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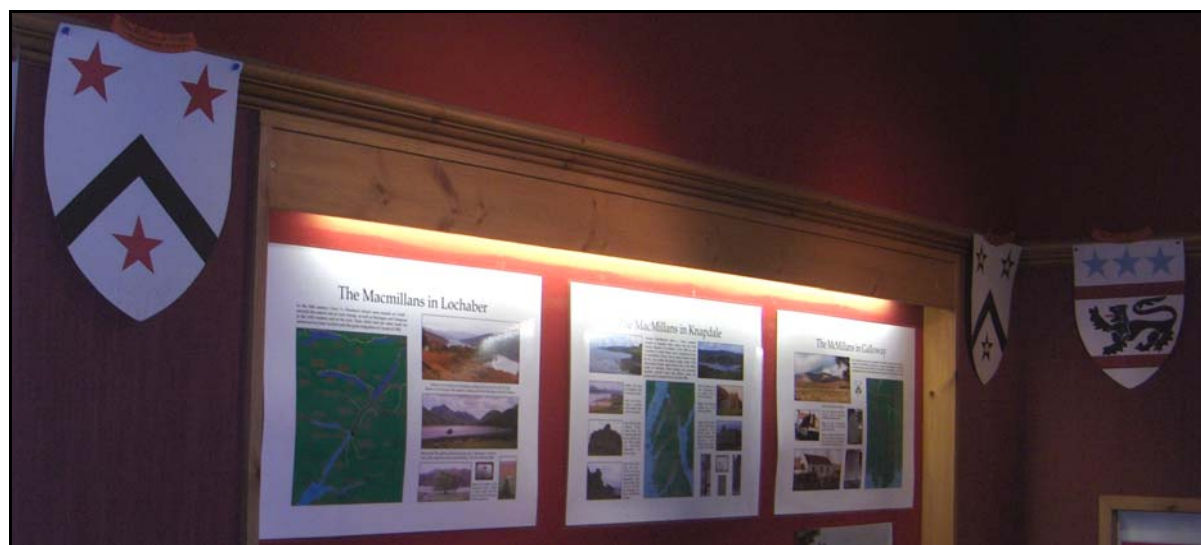


*International*  
**CLAN MACMILLAN**  
*Magazine*



**Issue No. 15**  
**Nov/Dec 2010**  
*In this issue: From Edinburgh to North Carolina -  
 John McMillan & Marion McLymont family  
 What's In A Name – MacMillan aliases  
 The Wood Islands PEI MacMillans*

# New displays in the Clan Centre



Above: Three of the panels created by Graeme as part of the new historical displays in the Public Room of the Clan Centre. These have information about the three main branches of the clan: Lochaber, Knapdale, and Galloway.

Right: The map created for the new displays by Mike McMillen (Minneapolis, MN) showing the homes of the clan in Scotland, with pictures illustrating some of them. Copies of Mike's map are available. Contact him at [mike@mcmillen-design.com](mailto:mike@mcmillen-design.com)



**COVER PICTURE**  
 Australian Officers at Ringwood Highland Games in April 2010.  
 L to R: June Senior, Mick McMillan, and June Danks

Below left: Richard C. McMillan, Vice-President of Clan MacMillan in Washington State, and his bride Christine McLellan cutting their wedding cake



Ashe County, North Carolina

CMSNA 2010 Gathering



Kingston, ON, Canada



## Clan MacMillan's Community of the Tonsured Servant (CTS)

Supporting the Clan MacMillan International Centre (CMIC) in Scotland, and providing educational materials & events for Clan MacMillan and Sept members around the world.

The 22nd CTS Investiture Service was held in Kingston, Ontario, Canada on Sunday 27 June 2010 in Morgan Memorial Chapel, Theological Hall, Queen's University. It was held in conjunction with the Clan MacMillan Society of North America (CMSNA) Gathering, 24 to 29 June 2010. Two new candidates were inducted into CTS. *Please see the page-wide photo opposite which shows L to R: Chief George G. MacMillan of MacMillan and Knap, CTS, Finlaystone, Scotland; Harold MacMillan, CTS, Hawkesbury, Ontario; Norma McMillan, CTS, Dutton, Ontario; Blanche McMillan, Abbot CTS, Burlington, Ontario.*

Harold MacMillan, CTS, Honoris Causa : Harold, of Hawkesbury, Glengarry County, Ontario, has had an association with Clan MacMillan since the founding of the CMSNA in 1958 in Hamilton, Ontario. Initially he was involved with the Glengarry and District Branch of CMSNA which became the Glengarry and Ottawa Valley Branch in 1997. Harold has been the long time treasurer of both branches. Harold's three sons, Robert, Ewen and Allen were all on hand to congratulate their father. Harold's wife Ruth died on 1 June 2010, just three and half weeks before the Investiture Service.

Norma Irene McMillan, CTS, Companion Regular: Norma has the distinction of being the oldest candidate to be invested into CTS. She will celebrate her 91<sup>st</sup> birthday in November 2010. Norma is from Dutton, Ontario and has lived most of her life in that area. She and her late husband Victor farmed "Hi and Dri Farm" where she still lives. She lives the Clan MacMillan motto to the full, still walking to raise big funds for cancer research. She has said her life belongs to the whole community. Norma and Victor were at the founding of CMSNA in 1958.

Jack L. Baxter, CTS of Morgan Hill, CA, died 18 May 2010 aged 91. He joined CTS at the ripe age of 89 at the CMSNA Gathering in California in 2008.

Ethel MacMillan, CTS, of Berkley, CA, wife of Wallace Thayer MacMillan, died this spring. She was the mother of Rowene MacMillan Conn, CTS, of Newport Beach, CA.

Rev. Andy Moore, CTS, our 100<sup>th</sup> member of CTS, was called to pastor a church in the state of Wyoming near the capitol city of Cheyenne (SE Wyoming). He and his wife Debbie moved there in June 2010. He says he is looking forward to connecting with the Scottish Society of Southeastern Wyoming.

Robert L. Jones, CTS, is the new president of the Appalachian Branch of Clan MacMillan as of July 2010. His wife Fran Jones is the new Secretary/Treasurer.

Lillian de Giacomo, CTS, has written her third book about her family. "Just One More Day" is the story of the years her husband William C. Wuttke Sr. spent as a prisoner of war in Japan during WW11. It is a poignant story of her new husband Bill who was sent to the Philippines just before Pearl Harbor. She did not see him for 4 years. It is his story and his drawings of his time as a prisoner of war. Lillian had her 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday on 17 August 2010. She is our oldest member! We have very accomplished seniors in CTS.

Barry McMillan, CTS, is president elect of the CMSNA effective 1 January 2011. He was unable to attend the Gathering in Kingston, Ontario because he has been having treatments for cancer in Argentina where he has been living recently. His treatment is progressing better than expected and barring complications, he should be back in the USA by October.

Grants by CTS to CMIC: In 2010 CTS has granted \$3,000 US to CMIC for 2010. The total CTS grants to CMIC is \$35,643US since 1996 averaging \$2,376 US per year over the last 15 years.

For further information about CTS or to make a donation to the 'Father Mac' Tribute Endowment Fund (2003) or the Jane MacMillan Tribute Fund (2005), or a bequest, please contact:

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This page was submitted by Blanche McMillan, 15 November 2010.



### Clan MacMillan International Centre at Finlaystone

**Chairman:**  
*George G. MacMillan  
of MacMillan and Knap*

**Trustees:**  
*David Brown, Scotland  
Peter MacMillan, England  
Lamar McMillin, USA  
Connall Bell, USA  
Phillip McMillan, USA  
Margaret Pool, New Zealand  
June Danks, Australia  
Blanche McMillan, Canada  
Robert Bell, USA*

**Clan Centre Curator**  
Pauline Simpson

**Genealogist & Editor:**  
Graeme Mackenzie.

The Clan MacMillan International Magazine is published twice a year, and sent to all members of *Clan MacMillan International (CMI)*, the worldwide organisation based at the home of Clan Chief George MacMillan. Subscriptions to CMI – which is open to all M'millans and septname bearers – help fund the work of the Clan Centre  
“...to collect, preserve, display and disseminate educational and historic material about Clan MacMillan heritage and its Septs worldwide for the benefit of clan members and other interested parties; and to assist the chief, clan societies and individual clanspeople around the world in the promotion of the clan and its ideals and charities”

(Clan Centre Mission Statement as amended at Clan MacMillan Conclave in August 2008).

The annual subscription for 1<sup>st</sup> Jan. to 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. 2011 is UK £15 or US \$25. Cheques – in UK pounds or US dollars only please – should be made out to *Clan MacMillan International* and sent to:

**Clan MacMillan International  
Centre, Finlaystone, Langbank,  
PA14 6TJ, Scotland.**

For further information about CMI and the Clan Centre please go to:  
[www.clanmacmillan.org](http://www.clanmacmillan.org)

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### From the Chief

2010 has been a momentous year for me: I joined the swelling ranks of the octogenarians in June. That historic event was marked by a deliciously unhealthy tea party here at Finlaystone, graced by (among many other old clan friends) my 'twin', Nigel, who had just turned eighty himself.

A week later I was on my way to a gathering of the Clan MacMillan Society of North America in Kingston, Ontario, where, by coincidence, I had spent two happy years in 1935/6. Anne Newman and her family (notably her sister Margaret) prepared a very interesting programme for us, which filled many of the inevitable gaps in my childhood memories.

We lunched sumptuously as we cruised among the Thousand Islands in glorious sunshine. Among many other interesting visits I particularly enjoyed our tour of the huge Fort Henry, built to defend the Kingston dockyards from the Americans in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and never actually used for the purpose. My chief recollection of it was of frequent visits to a ruin from which a solitary care-taker would emerge

at noon to fire off a gun ('assisted', as I thought, by me).

Huge restoration work has transformed it into a tourist's honey-pot. Our tour of it culminated in a highly entertaining 'period' lunch. A noon-day gun went off, but without my help. As always, the chief pleasure was to be among friends

As many clanspeople may know, Pauline Simpson, who for the past decade has been Curator of the Clan Centre and many other things besides, has decided to retire. Although she and I are trying hard to redistribute all the tasks she has undertaken, that's no simple job. Perhaps, though, the hardest struggle will be to find an alternative source of tact, cheerfulness and, above all, common sense.

Although I'm anxious to avoid exploiting her generous nature, I do take comfort from the fact that she'll still be well within bailing distance in time of trouble. We all owe her a huge debt; but perhaps I'm the only one to know just how huge it is.

**George.**

# News from the Clan around the World

## New team to lead Clan MacMillan's largest society

Robert & Fran Jones elected as President & Sec/Treas of the Appalachian Branch

Life Membership bestowed on the Bells after twenty three years of service to the clan

Robert L. Jones CTS was elected President of the Appalachian Branch of Clan MacMillan at their AGM during the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games in July. His wife Fran was elected to serve jointly as Secretary and Treasurer. They succeed Robert and Susan Bell who have held these offices for the last 23 years, and who were honoured for their long service at the AGM with the award of Life Memberships of the branch.

Ed McMillan, the existing Vice President, was joined in that office by Robert & Susan Bell's son Logan, David Pope, and "Chip" Terrell.

Logan Bell, who for the past 21 years has carried the torch for the opening ceremony of the Grandfather Mountain Games, has now been appointed Assistant Director of the opening Torch Light Ceremony by the Board of Directors of the Games.



Rob & Fran Jones at the MacMillan Cross in Knapdale during the 2009 Homecoming gathering in Scotland

The Appalachian Branch had it's usual busy year in 2010, sponsoring tents at the following Games:

Loch Norman, NC; Scott Games, AR (new this year); Greenville, SC; Grandfather Mountain, NC; Charleston, SC; Stone Mountain, GA; Richmond, VA.

## Australian Society: President's Report

The Ringwood Highland Games coped well with the changed weather pattern. It was cold and the earlier rain was replaced by some light showers. The highland dancers were transported to a nearby hall but the pipers were a highlight of the proceedings and played well for procession and the formalities. We greeted some visitors to the tent with refreshments. They are always very welcome.

Last Sunday was the Kirkin 'O the Tartan at Scots Church in Melbourne. The Minister, Rev. Douglas Robertson preached on "The People of the Book", noting the open book in the heraldic emblem and he talked about the changes with the Reformation in Scotland. He made reference to the contribution of the Scottish inventors of objects taken for granted in everyday life.

Scottish Gaelic was heard in the Bible readings and in the singing of the Scottish Gaelic Choir. Jonathan Quay, PLC Piping Tutor and Pipe Sergeant of the City of Hawthorn Highland Pipe Band piped the Clanspeople with their tartans

into and out of the church as well as providing entertainment over lunch.

We look forward to renewing friendships at our AGM on Sunday 24th October at 12 noon at 383 Toorak Road, South Yarra. Our guest Speaker will be John Blackman from Genealogical Society Victoria.

**June Danks, July 2010.**

The Australian Society Newsletter for July 2010 carries the story of veteran John Lachlan Macmillan (1869-1950), son of John and Isabella Macmillan of Hazelwood.

Jack Macmillan joined the 3rd Light Horse in November 1914. He served initially as a driver, but progressed through the ranks until he was made Sergeant the day after his unit embarked for Egypt in February 1915. In July of the same year he transferred to the West Australian 10th Light Horse, with whom he took part in the fatal charge at The Nek in Gallipoli on the 15th August 1915.

300 men from the Victorian 8th and 300 men from the West

Australian 10th Light Horse charged an impregnable line of Turkish trenches and lost two thirds of the Victorians and half of the Western Australians.

Soon after this Jack fought alongside 2nd Lt. Hugo Throssell in the action when the latter won the only VC to be awarded to the Australian Light Horse. In the same action Jack received a wound that necessitated his discharge from the army, and he returned home to become a stock and station agent. He died at Traralgon in 1950.

Sgt. Jack Macmillan on sentry duty in the trenches at Gallipoli

Photo 1915, courtesy of Australian War Memorial. Item number A05402



### Clan MacMillan in New Mexico

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## CLAN MACMILLAN SUMMARY DIRECTORY 2010-2011

Active branches, societies and family groups around the world

The full Clan MacMillan Directory can be found at [www.clanmacmillan.org/Societies&Branches.htm](http://www.clanmacmillan.org/Societies&Branches.htm)

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Margaret Pool with Father Mac and the New Zealand clan banner at the Great Return Gathering in 2002 in Scotland

## Pool steps into PM's shoes

### Founder of New Zealand Society succeeds Helen Clark as patron

The Clan MacMillan Society of New Zealand have elected CMI Trustee Margaret Pool as the new Patron of the Society. She succeeds the Rt. Hon. Helen Clark, the previous Prime Minister of New Zealand, who now has a position with the United Nations.

Margaret, who's descended from Lochaber Macmillans, founded the New Zealand Society in 1992 following a visit to Scotland for the clan gathering of 1991, when she witnessed the opening of the Clan Centre at Finlaystone by Jane MacMillan.

## Washington State MacMillans commission new clan banner

One of Clan MacMillan's newest branches has been particularly busy since its formation two years ago. The WA State branch have attended Highland Games this year at Whidbey Is., Skagit, and Tacoma.

The new clan banner they commissioned is pictured right, and a photograph of the cutting of his spectacular wedding cake by Vice President Richard MacMillan and his bride can be found on Page 2.



## Texas Branch face special challenge

Imagine going to a Scottish event and being told that "At this time the current combination of venue policies, resource limitations, and safety/liability concerns do not permit us to allow alcohol on the grounds of the Salado Scottish Clan Gathering and Highland Games". The response of one incredulous reader of this statement on the

games' website was simply "Are you crazy?"; but no, that's the policy in this corner of Texas.

It's not unique of course. Glasgow, Kentucky - home to one of the best Highland Games in the USA - is a dry county; but the games organisers seem to know how to get round this, having

Makers Mark bourbon and Glenmorangie Scotch as their official sponsors.

No doubt the Texas branch of the clan managed to live with it one way or another (how many Texas policemen know about sporran flasks?). One presumes they made up for it at the other events they attended, which included the recent Austin Celtic Festival.

## All change in North Central States



Jack MacMillan (above) has been elected the new President of the North Central States branch of Clan MacMillan. He succeeds Mike McMillen who will take on Jack's old role as Convener for Minnesota. Mike's wife Susan is the new

Treasurer, with Kim Wahl as Vice Pres., and Jerry MacMillan as Sec.

The branch will play a vital role in the organisation of the 2012 International Gathering of the Clan MacMillan Society of North America [CMSNA], whose President-Elect Barry McMillen was one of the founders of the North Central States Branch.

Events attended by the branch this year included the Minnesota Scottish Fair in Farmington in May, and Minnesota Renaissance Festival in August - a particularly colourful

affair which may form a central part of the CMSNA 2012 Gathering.

One of the more intriguing events in the North Central States calendar for 2011 is *A Scottish Ramble* in the Landmark Center, St. Paul, MN. It advertises itself with the slogan "Nothing's cooler than kilts in February".

### CMSNA 2012 Gathering MN

News of the 2012 gathering, which is provisionally scheduled for mid-August, will be posted at the following website address:

[www.mcmillen-design.com/klan/pages/gathering.html](http://www.mcmillen-design.com/klan/pages/gathering.html)



## A brief summary of the Wood Islands Clan MacMillan Family

presented by Frank MacMillan at the 1998 gathering of the Clan MacMillan Society PEI.

As we celebrate our 8<sup>th</sup> annual gathering, our thoughts turn to Thomas Douglas, 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Selkirk. If not for him, we would not be gathered here today.

Lord Selkirk was a member of the gentry who prepared himself for the life of a country gentleman. He started a plantation building, studied crops and livestock, and learned the obligations of a lord to his tenants. At the age of 28, as the younger son of a large family, he unexpectedly became the 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Selkirk and inherited a considerable fortune.

Selkirk and his wife, Jean, were very compassionate people and their hearts went out to the hundreds of poor highlanders whose homes and small land holdings had been confiscated for

the Highland Clearances. Tenants living on low production agricultural land were replaced by a small number of shepherds tending the very profitable raising of sheep.

The Selkirk family became interested in the colonization of British North America and purchased a large tract of land on Prince Edward Island. Lord Selkirk brought many of the displaced highlanders to the Belfast and Wood Islands areas. The first wave of Selkirk settlers arrived on our shores in 1803 on the ships *Polly*, *Dykes*, and *Oughten*, followed by the ships *Rambler* and *Spencer* in 1806. Our Wood Islands MacMillans, natives of the Isle of Colonsay, were transported from the port of Oban on the *Spencer* and they disembarked at Pinette on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September 1806. They wintered in quarters previously built for the 1803 immigrants.

During the winter of 1806-1807 at the Pinette settlement, Malcolm Hector MacMillan and his family built boats to carry them to Little Sands, where they hoped to establish a permanent settlement. Early one May morning they set sail for Little Sands and arrived in the late afternoon at a small beach below where the Pioneer Cemetery is located in Wood Islands West. They intended to continue on in the morning. Meanwhile, a couple of young men set out a net to catch some fish to supplement their diet. When they returned to retrieve their net, they found it not only full, but had sunk with the weight of the catch of herring. This resulted in

their father, Malcolm Hector, deciding that they would remain in Wood Islands as there was such a good supply of fish, lobster and other shellfish.

There were no roads in Wood Islands at the time. Boats were their only form of transportation. After a while a trail was made to Belfast where Malcolm Hector and his sons helped build the St. John's Presbyterian Church. Family history tells us how the families walked barefoot all the way to Belfast to attend church each Sunday. When they reached the church they would put on the nice clean shoes which they had carried all the way. Life in the new colony was strict. The ministers in those days did not permit the chewing of spruce gum or reading anything but the Bible on Sundays. Any kind of levity whatsoever was frowned upon as inappropriate by the clergy coming out from Scotland. Parents however allowed "bundling boards" to be used by their daughters and their boyfriends.

*To be concluded in the next issue*



## Volunteer required for the Clan Centre

As indicated elsewhere in these pages, Pauline Simpson is on the point of retiring from the post of Curator of the Clan Centre. She leaves a huge gap. The Trustees have given thought to how her many functions might be redistributed.

Of these the heaviest job is probably the maintenance of the database of members, collection, acknowledgment and banking of subscriptions and donations, and the presentation to Arthur (our Treasurer) of the 'raw figures' that

enable him to produce the annual accounts.

The job could be done by anyone who can operate a simple computer database (*MS Access* is the one we currently use), who has an aptitude for figures, and who's resident in the U.K.

It's hard to say how many hours it would take per year. At a guess, the job would average five or six hours per month - though some times of year are busier than others. Out-of-pocket expenses (telephone, postage etc.) would be reimbursed.

It's been pointed out that all the branches have volunteers in parallel positions. So I'm appealing enthusiastically, if not desperately, for some public-spirited member of the clan to volunteer for this vital role.

If you can't do the job yourself, why not offer someone else? We might even make them an honorary member of CMI.

Your ever-hopeful chief,

**George.**

of Barrichbeyan in Lorn do appear to have become Campbells; and their cousins, the lairds of Craignish — descendants of Dugald mac Malcolm mhic Mhaolain — were obliged as early as the 16th century to have the name Campbell added to their patronymic surname MacCoul (i.e. MacDhugaill), and later substituted for it.

In Lochaber, the earliest recorded Macmillans appear only with patronymics, and it's not until 1684 that we find a chief bearing the clan name — in the form of John McGilleveille in Murlagan. Twenty two years earlier however this man's father and grandfather had appeared in the royal records as Ewan and John Cameron. In 1662 the latter had been recorded as John M'Ewen alias Cameron, and in 1663 as Jon Cameron alias McEwin.

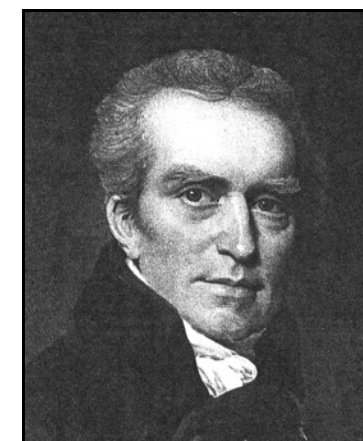
In 1746 the tacksman of Glenpeanmore is recorded by the government as Evan Cameron, and two years later as Evan McMillan; while his brother appears in the same 1746 record as Alexander Cameron alias McMillan. Thereafter the leading Macmillans on Loch Arkaiside usually appear, both in Cameron and royal records, as Macmillans. The same cannot be said however elsewhere in the Highlands, where these loyal followers of Lochiel were frequently called Camerons by those compiling the records at the time, and even by historians writing in the next century.

So, just as in Argyll siblings of Somerled MacMillan's ancestor were registered both as Macmillans or Bells, in Inverness-shire sons and daughters of one couple in Glenurquhart in the last decade of the 18th century are registered alternately as Macmillans and Camerons. When one of these children died young he was buried in Glenurquhart beneath a stone on which the name of the father was carved — with a gap to be filled in with the date of his own demise — as Finlay Macmillan. Finlay however left the Glen, died in the neighbouring parish of Inverness, and was eventually buried at Lochend (which is literally at the end of Loch Ness) alongside another son, as Finlay Cameron.

This Finlay Macmillan/Cameron was probably a second cousin of the famous Buchanan Macmillan who went from Glenurquhart to London to make his fortune as a printer to Parliament and the King. Whilst in England Buchanan often called himself Millan, though the name on his gravestone in Beaulieu Priory is MacMillan. Buchanan's father appears to be recorded with no less than four surnames (though in fact two are versions of the same name). He appears in the register of the Buchanan Society in Glasgow in 1746 as *Lieutenant Finlay McGilvaile alias Buchanan of Buntait*. He was remembered for heroic exploits as an officer in Lochiel's regiment at the battle of Culloden by the Chevalier Johnstone (whose life he probably saved) as Lt. Finlay Cameron; and in 1754 he appears in the Chisholm estate papers as *Finlay Cameron in Glackwill of Buntait*. Buntait was owned by the Chisholm chief — in whose household the young Buchanan Macmillan was educated — and Finlay appears a couple of other times in their papers bearing the name Macmillan. The last record of him is in 1786 when as *Findlay MacMillan in Buntate* he witnessed the will of James Grant of Shewglie.

Finlay's son was given the forename Buchanan because his father believed, along with most of the other leading MacMillans of the time, what William Buchanan of Auchmar had said in his 1723 history of the clan about the MacMillans being a sept of Clan Buchanan (nonsense though it was). The fact that the chief of the Lochaber Macmillans at the time believed it probably also accounts for his burial in 1768 (as John *McMelan of Murlican*, age 80) at Leny in Perthshire; which, though held in the Middle Ages by descendants of Maolan, had by then long been a Buchanan home.

Examples of other MacMillans being given Buchanan as an alternative surname can be found in areas where the latter clan was strong. So we find in 1745 in the parish of Buchanan, Stirlingshire, a *Donald McIlvoil or Buchanan*; and in 1768 in Little Dunkeld, Perthshire, a *John McMullen or Buchanan*.



*Buchanan Millan, son of Finlay McGilvaile, alias Buchanan, alias Cameron, alias Macmillan*

The most memorable instance of this however comes in the form of another man who bore three surnames. Peter McMillan married Janet McLaren in 1819 in Killin, Perthshire, as a Cameron; had two children in the parish of Balquidder as McMillans (John, born 1820, and Duncan, 1823); emigrated as a Buchanan; and had more children in the township of McNab, Ontario, as a McMillan. Once again the key to this phenomenon is not so much any uncertainty by Peter about his surname — he simply would never himself have used such a thing in Scotland — but what the writer of the record thought it should be. This is most obvious with the ship's passenger list which records Peter's emigration, since it was compiled by the Buchanan who organised his migration.

The lesson for all descendants of Scottish Highlanders researching their family history is to try not to think of our Gaelic-speaking and mostly illiterate ancestors taking, using, or changing their own surnames; but to understand that the surnames they are recorded by at different times and in different places are those given them by others: Government officials from the lowlands, anti-Gaelic clerics, or the representatives of Highland chiefs anxious to big-up their own clans. So in Ross-shire some Mackenzies are really Mathesons; in Inverness-shire some Frasers are really Lees; and in Argyll, some Campbells are really MacIvers. None however had as many potential aliases as the MacMillans.

# What's In A Name

Graeme Mackenzie

Recent correspondence with a group busy researching MacMillan and other families in eastern Ontario has raised the question of people called Cameron who are really MacMillans. To understand this phenomenon one has to appreciate the way that surnames were used — or in fact, not used — by most people in the Highlands of Scotland before the mid-19th century.

Although surnames first appear in Scotland in the Middle Ages, they were not generally used in the Gaidhealtachd until early modern times. At that time the surname was confined to members of the clan *fine* — the closest blood relations of the chief — with ordinary clansmen and women continuing to use a combination of given names, patronymics, and nicknames.

In an age and a society where the surname commemorated a famous ancestor after whom you, or more importantly, your chief, wished to be remembered, even the *fine* had a problem about which surname to use — since they had many ancestors, a number of whom might be worth remembering. So, just to quote the most obvious example, early descendants of the *Dombnui mac Raonuil mhic Somhairlie* who gave his name to Clan Donald, were more likely to call themselves MacSomhairlie than MacDhomnuil or MacDonald; a surname that they would have shared with the descendants of *Dubghall mac Somhairlie* who might otherwise have called themselves, MacDougalls.

Similarly, early descendants of Dugald mac Malcolm mhic Gilchrist Maolan/Gillemaol might have called themselves MacDougall, MacMalcolm or MacMhaolain (or indeed, MacGilchrist); and in fact a substantial number of them in Lorn did end up as MacCallums or MacCalmans (i.e. MacMalcolms).

This is the process by which one clan is born out of another; so Clan Somhairlie gave birth to MacDougalls and MacDonalds; and when some “MacDonalds” in due course chose to call themselves after Donald’s son Alastair, Clan MacAlister was born. It’s also the process whereby some septs come into being. So some “MacMillans” are called [Mac]Baxters after the son of the MacMillan chief who disguised himself as a baker; while Browns recall the brown-haired son of MacMillan of Carradale who recovered the cattle that were stolen by a raiding party from Atholl.

The sept of Bell bear a name that is in fact another version of the stem of MacMillan/*Mac-Mhaol-ain* [Mh in Gaelic sounds the same as Bh, so Mhaol=Bhaol or Bell]; and when we come to Bells we come to clear cases of relatively modern individual clanspeople being recorded with both the surnames, MacMillan and Bell.

A striking example is actually to be found in the family of our late clan historian Somerled MacMillan. Though his father Samuel was born in Glasgow in 1880 as a McMillan, Samuel’s father John had been married in Oban in 1872 as a Bell. This John Bell/McMillan had one brother baptised in Oban as a Bell, but their two older brothers had been baptised on the isle of Mull as McMillans.

While it’s probable that Somerled’s grandfather John had chosen to have his son baptised as a McMillan — because in Glasgow it might not be understood, as it would have been in Oban that Bells were MacMillans — it’s unlikely that John’s father would have chosen the different surnames given to his sons. That decision would have been made for the illiterate labourer by the Ministers or Session Clerks who wrote out the registers.



One can see this process at work most dramatically in the mid-18th century parish register of Inverary. In 1729 it records the marriage of Archibald and Christian McIlvoile (i.e. MacGhillehmaoil), and the birth of several children to them in the following years. In 1743 however their surnames become Bell; and all the other McIlvoiles in Glens Aray & Shira, of whom there were many in those days, undergo a similar nominal transmutation in the 1750s. By the 1760s the phonetic form of this ancient Gaelic version of MacMillan has totally disappeared from this OPR. Happily however the daughter of Angus Bell in Tullich remembered what her name really stood for in 1897 when erecting a monument to her parents in the Inverary burial ground (pictured above - note *Mac Illembaoil* at the top of the stone).

What happened in Argyll in the late 18th and early 19th centuries is obviously the result of an arbitrary decision by the authorities to get rid of difficult Gaelic names; and one is tempted to say that those on the receiving end of this forced re-naming couldn’t have cared less, because they knew what clan they belonged to. But did they?

According to Inverary histories, MacMillans there using the name MacMhaolain came from Knapdale, while those called MacGhillehmaoil came from Lochaber. This was an important distinction in the first half of the 18th century when most of the Knapdale MacMillans were followers of the Hanoverian Campbells, while MacGhillehmaoils were considered to be members of the Jacobite Clan Cameron.

We have no evidence of MacMillans as such in Knapdale accepting the name Campbell as an indication of allegiance to the Earls or Dukes of Argyll. However, the *McYeills* or *McIgbheills* (i.e. McIlvoills)

# Got Matar Update

Andrew MacMillan



Computer Training Room at Got Matar School in Kenya

Just four years have passed since I first called on friends and relations for help in raising funds to enable the *Got Matar Community Development Group* to build a new 600-place secondary school in Western Kenya. The combination of a generous response by you and others to this appeal and of hard and diligent work by both the Community and the local authorities has worked very well. The basic school infrastructure is in place. This month the first pupils, enrolled in January 2007, are taking their final school certificate exams. We hope that they will do well!

To have reached this point so quickly is an amazing achievement. I still find it hard to get to grips with the thought that this partnership between the Community and donors, has already enabled almost 600 children to attend secondary school, and that we can look forward to 150 new children coming on board every year in future. This will bring huge benefits to a rural community in which, until now, few children could continue their education after finishing primary school.

The school now has 4 large blue-roofed blocks. These include a total of 12 classrooms, a school office/teachers’ room, a library, a small multipurpose science laboratory and a computer training room. This year, with government funding, a

mains electricity connection has been provided. Another big landmark was the start of computer use in the school, with the installation this month of 20 laptops in the computer training centre. These computers were paid for largely by friends of George, in celebration of his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The school is managed by the Ministry of Education which supplies a number of staff and meets part of the operating costs. Other costs are met by levies on pupils. Currently 173 of the poorest pupils, mostly orphans, have been awarded bursaries that pay some of these extra costs and enable them to buy uniforms and enjoy school lunches.

There is still much to be done to improve facilities and equipment at the school, to raise the quality of the education that children receive and to support the moves to extend skills training to the community as a whole. If you feel pleased, as I do, with the results achieved so far by the Community, I hope that you will continue to help in these further exciting developments.

The next major investment in the school is for the construction of a 150-place dormitory for girls. This will enable many girls to stay in school and to perform better in their studies. Apart from saving them from the risks of walking to and from school in the dark, it will

reduce the heavy domestic calls on their time when they stay at home. The dormitory is now being planned by young Australian architects who have set up the NGO called *bricks and cartwheels*; see [www.bricksandcartwheels.org](http://www.bricksandcartwheels.org). They are involving the community and pupils in the design process, and will use the construction for practical training in building skills.

Other facilities still needed include a full-scale science laboratory, on-site teachers’ housing and a school office. Eventually four more classrooms may be required to cut the number of pupils in each class and hence improve the teacher-to-pupil ratio.

The school badly needs more donor support for the continuation of the bursary programme on a substantial scale, with a goal of awarding at least 25 new bursaries each year. These are vital to enable orphans — about one third of all school-age children because of the HIV/AIDS onslaught — to attend the school.

Most donor commitments have now ended, with the result that the programme remains badly underfunded. Annual bursary costs per child are expected to rise to £130 (Euro 150) this year (or £520/Euro 600 for 4 years), partly because of the need to pay for computer O&M costs. Please think seriously about funding a bursary or two!

## Joan Macmillan 1913-2001: Champion Spaniel Breeder



Deep in the heart of the English Midlands is a kennels bearing the very Scottish name of Lochranza. They were founded in the 1930s by Millicent Joan Macmillan, who was born on the island of Arran in 1913. Joan won numerous prizes in her long career as a breeder of Pugs, Greyhounds, Labradors, Poodles, and especially Cocker Spaniels. Joan Macmillan’s story, and pictures of

many of the champions she bred, including *Lochranza Dancing Master* (below), can be found at [www.jayzander.co.uk/lochranza.htm](http://www.jayzander.co.uk/lochranza.htm)



## More News from the Clan around the World

### Glengarry & Ottawa Valley Branch



In June the driving tour of Glengarry (pictured above), sponsored by the Glengarry Historical Society and Clan MacMillan of the Glengarry and Ottawa Valley Branch, was a great

success. It started at the one-room Big Beaver School at Laggan, and finished at the Dunvegan Museum. This year the tour took the participants to Baptist Church, Breadalbane; an early mill site on Creek Road; St Andrew's Round Church, Dalhousie Mills; Abbey for the Arts and St. Margaret's Church, Glen Nevis; Baptist Cemetery, North Lancaster; Bishops House at St. Raphael's and the former Kenyon Township Hall at Greenfield.

This tour appealed to MacMillans, historical buffs, and visitors to the region.

On Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup> the Clan MacMillan Branch of Glengarry and Ottawa Valley had a table at the Maxville Highland Games. We had a good group of MacMillans taking part in the march past at noon.

Photos of the Clan MacMillan North America Gathering at Kingston in June were available for the numerous visitors to peruse. A number of friends and relatives stopped by the table during the day to say 'Hello'.

*Anne Heath Neuman*

### Pacific Branch

#### The Seaside Games, Ventura, CA

Seaside, the last games of the season, started out with lovely weather on both Saturday and Sunday with just a slight breeze. While the winds did pick up on both days, we never had to hang onto the tent for dear life like we've had to do in past years. Most of the regulars stopped by on one or both

days ... Linda and Charlie Cooke, Joan McMillin and newly weds Jane and Bill. Mac and Linda MacMillan came on both days and Megan stopped by also. Not a bad ending to the games season ... Seaside is one of my favorite games due to its laid back atmosphere and cool weather.

*Kathleen Nohe*



## The Foundation of the US Marine Corps



As ex-marine Mike McMillen pointed out in an email on the 10th November, that day was the 235th anniversary of the founding of the US Marine Corps, which took place at a pub in Philadelphia called the Tun Tavern (pictured above) owned by one Robert Mullan.

The first commander of the Marines was another innkeeper,

Samuel Nicholas; and apparently he and Mullan, who was commissioned as Nicholas' second in command, found that the offer of free beer was a particularly potent recruiting weapon.

Marines were already a feature of the British forces then trying to suppress the American Revolution; and in August 1775 George Washington began the process of creating a similar American corps by assigning infantry from his army to man two armed schooners that he had fitted out for action on the New England coast.

"Rules for the Regulation of the Navy of the United Colonies" were drawn up over a few pints in the Tun Tavern at the beginning of

November, and submitted by John Adams and the Marine Committee to the Continental Congress, who passed the relevant motion setting up the "Continental Marines" on 10th November 1775.

US Marines the world over enjoy a drink on the anniversary, and remember Mullan's "Tun Tavern".



This has many consequences for the clan, as similar figures have for other clans, and for the potential re-connection of the Scottish diaspora with Scotland.

It was interesting to note that some people at the end of the Massed Gathering of the Clans in Edinburgh in 2009 did suggest that it might be worthwhile exploring the possibility of the Massed Gathering rotating between different countries around the world with Scotland occurring most often.

The frequencies of certain surnames in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland suggest that there is a strong connection with Ireland for these surnames – the Scots/Irish. This leads to the question of when the M'Millans moved there and when this variant was first found in these areas – part of the story of migration and origins.

It would be interesting to see the extent to which other information corroborates the information provided here, and to see how this fits in with our knowledge of particular family histories.

To me, the information is a tempter.... It raises a number of significant questions regarding the migration of M'Millans over the centuries. It would be great if work could be done to connect the work of Graeme Mackenzie on the early history of the M'MILLANS to more recent times.

Please take this as a starting point for discussion.

### Appendix B:

#### *Some Comments on the Uncertainty of the Numbers of People and Frequencies*

There are a number of factors about the data and in the analysis that need to be taken into account when comparing the data within and across countries. Therefore it is better to take the data as providing indications rather than being exact. Having said that, some of the differences between countries and surnames are so large as to be unlikely to have been caused by any of these factors. Some of the factors are stated below.

The data for the USA and Canada was based on entries in telephone directories, and those for Europe and Australasia on electoral registers. Therefore, there is an assumption that the frequencies obtained will be comparable. Likewise there is an assumption that there is little variation between surnames of family size within a country.

The data was obtained for the period 2002 to 2005. There is an assumption that the frequency data for different countries did not vary significantly over that period.

The 2005 population estimates for each country were obtained from Wikipedia, whose data were based on UN figures. This data gives an indication of the size of the populations at that time.

The number of people that a given frequency relates to depends on the size of the population of the area/region/country that the frequency applies to e.g. in India, a frequency of 0.01 (the minimum) equates to about 11 people whereas a frequency of .25 would be required to represent 1 person at the country level in New Zealand.

As people of a family tend to locate together and hence distribution of people with a given surname will be heterogeneous across a country, between countries, and within a region, care must be taken when looking at surname frequencies as the top frequencies tend to increase as the size of the areas examined decreases. This is because the cluster of people with a surname is part of a smaller number of people from which frequency is calculated. This has a particular impact across countries e.g. New Zealand has a similar population size to Scotland yet New Zealand is a country and Scotland is a region of the UK, and the regions of New Zealand are much smaller than Scotland. This was one of the reasons for using approximate populations as a means of examining distribution of surnames.

*Part 3 of this study will look in more detail at the distribution of the name in its various forms in Australia and New Zealand.*



# M'MILLANS ACROSS THE WORLD - Part 2

Duncan J. McMillan (Wellington, NZ)

*The first part of this detailed analysis was published in the last issue, and a third part will appear in a future issue. The whole article, with supporting tables and coloured maps, will in due course be put on our website.*

## Surname Distribution in the USA and Canada

40 of the 47 M'MILLAN surnames occur in the USA, and 16 of the 40 occur in Canada. For most of the surnames there are more people in the USA than in Canada with a particular surname. The exceptions to this rule seem to be: MACMULLIN, MCILMOYLE, MCMULLON, MACMILAN.

The four surnames with the largest numbers of people in the USA are MCMILLAN, MCMULLEN, MCMILLEN, MCMILLIAN, and the four surnames in Canada are MCMILLAN, MACMILLAN, MCMULLEN, MCMULLIN.

**MACMILLAN**  
The highest frequency of MACMILLANS in the USA is in Wyoming, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Massachusetts.

The highest frequency in Canada is in Alberta, Northwest Territories and New Brunswick

**MCMILLAN**  
The highest frequency of MCMILLANS in the USA is in Montana, Mississippi,

Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina. Noting that Montana is adjacent to the Canadian states of Alberta and Saskatchewan.

The highest frequency of the surname in Canada is in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba.

**MCMILLEN**  
The highest frequency of MCMILLENs in the USA is in Mississippi, West Virginia, Kansas, Ohio.

The highest frequency of the surname in Canada is in Saskatchewan.

**MCMILLIAN**  
The highest frequency of MCMILLIANs in the USA is in Mississippi, Alabama and North Carolina

The highest frequency of the surname in Canada is in the North-West Territories.

**MCMULLEN**  
The highest frequency of MCMULLENs in the USA is in Mississippi, Nebraska, and Pennsylvania.

The highest frequency of the surname in Canada is in Nova Scotia with Alberta and North-West Territories almost as high.

**MCMULLIN**  
The highest frequency of MCMULLINs in the USA is in Utah.

The highest frequency of the surname in Canada is in

Nova Scotia with New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Manitoba almost as high.

It would be interesting to see if these distributions are related to particular families that moved to the USA or Canada. Perhaps some future work will find this out, if work has not already been done on this.

**Some Overall Comments**  
Care needs to be taken when trying to draw conclusions from the information because of the many reasons why a particular surname may have a high frequency of occurrence in a particular country, region etc, particularly where there are only small numbers of people with a particular surname.

However, the information provided through the website shows that there are significant variations in the surnames and frequency of the surnames between and within countries.

The derived information about the numbers of people shows that the USA has the largest number of M'MILLANS and variants of that surname by many multiples, and that a number of other countries have larger numbers of M'MILLANS and related surnames than Scotland.

# CMSNA International Gathering 2010

Margaret Heath Taylor



The gathering at Kingston, Ontario, held several secrets that the attendees unwrapped each day. The city may be young for an eastern North American city (just over 200 years), but it has its charm and past. The Haunted Walks at night of Fort Henry, the old district of Kingston, and the Pub Walk, told of stories of people who have long gone and yet not left.



The old section of the city is part of a World Heritage site. On the grounds of the Military College are the foundations of the French *Fort Frontenac*. Both the French and English considered Kingston a strategic military location.

After the American Revolution, the area was populated by refugees from the south, known as United Empire Loyalists. To show one's allegiance some of the homes fly the British flag that does not include the St. Patrick's cross for Ireland (The Queen Anne Flag).

The boat tour of the 1,000 Islands included a lovely lunch and a surprise acknowledgement of two birthdays; Chief George and Nigel Macmillan, whose 80th birthdays were just weeks apart in June. The

Cruise announcer told of the history of the area and pointed out small cottages to large luxury homes on the St. Lawrence River. From the boat you could view both rocky islands and the luscious green island farms that dot Canada and the United States.

The tour of Fort Henry was done by a young Highland piper, describing the life and times of the people who lived at the fort; and the Victorian Era Luncheon that followed was an experience. There were "Principles" to ensure that we all behaved accordingly; and they gave a show at the end of the meal.

The next stop was the Royal Military College, one of the oldest in North America, which gave us a lesson on artillery from times past to present. The Electronic and Communication Museum provided the history of signaling from fire and smoke signals to the electronic communications used in the last ten years. Unfortunately the rainy day

did not allow too much walking around the grounds.

The CMSNA's meeting went well. Afterwards a lecture was given by Peter W. Johnson UE, a Military Historical speaker. The Community of the Tonsured Servant had their service in which Norma MacMillan and Harold MacMillan were invested. In the evening the Banquet was held in an old 19th century converted church, with Sir John A. Macdonald (the first Prime Minister of Canada) and his wife, Lady Agnes - played by Brian and Renee Porter - as special guests.

The last day was a leisurely bus trip through Prince Edward County with lunch at the Waring House; a tour of George McMullin's house, now the Picton Legion; and a stop at a Winery. A perfect day ended with a barbeque on the shores of Quinte's Bay.

*A selection of colour pics from the gathering will be found on Page 23*





Ashe County, NC

## *Eighteenth Century Elopement - Twenty First Century Reunion*

*Graeme Mackenzie tells the story of John MacMillan and Marion McLeamont's flight from Scotland and the discovery of their descendants throughout the USA*

In the dark of the early morning one day in 1787 twenty four year old Marion MacLeamont slipped secretly out of her father's house in Edinburgh to meet her forbidden fiancé, John MacMillan. She went without telling her parents or her brothers and sisters — though she's said to have risked lighting a candle so she could gaze one last time at her sleeping siblings — because she and John were running away, and heading for somewhere they could never be brought back from.

According to the story handed down in their New World family, John was intended by James McLeamont to marry his eldest daughter, but fell in love instead with her younger sister; and when her father forbade their union, John and Marion decided to elope. They're said to have been married on board ship, on the date (1 Sep 1787) recorded in their family bible.

Since their first child is also said to have been born on the ship (on the 20th July 1788 according to the bible) their passage is assumed to have been a protracted one. It's not known where in America they landed, but wherever it was a long overland journey must have followed since John and Marion settled in the far north west corner of North Carolina — in an area which was then part of Wilkes Co., but which in 1799 became Ashe Co.

Though John MacMillan's father is only recorded as a weaver and a wax chandler, his runaway son was obviously an educated man since, when Ashe County was created, he became it's first Clerk of the Court. He also became a relatively wealthy man, receiving numerous grants of land in the area, which were divided amongst his eight surviving children

and their families following his death on 23rd February 1844.

Marion had pre-deceased her husband, dying at Nathans Creek on the 15th April 1839. Their well preserved gravestones can be found in the Elk Creek Cemetery at Amelia, on County Road #93, on land that once belonged to them (see photos below).

John and Marion's nine children are shown on the family tree on pages 12 & 13, along with some of their many descendants. A more exhaustive, but probably by no means complete account of them can be found as Family No. 65 in Project MAOL — a project considerably inspired by the extraordinary way in which this family was brought to my attention during my early years as Curator of the Clan MacMillan Centre.



## Spring wedding in Mississippi



Dr. Lamar McMillin, a Trustee of Clan MacMillan International, and his wife Carol McMillin (USA Secretary of the Clan MacMillan Society of North America) are pleased to announce the engagement of their son David to Grace Lo. They plan to marry in Natchez, MS, on 9 April 2011. The happy couple are pictured left.



## Barry McMillen "Happy to be alive"

Barry McMillen, the President-Elect of the Clan MacMillan Society of North America, was diagnosed last year with cancer, which he's currently being treated for in Argentina, the home of his wife Cris. The prognosis currently looks quite encouraging, and Barry is confident he'll be ready to take up office with CMSNA next year. It's a tough struggle though as Barry himself tells us.

*I am dealing with head and neck cancer as well as Naso Pharyngeal Carcinoma. I had three tumors, two in the neck and one in the nasal cavity. My first phase of treatment was combined radiology/chemotherapy scheduled for seven weeks but was interrupted by several hospital stays due to the effects of radiation on blood count, red, white and platelet. At one time my platelet count fell from 110,000 to less than 10,000, which means I virtually had no immune system and was rushed to the hospital with a temperature of 106; that was a close one.*

*At the completion of that phase I had a month to recuperate, and then went on to chemotherapy. That consisted of four days of constant infusion of chemotherapy drugs, and ran into another problem. I lack a certain enzyme that assists the liver to rid the body of the toxic chemo drugs, so at one month I still am dealing with the side effects of the chemo drugs; not fun at all. Now the doctors are considering whether or not more chemotherapy is necessary with different drugs. This has been a trying time, to say the least, as I have been fighting this since last March.*



## Laura Cecilia McPhee Strauss (1923-2010) Dr. Wallace Patrick Strauss (1923-2010)

We were sorry to hear the news of the deaths in successive months this year of Laura Strauss (died 6 May) and her husband Pat (died 8 June). Laura was the Macmillan descendant, being a great-great-great-great-granddaughter of Finlay Macmillan, Tacksman of Buntait, Glenurquhart — who is referred to in the article about surnames later in this issue — a great-grandson of John Macmillan of Murlagan, chief of the Lochaber clan.

Laura was born in Ontario, served in Nova Scotia and Newfoundland during the war with the RCAF, and after becoming a teacher decided to emigrate to Australia. Laura sailed from Vancouver and met her future husband when Pat joined the ship in Honolulu en route to Sydney where he was planning research for his doctorate. They were married in Australia, but in due course returned to North America, and settled in the United States. After earning a master's degree in Michigan, Laura became a librarian there — first in Hadley, and then in Lapeer.

According to her daughter Jane, Laura's passions were bird watching, gardening, travel, and all things Scottish. The latter interest led her to research her Scots ancestors — Macphees and Macmillans — and eventually to contact Graeme at the Clan Centre, who turned out to be a distant cousin. Laura visited Scotland on a number of occasions, and participated in various gatherings over here — particularly of course the Great Return in 2002.

Laura's husband Patrick was born in Missouri, but his family moved to California in the 1930s, where Pat began the education at Berkeley that was to lead to a career as a historian — though initially he studied engineering. He served with the army during the war in Honolulu, before returning to California to complete his bachelor's and later his master's degrees. He studied in Paris before beginning his PhD at Columbia, and setting off on the trip to do research in Australia.

Pat's long and distinguished academic career took him to Hong Kong and Shanghai, as well as to various universities in Canada and the US. He was a leading light in the AAUP (American Association of University Professors); and after he and Laura had retired to Belfast, Maine, he helped found the Belfast Institute of Lifelong Learning and Belfast Senior College.

His hobbies apparently included stamp-collecting and boosting local restaurants — the latter something that his wife and daughter no doubt enjoyed as much as he did. We're grateful to Jane for providing us with these memories (she's pictured below with her mother Laura at the London, ON, gathering in 2005).

## News of Clanspeople around the World

**Dr. Susan MacMillan Kains**, a descendant of Archie Murlagan's daughter Margaret MacMillan (1799-1847), has been working for the last four years as a Hospital Chaplain.

She's changed denominations, leaving the Unitarians and joining the United Church of Christ - into whose ministry she was ordained on 10th October 2010 in Rapid City,

South Dakota (she's pictured right during her ordination).

Susan's also recently been installed as director of Pastoral Care at Rapid City Regional Hospital where half of the patients are Lakota Sioux Indians - a people whose culture Susan has some acquaintance with, having been part of a Lakota family who practice their traditional religion.



**Laurie Macmillan** from New Zealand, but now resident in England, is relaxing between jobs. In what he claims was only his second game in two years he won the 2010 UK New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants Golf Championship, and the prize for the shot closest to the pin. He's pictured below receiving his prizes.



**Cmdr. Andrew G. McMillan** of the New Zealand Navy received the *Distinguished Service Decoration* in the Queen's Birthday Honours in June 2010. Andrew, who's the son of NZ Society members Robert & Betty McMillan of Levin, led the dive team responsible for the location and filming of the wreck of the "Princess Ashika" - a ferry boat which sank off Tonga in February 2009, and amongst whose drowned passengers was Danny MacMillan from Christchurch, a scientific graduate of Aberdeen University who was working in agriculture and animal husbandry.

The Christchurch area was recently hit by a serious earthquake; but Avon McMillan, President of the Clan MacMillan Society of New Zealand, reports that none of their members were injured or suffered severe property damage or loss.

### A Fine Romance with unexpected Clan Connections

**Sandra Jean Miller** of Cowichan Bay, BC - better known to all as **Sandy Bitner** - claims descent from Allan MacMillan of Glenpean [she's the daughter of Elaine McParlon, who was the daughter of Ida "Babe" McMillan, who was the daughter of Allan Ronald McMillan, who was the son of Hugh McMillan, who was the son of Ewen McMillan, who was the eldest son of Allan Glenpean].

Sandy did a great deal to enliven the visit of the Chief, Clan Genealogist, and Clan Centre Curator to British Columbia in 2008, and has since kept Graeme busy with a stream of genealogical material and amusing tales. Nothing however can surpass this story of coinciding family histories.

Sandy moved to Duncan, BC, which is not far from Cowichan Bay, in 1962, with her husband and young son, and her daughter Dianne was born there in 1964. Sandy's husband Les died in 1986, and though she remarried she had been alone for a long time when last year she met and fell for a man called Jim Brown. He was the son of James Brown who had emigrated from Perthshire, Scotland, and settled in Duncan, BC, in 1950/51. Jim had no idea, until Sandy told him, that Brown was a sept name of MacMillan, and that they therefore both belonged to the same clan; but that was only the first, and by no means the most amazing, of things that Sandy and Jim shared.

Jim had worked with a neighbour of Sandy's, plus they shared many friends during the time their children were growing up, but

they were completely unaware of each other until they actually met in January 2010 - some 48 years after Sandy arrived in Duncan.

Jim had been married and had had a daughter called Rhonda - who in due course married a man called Jeff Mawbey, who was father to daughters Heather and Chrystal. The marriage didn't last, and Jeff later had another daughter - who bears the distinguished, but unusual forename of Mackenzi - by a girl called Dianne, who just happens to be Sandy's daughter of the same name.

Mackenzi and her half sisters Heather and Chrystal naturally saw a lot of each other, and Sandy had therefore known them for many years before meeting their grandfather. In fact of course, she was their de facto step-grandmother for eight years; but when she took Jim to meet Dianne neither she, nor Jim, were aware that they were grandparents to half-sisters - until Dianne told them. Apparently the girls think it's very funny - and very lovely - that their grandparents are now an item; Sandy and Jim of course agree.

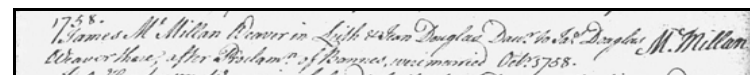
*Sandy & Jim are pictured below.*



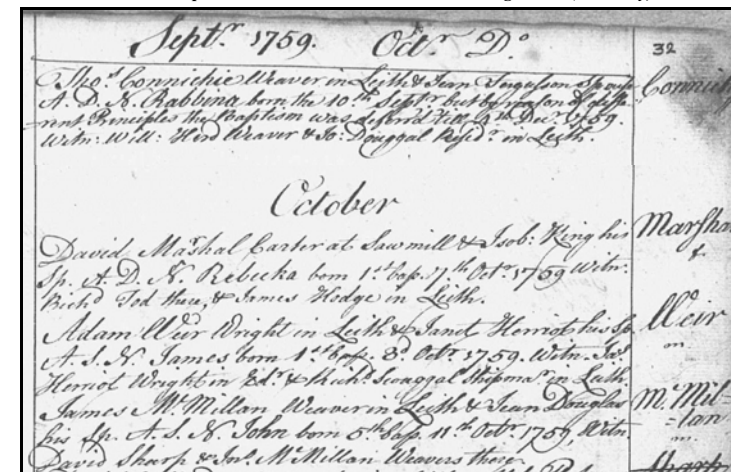
I first heard of John and Marion McLymont (as her surname is spelt in the family bible) when their great-great-grand-daughter Mrs. Hazel Burnett came to visit the Clan Centre in about 1994. She lived in Kerrville, TX, and brought with her — or later sent — copies of extracts from the family bible, pictures of the graves, and maps locating the various family sites in Ashe County. Later she was to donate to the Clan Centre an old blanket that had belonged to John and Marion — and which it turned out, might have been woven by his father. Though Hazel had all this material about her ancestors, she had no information about their family in Scotland, and asked me if I could identify John McMillan's parents, and find any record of his birth or baptism in Edinburgh.

Though there were contradictory accounts in America about John's birthday (some said 11 Nov. and others 13 Oct.), they all agreed he'd been born in 1756 — which is what his gravestone said — and were all wrong (another example of the fact that few people in the 18th & 19th centuries knew how old they were).

It was not difficult to discover that John McMillan had been born on the 5th October 1759, and baptised in the parish of Edinburgh on the 11th of October (so some truth had survived in the oral tradition). He was the eldest son of James McMillan, weaver, and Jean Douglas, who had been married in South Leith (Leith is the port for Edinburgh) in October 1758.



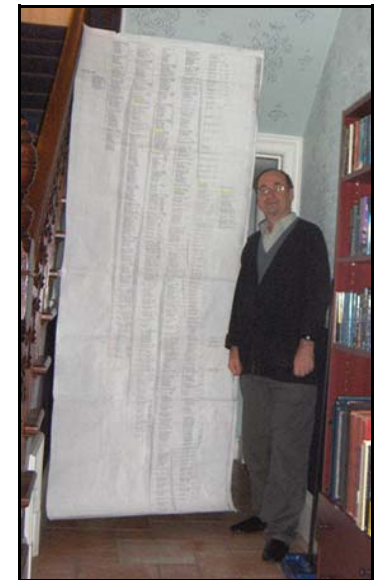
*Above: Marriage entry for John McMillan's parents in South Leith OPR  
Below: Baptism record John McMillan in Edinburgh OPR (last entry)*



Some months after I heard the story of John and Marion from Hazel Burnett, I made my first visit as Clan MacMillan genealogist to the USA. On the opening night of Father Mac's 1995 gathering in Chautauqua, NY, a lady handed me an envelope and asked me to have a look at the family history it contained when I had a moment, in case I could add anything to it. It too was the story of the eloping couple from Edinburgh, who were the great-great-grandparents of Barbara Metz's husband, Charles Clay McMillan ("Charley Jr.") of Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Charles and Barbara had no knowledge of Hazel, and were delighted to be put in touch with her — and to be told what I had discovered about John's family in Edinburgh.

In 1996, when we had a big International Gathering of the clan at Finlaystone, one of the genealogical highlights of it was the presentation to the Clan Centre of the largest family tree in our collection, which detailed hundreds of descendants of John McMillan and Marion McLeamont. The compiler of this amazing work was Gene MacMillan from East China, Michigan — a great-great-grandson of James, the eldest son of John and Marion — who came to the gathering with his son Keith who lived in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Not long after the 1996 gathering we were visited in the Clan Centre by a family group from California who were also descendants of John and Marion;



*Graeme with Gene MacMillan's giant chart showing descendants of John McMillan and Marion MacLeamont*

and for many years now I've corresponded intermittently with their cousin Claude Wells in Maryland, who has put a great deal of material about this family on the internet (see the URL of his website at the top of the family tree on the following pages).

One of the most rewarding aspects of being a clan genealogist is the connecting up of hitherto unknown cousins, and this family constitutes the best example of it; bringing together descendants of John & Marion in North Carolina, Texas, Pennsylvania, California, Maryland, Michigan and Wisconsin.

For many years now it's been my hope that someone might be able to organise a gathering of the far-flung descendants of John and Marion since, though we've been able to make many aware of hitherto unknown cousins in different parts of the States, some have still not yet met each other. It looks as if such a get-together of their descendants may be possible as part of the 2012 gathering of the Clan MacMillan Society of North America which is being planned to take place in the twin cities (Minneapolis/St. Paul) in Minnesota — a venue ideally placed midway between the east and west coasts of the USA.

Descendants who might wish to attend should let us know, or keep an eye on

[www.mcmillen-design.com/clan/pages/gathering.html](http://www.mcmillen-design.com/clan/pages/gathering.html)

# Descendants of John M'millan and Marion M'leamont

Project MAOL Family No. 65

James M'millan === Jean Douglas  
B: e.1720 SCT ? B: 2 Aug 1732  
M: Oct. 1758 South Leith, ML, SCT  
South Leith, ML, SCT Dau. of James Douglas

The information shown here is largely taken from a huge paper tree given to the Clan MacMillan Centre by Gene McMillan, East China, MI, in 1996; and from the online genealogy created by Claude Wells, Abingdon, MD, which is at [www.genealogy.com/users/w/e/l/Claude-E-Wells/index.html](http://www.genealogy.com/users/w/e/l/Claude-E-Wells/index.html)

