this period but the records appear to be lost. The Morham Kirk Session Books¹⁹ record that in April 1724 George Lauder paid 13/4d for a headstone, probably for one, or more, of his children.

¹⁵ Book No. 1 of Francis Charteris's Factor's Accounts - Earl of Wemyss' Private Archives.

¹⁶ National Records of Scotland, CH2/167.

¹⁷ National Records of Scotland, B30/13/9.

¹⁸ National Records of Scotland, SC40/57/11.

¹⁹ National Records of Scotland.

George & Jane Lauder's known children, all baptised at Morham²⁰.

- (1) **George**, buried 27th October, 1718 (M.I.)
 - (2) **David**, bapt. 3rd November 1722.
 - (3) **William**, bapt. 18th April, 1725 (died young).
 - (4) **William**, bapt. 13th April 1735, *of whom below*.
- (1) Margaret, bapt. 9th October 1714 (buried 1719).
 - (2) Mary, bapt. 3rd March 1727, m. 16th June 1756, at Garvald, **Alexander Downie** (he d. after 11th September 1774), with issue.
 - (3) Christian, bapt. 11th July 1731.

The fourth known son (either the second or third of this name), was **WILLIAM, of Colstoun Wood House** (baptised 13th April 1735, Morham - died November 1812, Haddington. He was buried at Morham and his mortcloth payment there was made on the 25th), the entrance road for which was situated opposite the Aitcheson's West Morham farm. William purchased, in his twilight years, a property in the Nungate, Haddington. It is probable that this William, along with siblings, attended Morham School and been taught by James Hogg who was schoolmaster there until 1742, when he took up a new appointment at Whittingehame.²¹

For about 6 years William lived at Leith, but returned to Haddingtonshire about 1770 where he resumed residence there in Bara, a small parish sandwiched between the parishes of Garvald, Morham, and Yester. The National Library of Scotland holds a volume of legal documents²² which includes evidences relating to a legal Petition for William Lauder at Colstoun Wood House, over his dead son David's estate, dated 1799.

The church at Bara was originally consecrated in 1242 and was united with Garvald parish in 1702. Worship there ceased in 1744 when the roof fell in. There is nothing left of the church but along a farm lane about a quarter of a mile north of Bara farm there is a secluded kirkyard with some interesting carved stones dating back to 1659.

William Lauder married 16th February 1763, at South Leith Church of Scotland, Janet daughter of William Crease in Temple parish, Midlothian, by his spouse, Mary McDougal. She was baptised on Christmas Day 1737 in Temple church. Janet was still living in 1797 when her son David sent his love to her in a letter to his father. William & Janet did not follow the traditional naming patters when they had their seven children, although they continued with close family names:

(1) **David**, a wright (bapt. 5 February 1769, South Leith - drowned in the St. Lawrence River, Canada, 1st September 1798) who embarked for the island of St. Vincent, from Greenock, on 28th November 1793, where he was working for a "Mr Lauder", doubtless a relative. In a letter to his father dated 21st July 1797, enclosing £200, he states he is in poor health and is leaving for New York. About May 1798 he travelled further north to British Canada, where he subsequently accidentally drowned. He married 1st November 1793, at Edinburgh, Jean, sister of James Colvill in Foord, Midlothian. They were children of John Colvill, a smith in Leith.

²⁰ Old Parish Registers.

²¹ Lang, Rev. M. B., *The Seven Ages of an East Lothian Parish - Whittingehame*, Edinburgh, 1929.

²² NLS -BCL-D2845.

(2) **John**, joiner, and later tollkeeper for his brother's franchise in Broughton, Midlothian, (born 5th September 1774, Colstoun Wood House, Bara parish, East Lothian, - died 21st November 1857 in Canongate, buried in The Grange cemetery, Edinburgh). It is probable this is the John Lauder who, with a William Crease (John's maternal uncle), and James Taylor in Edinburgh, was seised in a tenement of land in Eyemouth on 21st June 1820. He married Isabella (born 21st December 1780 at Gamelstoun, Yester parish, East Lothian - died 13th and buried 17th October 1841, Dalkeith), daughter of John Lyall & Helen Smith. In the 1841 Census they were residing at 4 Young's Close, Dalkeith. In the 1851 Census Return, John Lauder, aged 76, a widower, retired joiner, born at Morham (*sic*²³), is living with his daughter, Christian, and her family. John and Isabella had issue:

(1) **William**, (born c1798, Scotland - died 5 January 1869, Newcastle-upon- Tyne), was residing at 7 William Street, Edinburgh, p. of St. Cuthberts, at the time of his marriage, described as a currier. He married, 1 January 1827, at St. Cuthbert's, Margaret, daughter of James Foreman in Musselburgh. Margaret & their two daughters appear in the 1851 Census in Canongate, Edinburgh, but William is absent. They had:

- (a) Isabella, b.1828, Dundee. Informant on her father's Death Certificate.
- (b) **John Brown**, b.1830, Scotland - d. 9 April 1893, Newcastle-upon- Tyne, a currier. In 1871 he was served heir to his great-grandfather William Lauder (d.Nov.1812) in the property in Nungate, Haddington. He m.[1] 15 September 1856, Wallsend parish church, Northumberland, Jane (1827-1878) dau., of Robert Archer, [2] 27 September 1879, St.Andrews, Newcastle, Frances ((b. 1839) dau. of Nicholas McKay. Issue untraced.
- (c) Maijory Taylor, bapt. 3 June 1840, Kirriemuir, co.Forfar. Witness on her brother John's marriage certificate.

(2) **John**, bapt. 24 February 1799, Haddington.

(3) **George**, (bapt. 24 January, 1810, South Leith - d. 31 May 1888, Fayetteville, N.C.) By 1841 he had emigrated to North Carolina. He sent funds for both parent's gravestones & funerals.²⁴ He served in the Confederate army during the Civil War, in the North Carolina 34th Regiment and was penalised for that. He was living in Fayetteville, Cumberland county, North Carolina, on 10th June 1870 when his housekeeper was given as Catherine Clow, doubtless a close relation of his sister's husband, Henry Clow. George Lauder's personal estate (moveables etc) was the highest in the district, at \$7000. His real estate

was valued at \$1800. He was one of only a few listed as a citizen of the USA but born in Scotland. Spouse and issue unknown.

(1) Janet (b. 1802 - d.30 June 1880 at 40 Cowgate, Edinburgh. - Buried with her father) married Robert Sanderson (b. 9 June 1799 at Samuelston Mains, nr. Haddington, East Lothian - d.28th December 1862 at 8 Cromwell St., North Leith) then of St. George's parish, Edinburgh, on 11 April 1822 in Edinburgh. They had issue:

- (a) Isabella (bapt. 1 May 1824, Edinburgh).
- (b) Grace (bapt. 25 December 1825, Edinburgh).
- (c) Thomas (bapt. 9 January 1832, Inveresk & Musselburgh, E.Loithian).
- (d) John Lauder (bom 2, bapt.16 June 1833, Inveresk & Musselburgh.)

²³ A few hundred yards from Morham parish but in Bara parish.

²⁴ See inscription on the reverse side of his father's gravestone.

- (e) Georgina (bapt. 6 June 1838, North Leith), married George Borthwick on 10 March 1857 at North Leith Parish Church, with issue.
- (f) Janet (bapt. 28 January 1844, North Leith.)
- (2) Christian, (bapt. 30 July 1808, South Leith, - died 15 March 1889, 14 Clerk St. Edinburgh. Married 26 April, 1830 at St.Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, Henry Clow (d. before 31st March 1851), known issue: three natural daughters: Agnes, Henrietta and Grace, and one adopted daughter, Jessie.

(3) George, of Inverleith Mains, of whom below.

- (1) Jean, bapt. 26 February, 1764, South Leith. Still living 7th June 1841, unmarried, with her nephew David Lauder at 65 Rose Street, Edinburgh.
- (2) Beatrix, bapt. 7 April, 1765, South Leith.
- (3) Mary, bapt. 24 May, 1767, South Leith.
- (4) Janet, bom 29 May, 1771, Colstoun Wood House, Bara parish.

GEORGE, of Inverleith Mains, farmer, (born 5 August 1776, Colstoun Wood House, Bara parish, East Lothian - died 22 August 1824, Inverleith Mains, Stockbridge, Midlothian). Testament dated 30 August 1814, proved 24 February 1826 at Edinburgh Sheriff Court. Held the lease of Inverleith Mains, of which, in the last year of his life, he agreed to a small reversion with his superior landlord, James Rocheid, for (the initial) 11.5 Scots acres (a Scots acre is 6150 square yards whereas an English acre is only 4840 square yards) to be detached from his farm for the establishment of the Royal Botanical Gardens, which opened in May 1824. George was feuar of numerous properties in Stockbridge including Mary's Place, the St.Bernards Well farm (inch the well^{25 26 27 28}) which he purchased in 1812 from Francis Garden Campbell of Troup & Glenlyon²⁹, and Darling's Buildings in Saunders Street; he was also the Tacksman (franchise) of Tolls for the City of Edinburgh³⁰ from which he accumulated considerable wealth and where he also later employed his brother, John.

“Henry Raeburn of St Bernards [sz'c, the family went bankrupt in the 18th century and lost St.Bernards], as heir to Sir Henry Raeburn, Knight, Portrait Painter, Edinburgh, his father, was seised on 19th March 1824 in a piece of ground for the purpose of making a communication by a stone bridge across the Water of Leith from the New Street called Atholl Street, now India Place, to the grounds of St Bernards, parish of St Cuthberts, on disposition (sale) by George Lauder residing at Inverleith Farm, to the said Sir Henry Raeburn 28th June 1823.³¹ It would appear here that Raeburn is buying back a small piece of the lands which had previously been feued to George Lauder when he bought St.Bernards. In his Will George left moveable estate (excludes landed property & stock) of £1152/12/0, which would be about £130,000 today. George married, 20 July 1799 at Canongate church, Edinburgh, Christian (born 13 January 1777, Aberlady, East Lothian, - d. 18th February, 1848, Edinburgh), daughter of William Richardson, in

²⁵ National Records of Scotland, Sasine, PR985.231 and below.

²⁶ National Records of Scotland, Sasine, PR1080.107.

²⁷ National Records of Scotland, Sasine, PR985.231.

²⁸ *Post Office Annual Directory* (WhitSunday 1822 - WhitSunday 1823), published at Edinburgh, 1822, p.208.

²⁹ National Records of Scotland, Sasine, PR694.119.

³⁰ National Records of Scotland, Sasine, PR808.118.

³¹ National Records of Scotland, Sasine, PR1007.180, registered 22 March 1824.

Athelstaneford³², (but at William's own marriage, in North Berwick), East Lothian, by his spouse Helen (bapt. 17th December 1750, Athelstaneford - d.after 1800), daughter of William Blake or Blaikie & Christian Liberton. In 1832 Christian was resident in one of her late husband's houses in Mary's Place, Stockbridge.³³

George & Christian Lauder had issue:

(1) **George**, (bapt.25 April 1798, Aberlady, - d.6 September 1822, Stockbridge³⁴) named in his father's Testament but died before him. Admitted as a Burgess of Edinburgh, 13 September 1821. He married 23 June 1821, St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, Janet (d.14 June 1854, Edinburgh), daughter of John Spence (c1767 - 1812) of 19 Fountainbridge, Edinburgh, by his spouse Janet Ingram (c1764 - 1833). They had one child: **George** (1822-1841, *s.pf*, surgeon in Edinburgh. All buried at St. Cuthberts.³⁵

(2) **William, of Inverleith Mains, and St.Bernards**, farmer, (bapt. 11 November, 1800, Aberlady, - died 2 September 1858, Saunders Street, Stockbridge, Edinburgh). A named beneficiary in his father's Testament and ultimately the eldest surviving son. The 1826 *Edinburgh Post Office Directory* records him as "William Lauder, farmer, Inverleith". The 1832-33 edition designates him "of St.Bernards Well", (one of his father's properties). He was not formally served heir to both his father, and his nephew George (the surgeon), until 27 April 1841. He was subsequently sued by all his siblings, in the Court of Session in 1842, for non-division of both estates. He is buried in the private Dean Cemetery, Edinburgh. He married, 7 August 1826, at St.Cuthberts, Edinburgh, Helen (b.1808 - 10 November 1875, Saunders Street, Stockbridge), daughter of John Bishop, farmer & wife Helen. They had issue:

(1) **George**, (bapt. 24 November 1837, Haddington - d. 18 June 1894, Edinburgh), a lithographer. Married 19 November 1869, Edinburgh, Catherine (1845 - 27th March 1881, Edinburgh) daughter of Alexander McIntosh by his wife Jane Beattie. They left issue, at least four children:

³² Canongate Register of Marriages 1564-1800. Scottish Record Society.

³³ National Records of Scotland, Sasine, PR 1343/233.

³⁴ *Post Office Annual Directory* (WhitSunday 1822 - WhitSunday 1823), published at Edinburgh, 1822, p.208.

³⁵ Smith, John, *Monumental Inscriptions in St. Cuthbert's Churchyard, Edinburgh*, edited by Sir James Balfour Paul, Edinburgh, 1915.

- (g) **William**, (born 3 May 1870, Edinburgh), Commercial Clerk, married 28 March 1890, Free Church, Edinburgh, Mary Ellen, nee McRitchie (c.1870 - 20 November 1950, Edinburgh) with issue.
 - (i) **George** (28 November 1891, Edinburgh, - 3 January, 1968, 114 Ark Lane, Glasgow), m. 16 September, 1922, Edinburgh, Agnes, nee Robertson (1891-1973), with descendants living today.
 - (h) **Alexander McIntosh**, 1876-1895, unm., lithographer.
 - (i) Helen Bishop, b.22 February 1874, Leith.
 - (j) Jane Beattie, b. 4 November 1878, Leith.

- (2) Helen, (28 June 1827, Inverleith Mains - 13 June 1902, Edinburgh). Living with her uncle John Lauder, on "bank interest", in April 1851³⁶. Married 26 April 1878, David Pennycook (d. bef.1902). No issue.
- (3) Isabella Harper Lauder, (28 July 1833, Edinburgh - 8 May 1893, Edinburgh). Also living with her uncle John, on "bank interest", in April 1851. Married 14 June 1872, Edinburgh, Robert Stirling Falconer (b.1832, Edinburgh) wine merchant of 29 York Place, Edinburgh. Issue, if any, unknown.
- (4) Christian, b.1839. Living 7th June 1841.
- (5) **William**, bapt. 24 June 1840, Haddington. Living 7th June 1841.
- (6) Ann Scott Lauder (bapt. 17 September, 1844, St.Cuthberts, Edinburgh), married 24 September 1874 at Edinburgh, Peter Lothian. Issue, if any, unknown.
- (7) Jessie Carrick Lauder (1850 - 15 December 1918, Edinburgh) a photographer. Unmarried.

(3) **David**, bapt. 20 February 1803, Aberlady, died before May 1807.

(4) **David**, bapt. 2 May 1807, Fala & Soutra, Midlothian, - died before 1858, Edinburgh, a named beneficiary in his father's Testament. David was a baker resident at 165 Rose Street, Edinburgh. Married 20 November 1837, Catherine (d. 17 August 1857 in Whitehorse Close, Edinburgh) daughter of James Hogg, farmer of Aurive, Ettrick, Dumfries. They had:

- (1) **George**, (1839 Edinburgh - 22 July 1870, Glasgow), who married 31 December 1858, Edinburgh, Margaret (b.c1838), daughter of William Robertson by his spouse Mary McGregor. They had issue:
 - (a) William, born 20 December 1861, Edinburgh. Nothing else known.
 - (b) David, 1859-1862.
 - (c) Mary McGregor, 1864-1867.
- (2) **James Hogg**, b.December 1840, Edinburgh. Informant on mother's death certificate, 17 August 1857. (Did not marry or die in Scotland).

(5) **John**, youngest child, of 4 Rose St.,Edinburgh, *of whom below*.

(1) Helen, bapt. 3 February 1805, Prestonpans, East Lothian, "daughter of George Lauder, farmer, residing at Inverleith". A named beneficiary in her father's testament. She married 14 December 1822, St.Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, **Robert Hutchison** (spelt Hutcheson in the marriage entry) a builder living at 104 High Street, Edinburgh.³⁶ She

³⁶ National Records of Scotland, Deed: RD5/686, pps.1 -18.

was living in Wimbledon, Surrey, in April 1871³⁷. They left issue:

³⁶ Census Return.

- (1) Robert Walker Hutchison (b. before 1836); descendants in New South Wales.
- (2) George Lauder Hutchison (b. Pentland, Midlothian), was the informant on the Death Certificate of his aunt Isabella Lauder's husband, Alexander Harper, in February 1888, where George is described as his "son-in-law", but in fact George was a nephew, then residing in Holloway, North London. In the April 1891 Census, he was resident in Hackney parish, London.

(2) Janet (Jessie), bapt. 26 June, 1810, St.Cuthbert's, Edinburgh - 1876, St. Petersburg, Russia), and married at St.Cuthbert' 5 March 1827 to **Andrew Carrick** (1802-1860), Agent for the Russia Company in Kronstadt and St.Petersburg, Russia.^{37 38 38 39} She was a named beneficiary in her father's Testament. Her portrait (1833) by Russian court artist Xavier Jan Kaniewski was donated to the Scottish National Portrait Gallery. They had three children:

- (a) William, (b.31st December 1827 at Edinburgh - d.1878 in St.Petersburg, Russia) a famous photographer with studios at 19 Malaia Morskaia, at the top end of the Nevsy Prospect, St.Petersburg. He married Alexandra Sashura Markelova, with two sons;
- (b) Dr. George Leon, M.D. (Edinburgh), (bapt. 7 January 1841, Kronstadt, Russia - d. 1908 in Russia, unmarried). Assistant Physician at Leith Hospital and then Resident Clinical Assistant at the Brompton Hospital for Consumption and Chest Diseases in London. He became an Extraordinary Member of the Royal Medical Society of Edinburgh. Returning to St. Petersburg in 1865, he became Physician to the British Embassy and the composer Mussorgsky's personal doctor. He was sometime Secretary, and President, of the St. Petersburg Physicians' Society. In 1881 he was residing at 3 Maximilianovsky Pereulock. He established a sanitarium for chest diseases outside Orenburg, and was author of *Koumiss, or FermentedMare 'sMilk, and its Uses in the Treatment and Cure of Pulmonary Consumption and other Wasting Diseases*, (Edinburgh ,1881). This book is still in print.
- (c) Jessie Mary, bom 24th June 1842 & bapt. 18 March 1843 at the Russia Company Chaplaincy, Kronstadt. She died 5th February 1924 at Seal, nr.Sevenoaks, Kent, having married Francis Augustine Forbes (1848-1911) on 8th June 1868 in the Chapel of the British Factory, on the English Quay, St.Petersburg, Russia. They had two children, Janet Elizabeth (1877-1961) who married with four children; and Nevill (1883-1929), a Professor at Oxford University, who left no issue.

(3) Isabella, bapt. 25 June 1812, St.Cuthbert's, Edinburgh - 28 September 1861, Paisley, co.Renfrew. A named beneficiary in her father's Testament. Married 30 March, 1829, St.Cuthbert's, Alexander Harper (b.c1807, Thurso, Caithness - d. 4 February 1888, Molong Villa, James Street, Dunoon, Argyll) H.M. Excise & Inland Revenue

³⁷ Census Return.

³⁸ National Archives of Scotland, RD5/686 pps. 1 - 18.

³⁹ Ashbee, Felicity, "The Carricks of St. Petersburg" in *The Caledonian Phalanx - Scots in Russia*, National Library of Scotland, Edinburgh, 1987, pps: 91 -105.

Officer⁴⁰. They had issue:

- (a) Jessie Carrick, (bapt. 7 July 1836, St.Ninians, Stirling), married 23 September 1859, Church of Scotland, Paisley, co.Renfrew, James Fraser
 - (b. 16 November 1823, Abemethy & Kincadine parish, co.Inverness - d. before April 1881), Chief Constable and Procurator Fiscal of Argyll. They had issue: two sons, James (1860), and Alexander (1861).
- (b) Ellen, (b.19 March 1857, Lochgilphead, Argyllshire), married 11 October 1888, Church of Scotland, Dunoon, James Cameron (b.1845) a widower and a timber merchant.

(4) Christian, bapt. 5 December 1814, St.Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, - d. between 1855 - July 1862, Melbourne, Victoria. Not named in father's Testament (written before she was born), but included under the clause which stated "and any other child or children that may be procreated between my said wife and me" and, in addition, "and share my property equally amongst my children". She married 4 November 1833, St.Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, John Matthew Maver (1797, Perthshire - 1 July 1862, Tallarook, Collingwood, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia), a builder. They emigrated & left issue: nine children all but the last bom in Scotland.

We now return to:

JOHN, 9th and youngest child, a joiner (born 18 July 1818 at Inverleith Mains, Stockbridge, Edinburgh - died 13 August 1888, Leith Hospital). On his marriage certificate he stated his father was "George Lauder, farmer". Not named in his father's Testament (written 1814), but included under the clause which stated "and any other child or children that may be procreated between my said wife and me" and, in addition, "and share my property equally amongst my children". In 1842 he and his siblings were obliged to sue their elder brother William for their share of their father's estate in the Court of Session, Edinburgh. Soon after, John purchased from the Police Commissioners a large house at 4 Rose Street, Edinburgh, the site of which is now occupied by the rear of *Jenners* famous department store. He was living there with his wife and children, and two of his brother William's daughters, Helen & Isabella, when the Census was taken on 31st March 1851. He let this property, in a rapidly expanding district, towards the end of that year, relocating briefly to Musselburgh, and by June 1854 had sold it and removed to Ramsay Lane, Portobello, opposite the Town Hall, where he was still living in 1870.

John Lauder married 10th August 1839 at St. John's Church of England Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Mary (bapt. 29 July 1810, Kirkwhelpington, Northumberland, - d. 4 February 1870, Portobello), seventh child of John Curry (1775 - 28 December 1857) in Kirkwhelpington, and Margaret nee Wilkinson (c1774 - 23 February 1845). They had issue:

- (1) **George**, bom 21 September 1840, Gateshead, co.Durham, baptised 18th October 1840 in All Saints, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Living 31st Mar 1851.
- (2) **Christina Mary**, bapt. 21st August 1842 in All Saints, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
- (3) **John**, born January and died March 1846, buried St.Cuthbert's, Edinburgh.
- (4) **John Currie**, *of whom presently*.

⁴⁰ National Archives of Scotland, RD5/686 pps1 - 18.

- (1) Isabella, b.1844, 4 Rose Street, Edinburgh - d.31 March 1897, Craighleith Hospital, Edinburgh (consumption). Informant on her father's Death Certificate, August 1888, when she gave the same residential address as him. She had a natural child: Isabella Mary Smith Lauder, born 15 September

1867, Edinburgh, who also died from consumption 29 August 1892, at Craiglockhart, Colinton, Edinburgh, unnm.

- (2) Mary, b.1849, 4 Rose St., Edinburgh. Living 31st March 1851.
- (3) Jane M, b.1854, Portobello. Living 4th April 1881, Fulham, London, still unmarried. It is just possible that she is the Jane Lauder who died 4th June 1931 and was buried in Wandsworth Cemetery, London.

JOHN CURRIE (born after March 1851, Musselburgh, East Lothian, - d. 20 April 1882, Newbold, nr.Chesterfield, Derbyshire, where he is buried in the churchyard. Note how the English spelling of Curry has become Currie). Third but apparently second surviving son (nothing is heard of his elder brother George after 1851), a Master (supervisory) Potter and designer, employed firstly at the famous Portobello pottery, then at Pearson's pottery at Newbold.⁴¹ He was still living with his father in Portobello when he married, 26 August, 1870 (Free Church ceremony) at her father's home at 4 Bridge Street, Portobello, Isabella Urquhart McLeod (b. 1853 Arbroath, co.Forfar - 18 November 1905, Hamilton, Lks.), eldest daughter of Henry McLennan (b.Jan.1829, Ferintosh, Black Isle, Inverness-shire - d. 26 August 1899,. Hamilton, Lks.) by Elizabeth (b.1827- d.29 July 1870, at said 4 Bridge Street, from consumption), daughter of Alexander McBurnie in co.Down, Ulster. (Isabella married secondly on 15 May 1885, at the Free Church of Scotland, Hamilton, Alexander Miller (b.c1850), with issue: 2 girls, Mary and Betsy).

John Currie Lauder and Isabella nee McLennan had issue:

- (1) **HENRY** (Sir Harry) *of whom, below*:

- (2) **Matthew Currie** (17th February 1872, Musselburgh - 20th April 1933, Los Angeles county hospital). Although aged just 10, he signed his name as the informant on his father's Death Certificate. He went on to become a deep mine fault consultant, and later a landscape company proprietor. In 1891 he was living with his brother Harry in Portland Square, Hamilton, Lanarkshire. He afterwards had property in Hamilton, London, and Eagle Rock, California. On 3 September 1902, he was initiated into the Masonic Lodge No.233, Hamilton, passed on the 2nd and was raised on 19 November respectively. He thereafter travelled extensively as a mining consultant, including the USA (Penn.), Gold Coast, Abyssinia and South Africa⁴², (Witbank), Yorkshire, New Zealand⁴³ and New South Wales (Kurri Kurri). He was noted for his charitable work while in NSW⁴⁴. Following The Great War, on 28th November 1923 he and his wife boarded the Oceanic Steamship Company's SS *Sonoma* for California, where he purchased a landscaping business in Los Angeles, which specialised in golf courses, large estates (one famous client: Douglas Fairbanks, *zAPickfair*), and parks (*Forest Lawn*) etc.⁴⁵ Regularly in UK, notably with his family for Lady Lauder's funeral.

⁴¹ Lauder, Harry, *Harry Lauder at Home and On Tour*, 1907, p. 19.

⁴² *Portsmouth Evening News* (England), 22nd April 1933, p.6.

⁴³ *Motherwell Times*, Lanarkshire, Scotland, Friday 25th November, 1910, p.8.

⁴⁴ *Cessnock Eagle & South Maitland Recorder*, 8th June 1928, p.4.

⁴⁵ *Eagle Rock Advertiser*, no.86, 24 April 1933, Front Page.

Returning to California, Matthew died unexpectedly, from an intestinal obstruction.

His brother Sir Harry Lauder had just spent the previous November (1932) with Matt and said he was "shocked" by his death.⁴⁶ Matt was buried in the famous Inglewood Cemetery in Los Angeles.⁴⁷

Matt married 31st December 1891, at St Johns Free Church, Hamilton, Lanarkshire, (with brother Harry as Best Man) Catherine Swanstone Limerick (1874-1945), second daughter of James Limerick Vallance (1855-1936), a colliery manager with Dunlop Collieries Ltd., and Mary, (1856-1937), daughter of William Kerr (1830-1860) in Hamilton. (Catherine was the next younger sister of Harry's wife).

They had issue, and all bar the youngest son were born in Hamilton, Lanarkshire:

(a) **John Currie, Royal Engineers** (1892-1980) he served in Belgium and France in The Great War. He married Emma Maughan in 1915 in Newcastle-upon-Tyne but left only female descendants. He emigrated to Newcastle, New South Wales (where his uncle John Lauder lived) in 1920. He is mentioned, with his 7 year-old daughter Jean and his uncle John, as being present to meet Sir Harry Lauder & his wife when they arrived in Sydney for a visit in March 1923.⁴⁸ He received a modest legacy in Sir Harry's Will. He was a highly regarded Freemason.

(b) **Janies Limerick Vallance** (b & d 7 Dec 1895);

(c) **Matthew Currie** (1899-1972). On the 1st February 1907 a seven year old Matt sailed from Liverpool on board the S.S. "Morayshire" (3784 tons) with his mother (but not father) and siblings, John, Mary, James and Harry for Wellington, New Zealand, to visit his mother's brother, William, and his family who had emigrated and bought a farm outside Greymouth, South Island, N.Z. They returned after a month's holiday. Matt trained as an electrical engineer upon leaving school and served in the army in the last year of The Great War⁴⁹, was mentioned in Despatches, and badly wounded in action on 22nd September 1918. By the time he recovered in hospital the war was over. He received the British War Medal and the British Victory Medal. A professional golfer (a member of the United States Professional Golfers Association, Pacific Southwest division), as well as living in the UK, he lived in three other countries with, like many expats, dual citizenships. However, when was recalled to the army in WWII he stated in his army papers on 10th June 1940 that he was [still] a British Subject. He, his wife and daughters travelled to Sydney on the Union Steamship Co's liner S.S. "Maunganui" in 1935 and the following year Matt and his wife were in London and Scotland and touring Europe, returning to Newcastle, New South Wales in November to meet up with his uncle Sir Harry Lauder who arrived there on a visit to his brother John on 23rd December 1936. A newspaper photo taken upon Sir Harry's arrival has Matt's wife and daughters with Sir Harry.⁵⁰ The whole family spent New Year's Eve together. On 4th January 1937 Sir Harry went again to see Matt at Merewether golf links, the newspaper citing Matt as a professional golfer. They spent the rest of the day together with Matt's wife, and the paper photographed

⁴⁶ *Portsmouth Evening News*, 22nd April 1933, p.6.

⁴⁷ *Eagle Rock Advertiser*, no.86, 24 April 1933, Front Page.

⁴⁸ *Daily Telegraph*, Sydney, 14th March, 1923, p.10.

⁴⁹ Lauder, Sir Harry, *Roamin' in the Gloamin'* 1928, p.29.

⁵⁰ *Newcastle Morning 7/era/J* Thursday 24th December 1935, p.5.

Sir Harry and Matt together and apart.⁵¹ Matt also designed the Hawks Nest golf links, near Tea Gardens on the Myall River.⁵² Today this golf course and club is a major tourist attraction for the region. Matt married in Los Angeles, in 1924, Elsie Upfold, with two daughters: Cecily & Joyce. William Wallace's book *Harry Lauder in the Limelight* (UK 1988) carries a photo of Elsie Lauder and her daughter Cecily at 'Laudervale', Sir Harry's home near Dunoon, co.Argyll, in late 1927 following Lady Lauder's funeral. In 1936 Sir Harry drew a head & shoulders caricature of himself in Cecily's autograph book, saying he had "always had lots of fun", and signed it "from uncle Harry." Matt and his wife and daughter Cecily were at Lauder Hall during Sir Harry Lauder's grave illness⁵³ in late 1949 and for Sir Harry's funeral in February 1950. Matt, having received entails and other emoluments in Sir Harry's lifetime, only had a modest legacy in his uncle's Will. Matt read The Lesson at the funeral of his aunt by marriage, Alexander Lauder's widow Elizabeth, in Hamilton, Lanarkshire, in August 1961. He retired to New South Wales.

(d) **James Vallance, R.N.**, (1901-1932) served in the navy during The Great War.⁵⁴ He died unmarried;

(e) **Henry McLennan** (1902-1951) another widely travelled musician, tenor and conductor.⁵⁵ A child musical prodigy he had a rich tenor's voice of which recordings have survived in the Scottish Sound archive. His uncle, Sir Harry Lauder, sent him to Germany to read music. (He received a modest legacy in Sir Harry's Will.) Later he trained as a tenor in Milan and then studied conducting in Paris. He subsequently sang in minor roles in Paris, and in Britain in light opera. He then went to Chicago, U.S.A., where he joined the opera company and also undertook further training as a conductor. He also joined the U.S. Gilbert & Sullivan Rep. Co., and toured widely, singing and also conducting. He was next employed by William Fox, first as conductor for 18 months with Fox Movietone News in New York, and then with the Fox Studios in Hollywood, where he also appeared as an extra in several films including *Happy Days* (1930) where his name appears in the credits.⁵⁶ In 1940 he was in Sydney, New South Wales where he was engaged as Assistant Director of the film *The Power and the Glory* (1941).⁵⁷ He died unmarried.

(f) **Thomas Vallance** (1908 in Runanga, Westland, New Zealand, during a visit to his uncle William Vallance's farm and died young in 1915.⁵⁸

(g) **Mary Kerr** (1893-1977) married in 1920, Leslie Lamb, but without issue.

(3) **John Currie**, (8 May 1873, Musselburgh, - 27 February 1938, Sydney, New South Wales. Buried in the Presbyterian Cemetery, Stockton, Newcastle.) John emigrated to Kurri Kurri, New South Wales about 1906, working firstly in mine management. Subsequently he moved to Stockton, Newcastle, NSW, where he was employed at the NSW Govt Shipyard. In March 1923 he was in Sydney meeting his brother Sir Harry

⁵¹ *Newcastle Sun* (evening paper) 4th January 1937.

⁵² *Nota* - Myall Lakes newspaper, N.S.W., September 1978 edition, front page article.

⁵³ *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 25 August 1949, Front page report on the illness, citing Reuters.

⁵⁴ Lauder, Sir Harry, *Roamin' in the Gloamin'* 1928, p.29.

⁵⁵ Wallace, William, *Harry Lauder in the Limelight*, Lewes, East Sussex, 1988.

⁵⁶ https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0020949/fullcredits/?ref=tt_ov_st_sin

⁵⁷ https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0347805/?ref=mn_knf_t2

⁵⁸ *Hamilton Advertiser*, Lanarkshire, 20th November 1915, Death Notices.

Lauder, his wife, and her brother Tom Vallance, upon their arrival after a four year absence from Australia. Their nephew John Lauder, eldest son of their brother Matthew, was also on hand to meet them.⁵⁹ Sir Harry Lauder visited and stayed with John on several occasions, including 1923, 1925⁶⁰, 1929, and 1936-7 when he arrived at Newcastle Station late on 23rd December.⁶¹

In 1934 John went to Scotland for ten months, staying with his brother Sir Harry Lauder at Lauder Hall, returning to New South Wales on 3rd March, 1935.⁶² The "Newcastle Morning Herald" reported in another story that John had gone "home to Scotland" two years previously to see his sick brother Alec (Alexander) who died during John's visit.⁶³ John married in 1917, at Kurri Kurri, N.S.W., Mary McLean Bell (d. after 1950), but they had no issue.

(4) **Alexander McLennan**, (8 April 1875, Musselburgh, - 19 July 1934, Hamilton, Lks.). Alec spent some years in Africa, including South Africa.⁶⁴ In 1927 he was a small businessman in Hamilton, Lanarkshire.⁶⁵ Alec's brother John had emigrated to New South Wales, and the "Newcastle Morning Herald" reported in a story on the 18th Dec 1936 that John had gone "home to Scotland" two years previously to see his sick brother Alec who died during John's visit.⁶⁶ Alexander married 1st March 1895, Hamilton, Lks., Elizabeth (20 May 1876, Hamilton, - 12 August 1961, Lauder Ha', Strathaven, Lks.), daughter of James Horne & Elizabeth nee King. Both buried in Bent Cemetery. They had issue, three daughters:

- (a) Elizabeth Buttercase King (11 June 1895 Hamilton, - 16 January 1968, Ayr), buried Bent Cemetery. Married 22 August 1922, Hamilton, George James Neary. No issue.
- (b) Isabella McLennan (18 December 1896 Hamilton, - 15 March 1963, Stonehouse, Lanarkshire). Upon the death of Sir Harry Lauder, Isabella shared a legacy of £20,000 with her sister Elizabeth and their mother. She married 18 November 1925, Hamilton, William McDonald Muir Fraser (29 August 1896, Edinburgh, - 15 March 1963, Stonehouse, Lks.). William also received a legacy of £500. They had issue:
 - (1) Elizabeth Lauder (15 September 1926, Hamilton - 6 Oct 2015 Ayr, cremated there⁶⁷), a schoolteacher. She married 13 August 1965 at Hamilton, John Hamilton (b.1927). No issue.
 - (2) Margaret Lauder (12 October 1930 - 7 May 1997, Hamilton). Unmarried. Buried in Bent Cemetery.⁶⁸
- (c) Margaret (*Greta*) Home, M.B.E. (1948), (23 July 1900 Hamilton - 18 January 1966, Lauder Hall, Strathaven), unmarried, although she was engaged for some time to the British Magistrate at Jos, Nigeria, Mr. Willoughby Smith. Sir Harry Lauder's niece, who became his secretary following his wife's death, she was the principal beneficiary in his Will.

⁵⁹ *Daily Telegraph*, Sydney, 14th March, 1923, p.10.

⁶⁰ *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 13th August 1925.

⁶¹ *Newcastle Morning Herald* 18th, and 24 Dec 1936 pps: 5 & 7; & 1st Jan 1937.

⁶² *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 5th March 1935, p.6.

⁶³ *Newcastle Morning Herald* 20th July 1934, p.11.

⁶⁴ *Portsmouth Evening News* (England), 22nd April 1933, p.6.

⁶⁵ Lauder, Sir Harry, *Roamin' in the Gloamin'* (autobiography), London, 1928, p.30.

⁶⁶ *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 20th July 1934, p.11.

⁶⁷ *Glasgow Herald*, 12th October 2015, Death Notice.

⁶⁸ *The Scotsman* newspaper, 13th May, 1997, obituary by Gordon Irving.

Having not followed his instructions and agreed family arrangements for saving Lauder Hall, which had been saved when Sir Harry died, two thirds of her estate was lost to 65% Death Duties, including Sir Harry's seat. She is buried in Bent Cemetery, Hamilton.

(5) **George Currie**, (12 October 1877, Glasgow, - 17 November 1910, Queen Street, Dunoon). George resided in Hamilton, Lanarkshire. He died from consumption in Dunoon, the informant on his death certificate being his widow. He was buried with his mother in Bent Cemetery, Hamilton. Sir Harry Lauder would join them in this grave in Feb 1950. Some time after 1905, with his brothers Alexander and Matt, he joined a mining expedition in Upper Egypt.⁶⁹ He married 1st January 1902, United Free Church, Arbroath, co.Forfar, Mary Ann (b.9 July 1881, St.Vigean's parish, Arbroath), daughter of James Falconer and Stewart nee Mather (both deceased). They had a daughter: May Falconer Lauder (6 November 1902 - Hamilton, Lanarkshire, - June 1970, Los Angeles, California; her cremation casket is interred in Bent Cemetery Hamilton with her father.) She married in Los Angeles in 1941, William Sheridan Tate (b. 1902), an industrial engineer. Issue, if any, unknown.

(6) Isabella McLennan, (22 November 1880, Musselburgh - 21 September 1959, Hamilton, Lks.) Married 19 March 1897, Free Church, Hamilton, John Wardrop(e) (30 December 1877, Wishaw, Cambusnethan Lks., - 5 February 1961, Shotts, Lks.). They had issue: four sons: John, Henry, James, and Matt, and a daughter, Isabella.

(7) Jane Miller, (29 May 1882, Arbroath - 22 August 1946, Hamilton). Posthumous birth. Married at the Church of Scotland, Hamilton, 6 June 1902, to David Ross Allan (24 August 1883 - 28 July 1951, Hamilton). They had issue: a son, William, and a daughter, Isabella.

We now return to our subject of whom a few words on some less well-known aspects of his life are mentioned:

(1) SIR HENRY (Harry), of 'Laudervale', Dunoon, & 'Glenbranter', both in Argyll, and Lauder Hall, Strathaven, Lanarkshire, Knight Bachelor (1919), (b. 4th August 1870 at 5.30 a.m.⁷⁰, in his maternal grandfather's house, 4 Bridge Street, Portobello, Edinburghshire, - d. 26th January 1950, Lauder Ha' or Hall, Strathaven). He was named after his mother's father, Henry McLennan who hailed from the Black Isle in Ross-shire.⁷¹ Contrary to some stories, Harry's surname was Lauder from birth.⁷² Both parents signed the birth certificate as joint informants, which is unusual.

A songwriter and natural vaudeville entertainer of world-wide popularity, his first appearance on stage was at the age of 12 at the Oddfellow's Hall in Arbroath, where his mother had removed to following her husband's untimely death, aged 32.

A travelling concert company had booked the hall and part of their programme was a singing competition for amateurs. Harry came first and his prize was a watch⁷³, which he never parted with for the rest of his life. He toured worldwide for three decades, and

⁶⁹ *Portsmouth Evening News* (England), 22nd April 1933, p.6.

⁷⁰ Lauder, Harry, *Harry Lauder at Home and On Tour*, 1907, p.12.

⁷¹ Lauder, Harry, *Harry Lauder at Home and On Tour*, 1907, p. 12.

⁷² General Registry Office, New Register House, Edinburgh, birth certificate, 684/01 - 0106.

⁷³ Lauder, Harry, *Harry Lauder at Home and On Tour*, 1907, p. 12.

was much-loved in North America, which he toured 21 times. Amongst other ceremonies over a long career, he laid the Foundation Stone of the American Music Hall in San Francisco on 12th January 1910. The sterling silver trowel used remains in the family.

He was a favourite of Kings Edward VII and George V, performing at Sandringham and Balmoral. Sir Thomas Lipton, Bt., also described Harry as “my great friend”. Lipton had grown up in Glasgow and by the age of 27 was also well on the way to fame and fortune.⁷⁴ The now famous artist, Cowan Dobson, painted a full-length portrait of Harry Lauder in 1915, still in the family.

Henry McLennan Lauder was initiated into the Masonic Lodge *Dramatic* No.571 (Glasgow) on the 28th January, was Passed 11th February, and Raised on the 26th February 1897, and took his Mark Degree the following year.

During The Great War he established the Harry Lauder Million Pound Fund for Scottish Soldiers & Sailors, to raise funds for disabled war veterans. He toured the Western Front during that conflict, under fire, and performed there for the troops. On 24 November 1927 he received the Freedom of the City of Edinburgh where he affirmed that both his father and his grandfather were natives of Edinburgh. The following year he met the famous writer, H. V. Morton, in Aberdeen, who described Harry as “small, sturdy, and smooth of face. He wore hexagonal glasses and smoked a six-inch briar pipe. His Glengarry was worn at a jaunty angle and, as he walked, the almost ankle-length Inverness cape which he wore exposed a bit of a MacLeod [sic] kilt. The superior person will perhaps sniff if I suggest that no man since Sir Walter Scott has warmed the world’s heart to Scotland more surely than Sir Harry Lauder. His genius is a thing apart.”

Sir Harry Lauder's most endearing connexions were with **Australia**, which he visited regularly until World War II. Both Harry, his wife and son John, and Harry's brother Matt & his wife were all in Australia when The Great War broke out.^{75 76} Their brother John had already emigrated, about 1906, to Kurri Kurri (and, later, Newcastle), New South Wales^{77 78} and Matt's eldest son John would also emigrate there in 1920. Sir Harry wrote that "every time I return to Australia I am filled with genuine enthusiasmit is one of the very greatest countries in the world."⁷⁹

Sir Harry Lauder was next in Australia (with his wife and her mother) in 1919 (arriving at Sydney on 1st March on board the liner S.S. "Ventura", from San Francisco) and he was *in situ* at the famous Hotel Australia when he was formally

notified that he was to be knighted upon his return to Britain.^{80 81} His next visit was in 1923 when his brother John was on hand in Sydney, with their nephew John (Matt's son), to welcome Sir Harry, his wife, and her brother Tom Vallance, after a four-year absence from Australia.⁸² He visited and stayed with his brother John in Newcastle on

⁷⁴ Lipton, Sir Thomas, *Leaves from the Lipton Logs*, 1931.

⁷⁵ Lauder, Sir Harry, *Roamin' in the Gloamin'* (autobiography), London, 1928, p. 177-8.

⁷⁶ *The Herald*, Melbourne, Victoria, 4th May 1914, p.8.

⁷⁷ Lauder, 1928, p.29.

⁷⁸ *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 18th December 1936, p.6.

⁷⁹ Lauder, 1928, p.223.

⁸⁰ Lauder, 1928, p.221.

⁸¹ *Newcastle Morning Herald* 1st May 1919, p.5.

⁸² *Daily Telegraph*. Sydney, 4th March, 1923, p.10.

several occasions, two well-known visits being in 1925⁸³ when he gave several performances at Newcastle's Victoria Theatre commencing 8th August, four days after his birthday⁸⁴, and again in July 1929⁸⁵ arriving for a brief visit to Newcastle on the 25th.⁸⁶ Sir Harry departed Sydney for the USA two days later on board the liner SS "Ventura", Saturday 27th July 1929⁸⁷ a ship he was familiar with. In 1934-5 Sir Harry's brother John spent 10 months with him in Scotland at Lauder Hall.⁸⁸

Sir Harry arrived again in Australia on board the luxury liner SS "Narkunda" on 16th December, 1936⁸⁹ and was met at Newcastle N.S.W., railway station on 23rd of that month by his brother John, and Mrs Matt Lauder, their nephew's wife, with her daughters Cecily & Joyce⁹⁰, they having previously travelled from California for this reunion on board the Union Steamship Co's liner S.S."Maunganui". On Christmas Day, Sir Harry agreed to a request to visit the wards of Newcastle Hospital to spread "words of Christmas cheer to the patients"!⁹¹ Sir Harry spent New Year's Eve on 31st December 1936 with his close family.⁹² On New Year's Day Sir Harry attended the 'Caledonian Gathering of the Clans' at Sydney Showground, where he was piped into the ground to much applause.⁹³ On 4th January Sir Harry Lauder went to visit his nephew Matt, described as "the professional" at Merewether Golf Club for a "few putts",⁹⁴ spending the rest of the day with Matt, his wife, and Matt's first cousin Margaret ('Greta'), Sir Harry's secretary, with the press photographing Matt and Sir Harry together.⁹⁵ On 22nd January 1937 the press found him playing cricket with local boys at Stockton Park, near his brother John's home.⁹⁶ During this trip Sir Harry broadcast nationwide on the Australian Broadcasting Commission (ABC) on Monday 25th January 1937 at 8.30 p.m. for an hour.⁹⁷

After almost a two month's holiday in Newcastle he left Sydney on board the Union Steamship Company's liner SS "Awatea" on Saturday 27th February for a holiday in New Zealand⁹⁸ where he visited his late wife's brother, William Vallance, who farmed there.

A now possibly forgotten event occurred on Monday 3rd February 1936 when Sir Harry performed the opening ceremony for the brand new and then rather splendid Embassy Cinema at 146-150 Kilmarnock Road, Glasgow (now demolished). During World War II he again engaged in patriotic functions and, despite his age, made guest performances over the wireless with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra. He was described by Sir Winston Churchill as "Scotland's greatest ever ambassador".

⁸³ *Newcastle Morning Herald*. 4th, and 13th August 1925, p.6.

⁸⁴ *Newcastle Morning Herald* 5th August 1925, p.8.

⁸⁵ <https://nla.gov.au/nla.obi-157694530/view>

⁸⁶ *Newcastle Morning Herald*. 23rd July 1929, p.8.

⁸⁷ *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 29th July 1929, p.4.

⁸⁸ *Newcastle Morning Herald*. 5th March, 1935, p.6.

⁹¹ *Newcastle Morning Herald*. 16th & 18th December 1936, p.6.

⁹⁰ *Newcastle Morning Herald*. 24 Dec 1936, pps: 5 & 7, with photos.

⁹¹ *Newcastle Morning Herald*. 26th December 1936, p.6.

⁹² *Newcastle Morning Herald*. 1st January 1937.

⁹³ *The Newcastle Sun*, (evening newspaper), 1st January 1937, p.5.

⁹⁴ *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 5th January 1937, pps:3 & 4.

⁹⁵ *The Newcastle Sun*, 4th January 1937, p.6, with photos,

⁹⁶ *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 23rd January 1937, p.9, with photos.

⁹⁷ *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 21st January 1937, p. 8.

⁹⁸ *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 1st March 1937, p.6, and 26th April 1937, p.6.

Harry Lauder was, in 1891, living with his next brother Matt in Portland Square, Hamilton, Lanarkshire. He purchased a London base in the late 1890s, Athole House, Longley Road, Tooting, in South London (still extant with blue plaque on front wall saying "Sir Harry Lauder lived here"), and soon afterwards the Victorian mansion and park &c., south of Dunoon, Argyll, which he renamed *Laudervale*, (demolished in the 1980s, park & house site largely covered by a post 1989 housing development). Prior to The Great War he purchased the highland estate and mansion (later demolished by the next proprietors, the Forestry Commission) of *Glenbranter*, above Loch Eck, Argyll, and in 1932 the small estate at Strathaven, Lanarkshire, where Lauder Ha' or Hall still stands. He saved this from his own Death Duties (1950) by placing it in his niece Margaret's name, conditional upon her doing a similar interfamily transfer on or before her 60th birthday. This she failed to do, and the estate was subsequently a victim of 65% Death Duties in 1966, and so was sold by to John & Isobel Russell in 1967, who still own it.

Sir Harry Lauder made three successful British feature films: *Huntingtower* (1928) (silent), *Auld Lang Syne* (1929) and *The End of the Road* (1936). He also wrote a number of books which ran into several editions, including *Harry Lauder at Home and on Tour* (1907 - by 1914 this had sold 45,000 copies), *A Minstrel in France* (1918), *Between You and Me* (1919), *Roamin' in the Gloamin'* (1927 autobiography), *My Best Scotch Stories* (1929), *Wee Drappies* (1931) and *Ticklin' Talks* (c. 1932). Of works on him by other authors there is *Great Scot!* by Gordon Irving (1968) and *Harry Lauder in the Limelight* by William Wallace (with Gregory Lauder-Frost, 1988). The Sir Harry Lauder Road at Portobello is named after him, as is the Harry Lauder Memorial Garden beside Portobello Town Hall, opened on 4th August 2001 by his great-nephew Gregory Lauder-Frost. On the 30th November 2005, BBCTV (Scotland) featured a special St. Andrew's Day programme: *Something about Harry*, in honour of the great man, in which Gregory again took part. 29th September 2007 was the centenary of the opening exactly a century earlier by Harry Lauder of Burslem Golf Course & Club at Stoke-on-Trent and which was rededicated on that day for another century by Gregory Lauder-Frost by invitation of the Club.

Possibly sensing his own time was near, Sir Harry went to visit his father's grave at Newbold churchyard, nr Chesterfield, for the last time on the 17th July 1948⁹⁹.

At Sir Harry's funeral service in Hamilton's Cadzow Parish Church the following February the Lesson was read by the Duke of Hamilton, a close family friend, and all shops and businesses in Hamilton closed for the day, for what was said to be that town's most memorable funeral ever. It was covered by *Pathe News* and wreaths were received from all over the world, including one from Queen Elizabeth (the late Queen Mother, who shared her birth day with Sir Harry) and another from Mr & Mrs

Winston Churchill. Despite his well-known wish to be buried with his beloved wife at Glenbranter, Sir Harry was buried with his mother and brother George in Bent cemetery, Hamilton, Lanarkshire.

Harry Lauder married (with brother Matt as Best Man) at Hamilton, Lanarkshire, on 19th June 1891, Ann (*Nance*), (b.12 June 1873, Hamilton, Lks., - d. 31 July 1927, Glasgow. She was buried next to her parents and the memorial plinth to their son, John, at

⁹⁹ *Derbyshire Times*.

Glenbranter), eldest daughter of James Limerick Vallance (1855-1936) a colliery manager for Dunlop Collieries, Ltd., by his wife Mary (1856-1937), daughter of William Kerr (1830-1860) in Hamilton, Lks. Cowan Dobson painted Lady Lauder in 1921. This painting is still in the family. Two of Harry's most successful songs: *Roamin' in the Gloamin'* and *I Love a Lassie* were written by him especially for Ann. (Ann's sister Catherine subsequently married Harry's brother Matt).

Sir Harry Lauder had an only child:

John Currie Lauder (b.19 November 1891, Hamilton, - killed in action¹⁰⁰ 28 December 1916, Poitiers, and buried at Albert Road Cemetery, Oivilliers, France; memorial plinth at Glenbranter). Educated at the City of London School, John matriculated into Jesus College, Cambridge, on 22 October 1910, reading Political Economy and Law, graduating with a B.A., 14 June 1913.¹⁰¹ He stayed at Cambridge University for an additional BA Special Syllabus year reading Music, passing those exams in Easter term 1914. The following year Cowan Dobson painted a full-length portrait of John, in regimental highland dress, and which is still in the family. He was enlisted for The Great War, firstly as a Lieutenant, then Captain, in the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. He died unmarried.

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¹¹¹¹<http://www.cwgc.org/seac/i/certificate.aspx?casualty=545969>

¹¹¹²Lauder, Harry, *A Minstrel in France*. London, 1918.