

THE HOMETOWN PUBLICATION FOR THE WORLDWIDE SCOTTISH COMMUNITY

Vol. X No 3 *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree* Section B August 2015



Crawford's move forward upon electing future Chief

Joanne Crawford
jcrawfordphd@sbcglobal.net

We have a place and a date for the Crawford Family Convention to be held in the Spring of 2016 for the purpose of electing a future Chief of the House of Crawford: George Hotel in Edinburg on Saturday, May 7th, 2016.

Family History Day at the John Gray Centre, Haddington

A family history day is taking place at the John Gray Centre, Haddington, on 29 August. The event promises to be an interesting day, packed with helpful hints and tips for ancestry hunting, fascinating guest speakers covering different aspects of history, and useful approaches to family history. There will also be free guided sessions on using ScotlandsPeople, research workshops on the resources available at the John Gray Centre, and talks from the Scottish Place Names Society, the National Library of Scotland, Alistair Moffat on 'Scotland's Ancestral DNA', and historical novelist Theresa Breslin talking research and writing for her First World War novels. And that's not all – there will be storytelling, crafts and a code-cracking ancestor trail for children too! The event is free to attend, but please visit John Gray Centre at Address: 15 Lodge Street, Haddington EH41 3DX, Scotland. Phone Number: +44 1620 820690

The hotel will be accepting invitations for overnight stay. You will need to make your own reservations with the hotel.

Those of you who have received an invitation from the Clan Crawford Association officers and indicated your intention of attending are on the list and can make a reservation at the hotel for the nights you would like to stay there. There are other locations nearby also.

In addition, Simon has offered to organize a tour of Crawford sites with stays at Craufurdland. There will be more information in the future, but do feel free to contact Simon (simonhc125@googlemail.com) if you are interested.

If enough people sign up, you will make it happen.

Please be in touch with jcrawford@sbcglobal.net for full information.

Aug 21 Friday, Statehood Day in Hawaii. Aloha!



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The Choice of a Crawford Chief

Raymond Crawford
raymond@crawford.plus.com



More on the subject of a Clan Crawford Chief. See article on page 1

Clan is just right back to Thomas, the 4th Laird who was the old Scots name for a family and like all families it is held together by the ties of blood, marriage and a common heritage.

For centuries our leader, the Chief of our Crawford Clan, though never officially recognized, was generally reckoned to be the head of the Crawfords of Auchenames, the earliest of whom, Hugh, was rewarded by Robert the Bruce for his exploits at Bannockburn in 1314.

For over six centuries the line of Auchenames descended from Hugh, the first Laird of Auchenames down to Hugh Ronald George the 23rd and last Laird, who sold the old Auchenames estate and emigrated to Canada where he died in 1942.

To find his heir, his closest blood relative, we have had to look a long way back,

right back to Thomas, the 4th Laird who was alive in 1401.

From Thomas two lines descend - one leads to Hugh Ronald George Craufurd, and the other leads to Sir Robert Craufurd, 9th Baronet of Kilbirnie.

We have had a close look at all the generations between them and their common ancestor, Thomas, and despite careful research we have found nobody who has a closer link to our last Chief.

If you would like to see more, please visit the Clan Crawford website at www.clancrawford.org

Sir Robert links us back to Crawfords who fought for Britain through the Napoleonic wars, for Scotland in victory and defeat right back to Bannockburn and beyond.

For us who value our Scottish heritage over so many centuries, we believe that Sir Robert should be our rightful Chief.

Thank you to Clan Crawford.

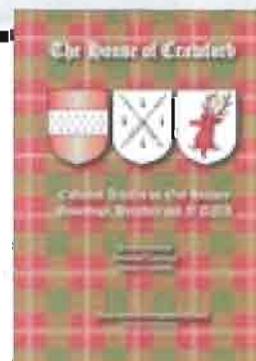


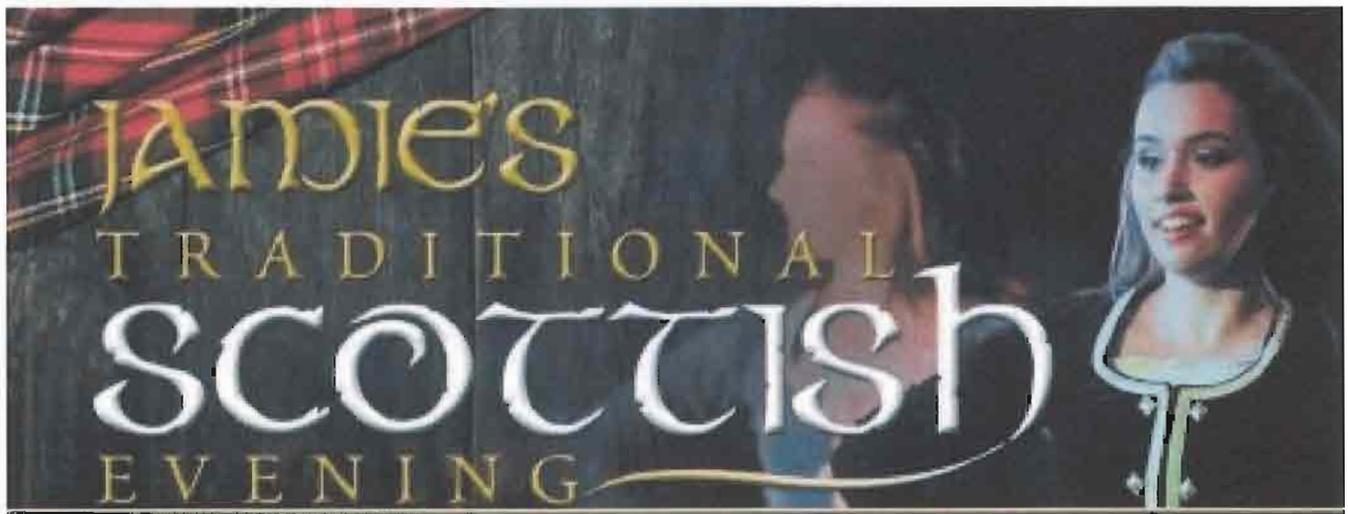
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Visit to book:

http://www.thistle.com/hotels/united_kingdom/edinburgh/thistle_edinburgh/hotel_offers/jamies_scottish_evening.html

Highland Titles: Built On Deception & Stolen Heritage Hopefully Soon Gone and Easily Forgotten

H.E. Chev. W. James Nethery, GCTJ, SMTJ ,
Prior, Priory of Robert the Bruce

For those who have followed the Highland Title saga over the years, you may finally be able to draw this issue to a close, if a pack of Scottish land lawyers have their way. The entire scheme of selling wee plots of ground in Scotland to buyers who then entitle themselves with really offensive monikers such as Laird and Lady of Glencoe has been found to be faulty and open to unravelling.

Despite being long over due, the collapse of the smarmy Highland Titles empire will not be very surprising when it happens. The people selling the wee plots (12 x 12 – you get the picture) are very simply con men, and not the particularly affable lovable types either. Note the juvenile antics of the Highland Title idiots assaulting ScotClans.com for exposing the legally tenuous stupidity of what Highland Titles does. Of course we will all keep bothering them with the law and ethics until they are gone but goodness knows others like them exist and someday someone else will come up with some other ridiculous schemes to relieve the world's prideful, vain and less than honest characters of their money.

The part of the Highland Titles equation that is more difficult to understand is the buyer – the future Lord and Lady Airhorn of Glen No' Watitseems.

Why_do_they_buy_this? Most say 'aw, its all in

good fun'. Fun maybe but a 1' x 1' plot of Scottish highlands is no 10 cent small prize at the carnival. The economics of the Highland Titles scam has been significant and you better be prepared to shell out up to several hundred dollars for the privilege of de-frauding your friends, colleagues and acquaintances with likely one more representation that you are something you are not

– this time with a quaint Scottish theme that clothes you with a convenient air of superiority that is so refreshing these days. These are con men trading with con men. A true victimless crime unless one counts the ancient and noble Scottish heritage and those who lived, loved and sacrificed for it.

Take a look at the work of Scottish blogger, author and activist Andy Wightman and others as they have 'followed the money' flowing into the Highland

Titles coffers. The numbers are surprisingly large and it will surprise few that the trail leads off shore.

We certainly look forward to the day that we can exclaim "Good riddance Highland Titles". We will not be sad to see you go. But we wonder what your former 'clients' will be buying next!

<https://www.cosca.scot/02/highland-titles-hopefully-gone-and-soon-forgotten/>



Glencoe School of Scottish Highland Dance

770-934-3016 - Atlanta, GA area
glencoehighlanddancing@yahoo.com



Mary Wilson Recknagel

BATD Fellow Highland & Scottish Nationals
SOBHD Adjudicator

Bagpiper Millin: Some Germans who claimed to have seen him didn't shoot because they believed he was crazy.

With thanks to Evelyn Chagnon and the Clan Davidson Society



**And War
History Online**

ANY reasonable observer might have thought Bill Millin was unarmed as he jumped off the landing ramp at Sword Beach, in Normandy, on June 6th 1944. Unlike his colleagues, the pale 21-year-old held no rifle in his hands. Of course, in full Highland rig as he was, he had his trusty skean dhu, his little dirk, tucked in his right sock. But that was soon under three feet of water as he waded ashore, a weary soldier still smelling his own vomit from a night in a close boat on a choppy sea, and whose kilt in the freezing water was floating prettily round him like a ballerina's skirt.

But Mr Millin was not unarmed; far from it. He held his pipes, high over his head at first to keep them from the wet (for while whisky was said to be good for the bag, salt water wasn't), then cradled in his arms to play. And bagpipes, by long tradition, counted as instruments of war. An English judge had said so after the Scots' great defeat at Culloden in 1746; a piper was a fighter like the rest, and his music was his weapon. The whining skirl of the pipes had struck dread into the Germans on the Somme, who had called the kilted pipers "Ladies from Hell". And it raised the hearts and minds of the home side, so much so that when Mr Millin played on June 5th, as the troops left for France past the Isle of Wight and he was standing on the bowsprit just about keeping his balance above the waves getting rougher, the wild cheers of the crowd drowned out the sound of his pipes even to himself.



His playing had been planned as part of the operation. On commando training near Fort William he had struck up a friendship with Lord Lovat, the officer in charge of the 1st Special Service Brigade. Not that they had much in common. Mr Millin was short, with a broad cheeky face, the son of a Glasgow policeman; his sharpest childhood memory was of being one of the "poor", sleeping on deck, on the family's return in 1925 from Canada to Scotland. Lovat was tall, lanky, outrageously handsome and romantic, with a castle towering above the river at Beaulieu, near Inverness. He had asked Mr Millin to be his personal piper: not a feudal but a military arrangement. The War Office in London now forbade pipers to play in battle, but Mr Millin and Lord Lovat, as Scots, plotted rebellion. In this "greatest invasion in history", Lovat wanted pipes to lead the way.

He was ordering now, as they waded up Sword Beach, in that drawly voice of his: "Give us a tune, piper." Mr Millin thought him a mad dog. The man beside him, on the point of jumping off, had taken a bullet in the face and gone under. But there was Lovat, strolling through fire quite calmly in his aristocratic way, allegedly wearing a monogrammed white pullover under his jacket and carrying an ancient Winchester rifle, so if he was mad Mr Millin thought he might as well be ridiculous too, and struck up "Hielan' Laddie". Lovat approved it with a

Continued on page 9

The Clan Skene Association, Inc.

The Clan Skene Association, Inc., invites membership from SKENE and septs CARISON, CARNEY/CARNIE, CURREHILL, DYAS, DYCE, DYER, HALL, HALYARD/HALLYARD, MacGAILLARD, RENNIE & SKAINS.

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WHO KNEW?

Right Way to do things



Bill Millen: piper,
continued from page 7

thumbs-up, and asked for “The Road to the Isles”. Mr Millin inquired, half-joking, whether he should walk up and down in the traditional way of pipers. “Oh, yes. That would be lovely.”

Three times therefore he walked up and down at the edge of the sea. He remembered the sand shaking under his feet from mortar fire and the dead bodies rolling in the surf, against his legs. For the rest of the day, whenever required, he played. He piped the advancing troops along the raised road by the Caen canal, seeing the flashes from the rifle of a sniper about 100 yards ahead, noticing only after a minute or so that everyone behind him had hit the deck in the dust. When Lovat had dispatched the sniper, he struck up again. He led the company down the main street of Bénouville playing “Blue Bonnets over the Border”, refusing to run when the commander of 6 Commando urged him to; pipers walked as they played.

Scotland and the Flemish People

Some estimates suggest that up to a third of the current Scottish population may have had Flemish ancestors. While this is almost certainly an exaggeration, many Flemish emigrés did settle in Scotland over a 600 year period between the 11th and 17th centuries. Many shed their continental sounding names to take on the name Fleming or its variants. Others took on different names that give little clue as to their country or region of origin.

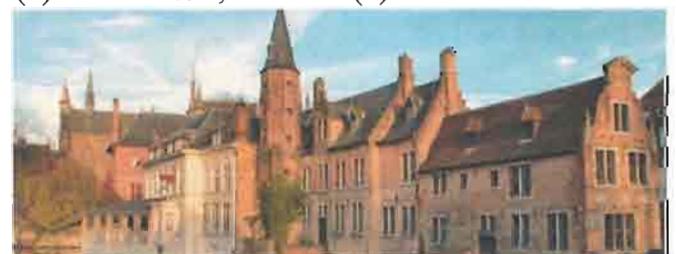
As the Flemish left Flanders over a relatively long time period they were absorbed into Scottish society gradually. So while the Flemish may well be one of Scotland’s largest immigrant groups the question of why they came, their significance in Scottish history, and their broader impact on the economy, society and culture of their adopted homeland has never been examined in detail.

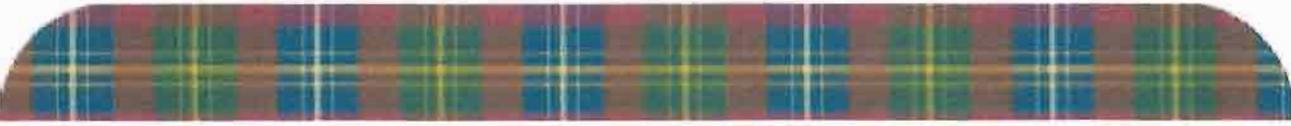
The overall aim of the Project is to provide an accessible overview of the impact of the Flemish people on Scotland and the historical interactions between Scotland and Flanders (the Low Countries or modern-day Belgium). Combining genealogical and historical research, the project will reassess the settlement of Flemings in Scotland – their distribution and local impact – as well as reviewing the role of the Flemish in the broad sweep of Scottish history.

The Project has been made possible by a generous grant from the P F Charitable Trust and the support of Alex and Susan Fleming and is conducted through the St Andrews Institute of Scottish Historical Research.

Professor Roger Mason, St Andrews Institute of Scottish Historical Research, University of St Andrews, St Katharine’s Lodge, The Scores, St Andrews Fife, United Kingdom KY16 9AL

Email: ishrmail@st-andrews.ac.uk, Phone: +44 (0)1334 462890, Fax: +44 (0)1334 462927



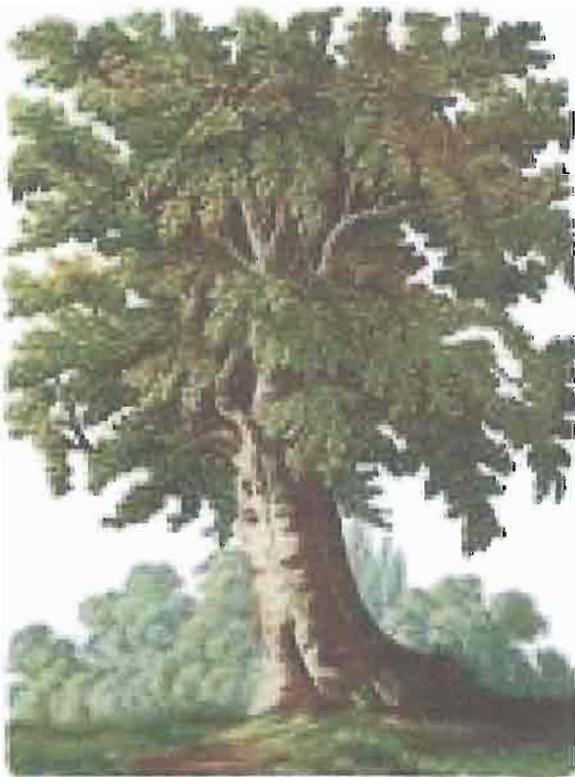


Clan Forrester

Society

Come - join the Forresters

Membership is available for all spelling variations of Forrester: Forrester, Forester, Forrister, Forister, Forest, Forrest, Foster, Carstarphen.



Contact: **Ben Forrester**,
Membership Chairman
1034 Blue Heron Drive
Commerce, GA 30529
Phone: 706-335-7688
Email: benbf@windstream.net



FOSTER SURNAME DNA Project

• Genealogy Research on Foster / Forster / Forrester / Forester /
Foerster / Foerster / Forster / Forrister / Vorster / Voster Families



Clan MacCord Society

Invites for membership all spelling variations and descendants of McCord (a)(e)(y).

Also McCourt, McChord, McCoard, Cord(e), McCart, McCort, Cort(e)(s) and Flynn, McFettridge and Kane.

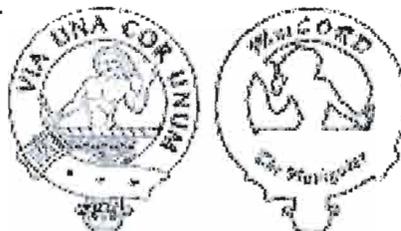
Harlan D. McCord

President/Chief

4403 Vickery Ave East
Tacoma, WA 98443-2016

Email:

cmccord1234@msn.com



Clan Home Society (International)

Cordially invites membership inquiries
worldwide from all HOME, HUME & SEPTS



Information about
The Clan Home Air Force,
contact aeaton@cfl.rr.com



For information and application, write to:
Camille Simmons, President
1205 Avery Way
Kernersville, NC 27284
cbsimmons@earthlink.net



Adventure # 12 – Spring in the UK

Spring is here - the yellow gorse is in bloom on the rocky hillsides and the purple heather is beginning to show up in protected locations.



I spent an afternoon at Carlisle Castle, which was having a St. George Festival the week of St. George's Day (April 23).



There was a mummers play, the likes of which the village people would have staged on a festival day in the 15th century. Naturally, St. George was the hero of the play, defeating the evil-doer in a sword fight.



Later in the afternoon, George saved the day by rescuing the village children from the threatening dragon. But in this play he did not slay the dragon (they are an endangered species, you know), but tamed it instead.





Elliot Clan Society, USA Membership Information 2014

The Elliot Clan Society is a worldwide organization, with active branches in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States. In accordance with Scottish Clan Law, Clan membership includes all Elliots, Elliots, Elliotts, those of whose mother or grandmother was so named and their spouses. This also applies to Elliots of known Scottish descent.

If you are a person of Scottish ancestry bearing the name Elliot, Elliott or Eliott (Including the spouse or descendant of such person) and wish to join the Elliot Clan Society, please fill out the membership form. Those forms may be found on the "Official ECS Website" at:

www.elliotclan.com

For US residents, please make sure that you send your completed ECS USA membership forms to the Membership/Treasurer. Once you join the Society, you will receive periodic newsletters from the ECS USA and our Parent Society in Scotland. The newsletters will inform you of Scottish festivals in your area and other announcements of importance to our Clan. Membership allows you to meet other Elliots with similar interests who share our Scottish heritage.

Contact Patricia Tennyson Bell

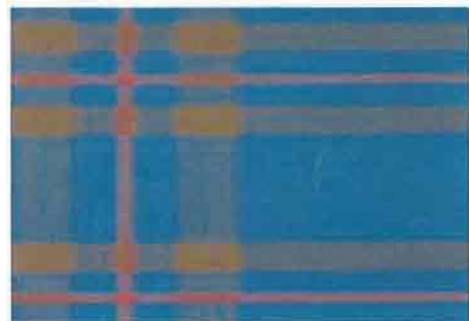
Email: dublincollen@sbcglobal.net or write

2984 Siskiyou Boulevard

Medford, OR 97504

(Fortiter Et Recte)

Boldly and Rightly





Flowers of the Forest

Lois Marie Randle Parks October 16, 1919 – February 23, 2015 Editorial note: Marie was Joanne Crawford's first cousin once removed. She was the genealogist in the family. She did a lot of research on her grandfather and Joanne's great-grandfather William Jackson Crawford.

She recently passed away.

Born in Rochester, NY, her parents Louis & Marie Crawford Randle were Baptist missionaries to China where Lois spent her first 7 years.

Lois met her husband Roy Parks at Marin Junior College. She attended Redlands University and graduated in 1942 with a BA in Literature and a minor in religion.

They were married September 19, 1943.

Lois moved to Tomales and embraced being a rancher's wife and an active member of the community. At the Tomales Presbyterian Church she was a Sunday school teacher, a Deacon, an Elder, and was president of the Presbyterian Women's Group for 10 years and program director for over 18 years.

Lois edited a zucchini cookbook for the Presbyterian Women which sold over 10,000 copies.

She played the organ for the church service for over 40 years and directed the choir. She is a Life Member of the Tomales PTA, a past board member of the Tomales Elementary School Board and worked long and hard for the unification of the local school districts. Lois was a 4-H leader and supported her children in 4-H, FFA, sporting and school events.

Later as her children went to college she worked as a substitute teacher. She was one of five founding members of the Tomales History Center which began in a single file cabinet in a storage room at the local elementary school.

Lois worked tirelessly collecting and archiving local history from the boundaries of the Shoreline School District.

With the help of many local volunteers Lois

fundraised to be able to obtain the empty gymnasium at the site of the old high school from the school district to house the growing collection. Lois served as president from 1982-1999 and curator from 1998-2008. She worked daily at the History Center and was there on weekends to cover shifts if the volunteer docents couldn't be there.

For 35 years Lois worked the election board and in her spare time she compiled the family genealogy of both her family and her husband's. She enjoyed two trips back to China with her sister and friends.

Lois was predeceased by husband Roy in 1981 and son Wayne in 2006. She is survived by her sister, Helen Randle, children Bob & Glenn Parks, Sharon (Eric) Knudsen, grandchildren Mike (Sophia), Erik (Terri Ann) & Adam (Laura) Parks, Steve & Johnny Knudsen, Amanda (Chris) Malt, Denise (Robbie) Myers & Will Parks, three great grandchildren, a niece and three nephews.

The family's unending gratitude is extended to the staff at *Taking the Journey* where Lois was lovingly cared for in her last months.

Donations may be made to the Tomales Presbyterian Church, PO Box 13, Tomales 94971 or the Tomales Regional History Center, PO Box 262 Tomales, CA 94971.

Chev. John M. MacRae-Hall, KTJ 1932 - 2014 *A Death of a Knight* by Chev. Ralph Comp, KTJ. John Malcolm MacRae-Hall, Group Captain, Royal Air Force (Retired) and Chevalier of the Supreme Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem, Priory of St. Columba, Preceptory of Nairn, died on December 20, 2014 at his home near Westminster, SC.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Bar-bara (Babs) Perkins MacRae-Hall, by his daughter and son-in-law, Kimberly and Billy Campbell, and by his granddaughter, Raven Campbell. John was born in Birmingham,

Continued on page 17

The Clan Colquhoun Society in North America
is now...

The Clan Colquhoun International Society

<http://www.clancolquhoun.com>



Contact Tom Hodges:
sijepuis@bellsouth.net

Allied Families and Septs of

Clan Colquhoun are:
Colquhoun, Calhoun, Cowan,
MacClintock & MacManus

Clan Blair Society

Memberships are cordially invited for Blair
descendants and other interested parties.



www.clanblair.org

President Clan Blair Society: Jim Blair
7200 S. Prince Street
Littleton, CO 80120
Email: president@clanblair.org



Membership Chairman: Charles Diman
3413 Sunnybrook Drive, Charlotte, NC 28210-4715
Email: ClanMembership@clanblair.org

Flowers of the Forest, *continued from page 15*

ham, England, ... At the age of 15, he was taken for his first airplane ride by Harry Gatsby, a family friend. He was hooked.

After completing secondary education at King Edward's School in Birmingham, the 17-year-old John enlisted in the Royal Air Force and was sent for pilot training to Rhodesia, today's Zimbabwe in East Africa.

By 1952, he had been posted to 145 Squadron at Celle, Germany, flying Vampires.

In 1955, he was posted to RAF Pembroly as an instructor on Hawker Hunters, the new RAF first-line fighter plane, and had been assigned to an RAF aerobatic team. After an air show in Wales in 1955, the team landed to hobnob with the groundlings.

Then John spotted, and was smitten by "...the most beautiful girl I had ever seen. She sat on the grass, somewhat apart from the crowd, a striking figure in a pretty yellow dress, her lovely face framed by the most gorgeous Titian Copper hair ... At that moment the world stopped for me." T



They were married in 1957, a partnership that endured many long separations due to John's RAF assignments and later employment as a commercial pilot.

In 1970 John and Babs got a plum assignment: John was seconded to the United States Air Force to represent the British interest in the development of the Lockheed C-5A. The assignment took them to Charleston, SC, a prolonged acquaintance with the United States and many new friends and experiences.

In 1973, they returned to Britain, and John was assigned to duty with the "Comet Squadron," the special unit that flew government officials. The assignment didn't last long. Driven by disenchantment with the political direction of his native land and lured by the prospect of new adventure, John took early retirement from the Royal Air Force in 1974.

Under a U.S. immigration provision for those willing to invest in a new business in the United States, John and Babs returned to Charleston, looking for an opportunity. A friend suggested the possibility of a restaurant or pub near Clemson University. They went, they saw – and thus was born Pendleton House, a public house, restaurant and bed and breakfast in Pendleton, SC.

It was a natural fit since Babs is a trained and talented chef, while John had experience from childhood with running a pub. They operated Pendleton House until 1987. By both John's and Babs's accounts, those were good years.

In 1976, Kimberley returned from the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, exclaiming that they simply had to go, and in 1977 they did. There they became involved in the Clan MacRae Society of North America. John was elected President of the Pendleton Merchants' Guild and in that capacity helped to devise and implement a Historic Restoration Plan for Pendleton. John was also Master of the Pendleton Horse Hunt Club, famous for its Boxing Day hunts, where the quarry was Babs with a carload of beverages.

John was a founder of the 78th Fraser Highlanders, a reenactment group often seen at Highland Games in the Southeast; he also joined the Atlanta Burns Club and became active in the Stone Mountain Games.

John's professional flying career came to an end in 1992 when he reached the then-mandatory retirement age of 60.

John was elected President of the Clan MacRae Society of North America in 2000 and served in that capacity until his death. Those who knew him from the clan society, and who were privileged to work with him in that organization, will remember his energy, his devotion to the search for a Clan Chief and his insistence that the Clan present itself with dignity and excellence.

During his tenure, the Society was several times chosen as Clan of Excellence for the show they made in the Clan Parade at Grandfather Mountain: all in proper kilts, uniform shirts and, pretty much, in step. John led a remarkable life, full of activity and adventure, but at the same time he was a thoughtful, well-read and well-educated man. We may close this appreciation with a few more lines from his letter to his beloved Babs, written in his 75th year: "Perhaps this is the 'Teatime' of our lives, when we look back at a long and eventful day, but look forward to an enjoyable evening ahead, dinner with good friends and a good night's sleep to follow for tomorrow

Continued on page 19



clankeith-usa.org

Official website of The Clan Keith Society USA, Inc

If you have genealogical ties to the surname Keith (including alternate spellings such as Keeth) or any of Clan Keith's Sept family names, you were born into the Clan Keith!

Septs and spellings include: Achindachy - Astine - Aston - Austen - Austin - Cate(s) - Dick - Dickson - Dicson - Dixon - Dixson - Falconer - Faulkner - Harvey - Harvie - Hackston - Haxton - Hervie - Hervey - Hurrie - Hurry - Keath - Keech - Keeth - Keith - Keyth - Kite - Lum - Lumgair - MacAustin - MacDick - MacDicken - MacDickie - MacDeetch - MacKeeth - MacKeitch - MacKeith - Marshall - Urie - Urry

The Clan Keith Society would be delighted for you to join us as a member. For more information, please email membershipclankeith@mindspring.com or call 404-539-5222.



Dunnottar Castle, stronghold of the Keiths (near Stonehaven)

Please plan to attend your local Highland Games and, if you see our tent, please come by for a visit. The tent convener will have information about Clan Keith's fascinating history as well as membership information. Membership in the Clan is not expensive but one of the finest investments that you will every make. Hope to see you soon!

3D Printing Reconstructs Destroyed 685-Year-Old Tomb of Scottish King Robert the Bruce

Submitted by H.E. Chev. W. James Nethery, GCTJ, SMTJ



<http://3dprint.com/53746/tomb-robert-the-bruce/>

Indianapolis Scottish Highland Games & Festival needs volunteers Sat., Oct. 10

How would you like the opportunity to meet interesting people, support the Scottish Society of Indianapolis, and have FREE ADMISSION to the Highland Games?

If this sounds interesting to you, why not volunteer some of your time?

We will need Volunteers for, but not limited to:

Admissions, Beer Ticket Sales, Hospitality Booth, Scottish Society Booth, Kids Booth and others.

To avoid overburdening people, you may volunteer at more than one area. Opportunities will consist of two (2) hour shifts. If you could assist in one area, participate for two (2) hours, then work another two (2) hour shift in the same area, or choose another, it would be great!

Please click on the link below and choose a time and location you would like to work. Click on "submit" on the bottom of page, and log into your account, or create one. You will be notified by email of your times and

any changes.

Link

<http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0E4DA4AA2CA2FB6-highland/28622077>

Thanks, and let's have a great event!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, by clicking on my name on the sign up form.

Thank you for all you do,

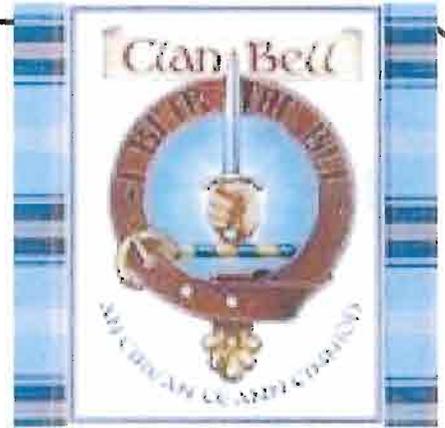
Jack Moorman, Volunteer Coordinator

317-910-0236 - jmoorman@hotmail.com

Flowers of the Forest, *continued from page 17*
is another day." It was in that spirit that he lived his last years – truly his day was long and eventful, and we trust that he is enjoying a good night's sleep. Chevaliers Peter Wilson and Ralph Comp attended the memorial service in Westminster, SC for Chev. MacRae-Hall, KTJ.

What can anyone say/write about the full and extraordinary life of one person and make it complete. It is an Honour! Salute to Chev. John Malcolm MacRae-Hall. Ed.

Clan Bell North America, Inc.



This old West Marche Riding Clan, one of the Border Clans from the early 1100s, were retainers of Clan Douglas and also allied with the best Border families through blood and friendship. Their land holdings were extensive. To survive on the often invaded Borders, they engaged in the “rieving” of the period and participated in many battles against the English.



Declared “unruly” by the Scottish Parliament, many of the Clan were “encouraged” to emigrate to the Ulster Plantation in Northern Ireland after 1610.

After William Bell, called “Redcloak” and Chief of the Clan died in 1627, the chiefship became dormant. Without leadership, the Bells ceased to exist as a viable clan.

Clan Bell North America is a charitable organization of Scottish descendants and friends of Family/Clan Bell dedicated to the study of Bell Genealogy and Scottish history and the perpetuation of family tradition.

CBNA cordially invites membership inquiries from persons named Bell (all spellings), their descendants and friends. A quarterly newsletter is published. Tents are hosted at major Scottish festivals from coast to coast in the USA.

President & Membership:

David E. Bell

1513 Anterra Drive
Wake Forest, NC 27587
debellinncc@reagan.com

Visit our Website:

clanbell.org





The most interesting part, for me, was a musical duo who played a wide variety of 15th century instruments, such as this French hurley-gurley and Moroccan long pipe



.....and a lute and a Celtic harp.



The next photo shows the bagpipes and the bells being played. I learned something about the bagpipes. It seems that the earliest sets were Arabic, made by attaching a snake charmer's pipe to a bag which was pumped to help blow air through it. The Arabic legions would play this as they marched into battle. The first Crusaders who fought to free the Holy Land brought the instrument back home, where it spread across all of Europe and was quite popular. However, in the 15th century, the violin was invented, and its growing popularity supplanted the bagpipe across Europe

everywhere except Scotland. That is why today we think of the bagpipe as Scottish, even though it originally was not.



The camp chef was cooking a pot of cabbage and leeks in butter, another of beef in red wine, and a pot of pasta....made by rolling wheat and egg dough very thin and cutting it into strips with a knife. Smelled good, but I was not invited to lunch.



The archers put on quite a display. The lass in the photo was the one who hit the bulls-eye. The last photo shows St. George training his new recruits on the use of the halberd in battle.

I also learned a lot about more than I knew before about the St. George legend. For starters, he was not the original patron saint of England.....



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that was St. Edmund, King of East Anglia in Britain, who was a Christian martyr in the 9th century. Edmund was assassinated after refusing to recant his beliefs. At least he was actually from Britain.



St. George, on the other hand, was a Roman soldier from the area that we now call Palestine. He was also a Christian martyr who refused to recant his beliefs. But he certainly wasn't English. However, he was adopted as a patron by the English soldiers who went to Palestine to fight in the Crusades, because he had been a Christian warrior who fought in that part of the world. He became associated with the flag with a red cross on a white background, because that was the banner that the Pope gave to the Crusaders.

Apparently that whole dragon thing was a mistake. There was a medieval painting, which was supposed to be a picture of Michael, the warrior archangel, (wearing the red cross emblem to honor the pope, even though there is no evidence that

either Michael or George ever wore one) putting a sword through the devil. Lucifer is represented, in the painting, as the serpent from the Garden of Eden. The painting was widely copied in drawings, books, and tapestries. This image was misinterpreted in a 13th century book called the Golden Legend, as being St. George instead of Michael, and the serpent was taken to be a dragon. By the 15th century, this version of the story had taken root in England, and the story had evolved to the one we are more familiar with, of St. George slaying a dragon. King Henry elevated St. George to patron saint status, supplanting St. Edmund, because he preferred the image of a warrior. A giant case of mistaken identity becomes a legend. And, of course, it also became a pub



Lowther Castle is a ruin, but its 300 acres of gardens are under restoration, including the recent planting of over 160,000 daffodils, to line one of the paths leading to the castle.



THE CLAN GREGOR SOCIETY

'S Rioghal Mo Dhream!

Royal is my Race!

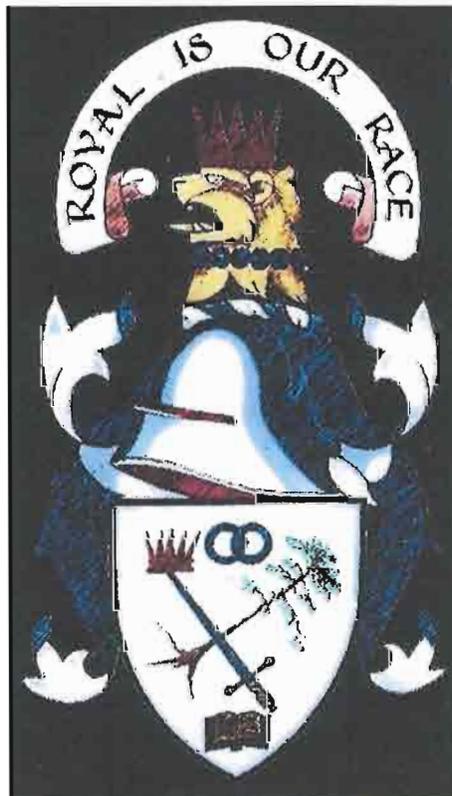
Fàilte! The Clan Gregor Society is a growing organisation with membership throughout the world. It's most active objectives are to extend the links of kinship and friendship between MacGregors, wherever they may be, and to provide a focal point for all members of the Clan and interested visitors who wish to learn more of our noble past.

Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor

7th Baronet of Lanrick and Balquidder

24th Chief of Clan Gregor

Clan Gregor
has
Great Lakes,
New England,
Pacific
Northwest,
Western
United States
and
Southeast
Chapters



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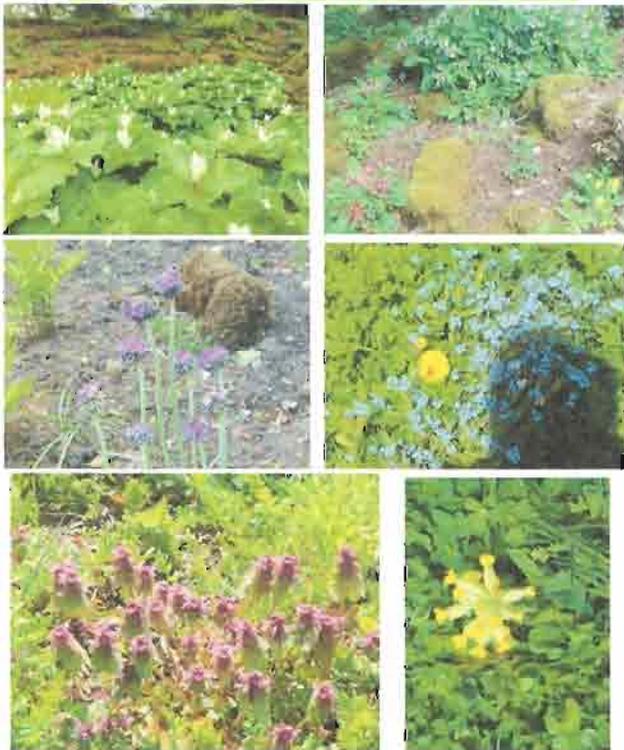
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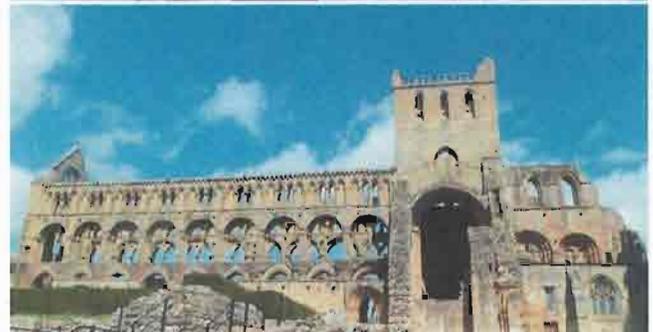
FULBRIGHT AWARD RECIPIENT 2014-15



Our pastor, Dave Buckner, and son Matt, joined us for a fortnight on holiday. They say they had a great time, but even pastors have a bad day every once in a while.



Pete toured them thru Urquhart Castle, Eilean Donon Castle, Jedburgh Abbey, the Neolithic stone circle at Castlerigg, the Wallace Monument, the Falls of Foyers, and numerous other historic and scenic spots in the Highlands, Scottish Borders, Cumbria, Lancashire and Yorkshire.





The Armstrong Clan Society

Dedicated to the Armstrongs, Crosiers, Fairbairns, Grosiers, Nixons
and those interested in these surnames.

The Armstrong Clan Society was organized on October 8, 1981 and is incorporated in the State of Georgia, USA. The Society is recognized as a Section 501 (c) (3) not for profit organization and exempt from United States Federal Income Taxes. On September 24, 1984, the Lord Lyon, King of Arms in Scotland, granted warrant to the Lyon Clerk to matriculate in the Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland in the name of the Armstrong Clan Society, Inc., the Coat of Arms in the upper left corner of this page. Our motto "Semper Invictus" can be translated as "Always Unconquered."

Objectives of the Armstrong Clan Society

1. To seek friendship and unity among all Armstrongs, its septs and associated families.
2. To provide for the preservation of all Armstrong artifacts unique to the family.
3. To serve as a genealogical and historical resource for the membership and the general public.
4. To provide news, Armstrong history, items of general interest and genealogy via our newsletter, *The Armstrong Chronicles*.
5. To establish worldwide geographic membership representation.

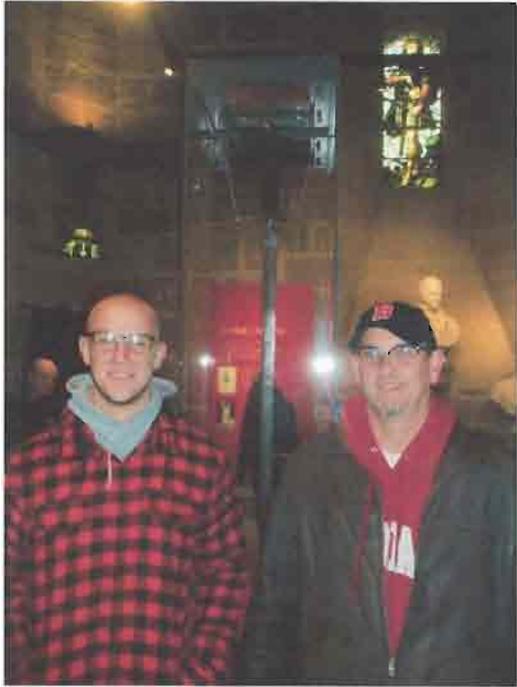
Membership

All Armstrongs, Croziers, Fairbairns, Grosiers and Nixons (regardless of the spelling and their descendants, are eligible for full membership in The Armstrong Clan Society. In the United States and Canada, dues are \$25 per year or \$45 for two years. All memberships are family memberships which includes two adults and all minor children. In all other countries, dues are \$35 per year. All dues are payable in US funds.

For a membership application, email Peter Armstrong at
peter.armstrong1.3@gmail.com
or download from <http://www.armstrong.org/membership.htm>.
Note: "spouse" on the application includes: spouse, domestic partner or any other adult living at the same address.

Pete & Wendy's
UK Adventure

FULBRIGHT AWARD RECIPIENT 2014-15



The Highlands are in bloom !!!



Last for this newsletter is Pete's favorite view of the Highlands. From this spot you can see the Cairngorm Mountains to the east, the Grampian Mountains to the west, the peak of Ben Nevis to the south, The Firth of Moray to the north, and Loch Ness below you.



Pete says you can spread his ashes here.

The Families of Clan MacTavish Welcome You to Discover Your Scottish Heritage!



Chief Steven
MacTavish

Family names associated with Clan MacTavish:
*Cash, Kash, MacCamish, MacCash, MacCavish,
MacComb, MacCombie, MacComich, MacComish,
MaComie, Macomie, MacCosh, MacLaws,
MacElhose, MacLehose, MacTavish, McTavish,
Mactavish, Mactavis, M'Tavish, MacThomas,
Stephens, Stephenson, Stevens, Stevenson, Tavish,
Tawesson, Thom, Thomas, Thomason, Thomasson,
Thompson, Thomson, Tod, and Todd, and all variant
spellings.*

We Are Clan MacTavish!



For information about joining us email: clanmactavishUSA@gmail.com