

*The Clan Centre*

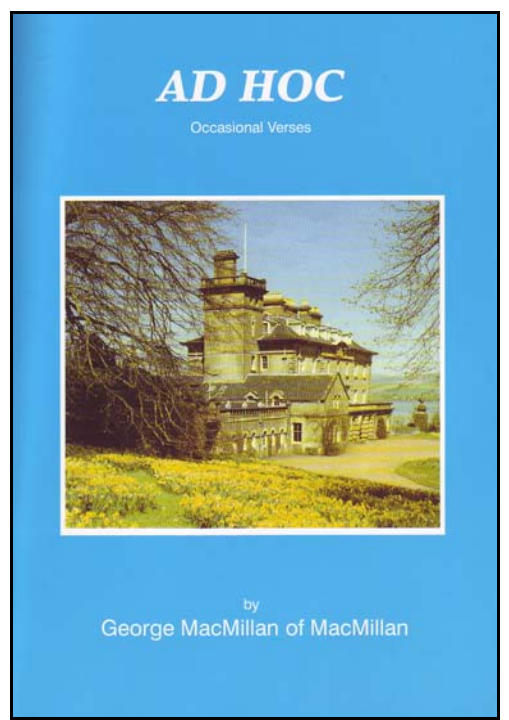
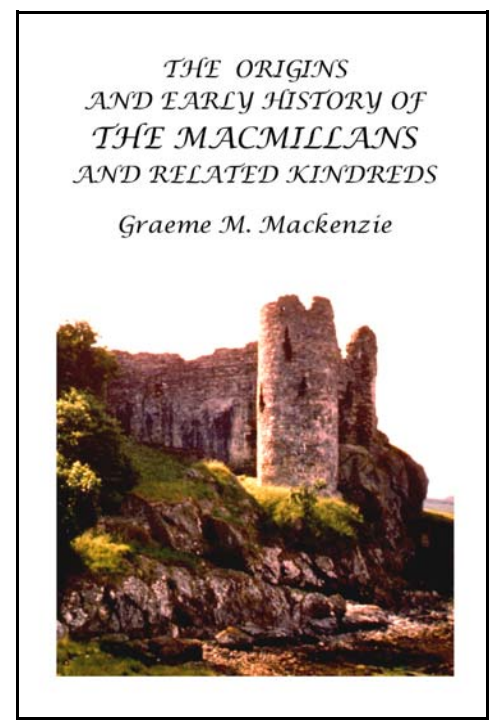


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*Remember your ancestors with a special plaque on the wall in the MacMillan Garden*

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Enjoy the verse of your chief



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[www.clanmacmillan.org](http://www.clanmacmillan.org)



International  
**CLAN MACMILLAN**  
*Magazine*



**Issue No. 12**  
**May/June 2009**

*This issue includes: The Sept of Blue  
 Edinburgh's Macmillan Tea Tycoons  
 Rev. John McMillan of Balmaghie*



**Clan MacMillan  
International Centre  
at Finlaystone**

**Chairman:**

*George G. MacMillan  
of MacMillan and Knap*

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**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> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009 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.**

**Tel: 01475-540713**

**www.clanmacmillan.org**



*Drummond Castle, Perthshire*

**Clan MacMillan International Magazine  
Issue No. 12, May/June 2009**

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**COVER PICTURE:**  
*The University of  
Edinburgh "Chrystal  
Macmillan Building"  
on George Square in  
Scotland's capital city*

Right:  
Flag-stand developed by  
Mike McMillen for the  
North Central States Branch  
naming some of the  
Septs of the Clan.  
See news item  
on page 5.



**Clan MacMillan Centre Donations and Visitors for 2008**

During the 2008 financial year CMI received "Conclave Challenge" contributions from the following Branches and Societies: Clan MacMillan Texas; Clan MacMillan Society of North America; Clan MacMillan North Central States; Clan MacMillan Appalachian Branch; Clan MacMillan Pacific Branch; Clan MacMillan Prince Edward Island; Clan MacMillan New Zealand; The Sept of Blue; and the Community of the Tonsured Servant. The Mississippi McMillins and Clan MacMillan Australia also contributed but their cheques, arriving in December were not banked until January.

*We extend grateful thanks to an additional donation from CMSNA towards magazine printing costs, and a generous donation from the Construction TC Society, London, UK.*

A considerable number of individuals also gave generously to CMI funds and in no particular order they are: A F MacMillan, Wolverhampton, UK; R L E Baxter, Salisbury, UK; Lt Gen Sir John MacMillan, Thornhill, UK; R J McCormick, VA, USA; E MacMillan, Tain, UK; J A MacMillan, NS, Canada; P MacMillan, Atherton, UK; Brig. A Macmillan, Howwood, UK; Rev C McMullen, NB, Canada; Mrs RW Castelletto, CA, USA; C Toerner, NY, USA; S Drinkwater, ON, Canada; A Neumann, ON, Canada; G McMillian, TX, USA; J Danks, Kew, Australia; D B McMillan, FL, USA; E Heath, ON, Canada.

**Visitors to the Clan Centre abound and those who signed the visitors' book were:**

Tristan Jon, Cindy-Lee and Nannette McMillan; Gavin Bell, Glasgow, UK; Sophie Duncan and Sheila Skinner, Glasgow, UK; Derek R MacMillan, Greenock, UK; Alex McMillan, Lancs, UK; David McMillan, Aberdeen, UK; Alex McMillan, Lenzie, UK; Stuart, Angie, Katie and Heather McMillan, Southampton, UK; Edith Ewin, UK; Calum Laing, Alness, UK; Frank V McMillan, Belfast N. Ireland; Stuart McMillan, Co. Dublin, Eire; Jim and Janice MacMillan, AB, Canada; Iain McMillan, BC, Canada; John B and Blanche McMillan, ON, Canada; Nancy, L MacMillan and Gordon Whitham, AB, Canada; David and Thomas McMillan, BC, Canada; Steven MacMullin, ON, Canada; Helen MacMullin, NB, Canada; Marven MacMullin, ON, Canada; Ashleigh Bell, ON, Canada; Bryson Bell, ON, Canada; Gordon and Barbara Smith, ON, Canada; Jonathan Pritchett, NC, USA; Rebecca Taylor, MI, USA; William A McMillan III and Mary S McMillan, NC, USA; Kristin, Michael and Russ Thornock, WA, USA; Frank D and Gavin McMillan, FL, USA; Cassie Ellis, Michigan, USA; Judith Fuller, NY, USA; Sarah MacMillan, PA, USA; Elizabeth Kearns, NY, USA; Pam White, Auckland, NZ; Beth Laugesen, Hamilton, NZ; Jennifer McMillan, Whangarei, NZ; Carrol Elliott, Auckland, NZ; Duncan McMillan, Upper Hutt, NZ; Elizabeth and Lloyd McMillan, Temuka, NZ; Aron McMillan, Narangba, Australia; Andrew and Jodie Kerec, Australia; Kirsten McMillan, Victoria, Australia.

**The next gathering of the  
Clan MacMillan Society of North America  
will take place in June 2010  
in Kingston, ON, Canada.**  
Details will be published as they become available  
on a blog at <<http://macmillan2010.spaces.live.com/default.aspx>>

**CTS FINANCIAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2008 (DOLLARS)**

	CANADA	USA
<b>INCOME</b>		
Primary memberships - Roy C. Wainwright		0500.00
Donation	0100.00	
Tribute Fund-interest	0091.95	0205.60
"Jane" Fund-donation		<u>0500.00</u>
	<b>0191.95</b>	<b>1210.60</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Grant to CMIC	2000.00	
Purchase of regalia	1300.36	0861.51
Postage & stationery	0238.36	
Flowers & memorials	<u>0059.95</u>	
	<b>1598.67</b>	<b>2861.51</b>
	<b>-1406.72</b>	<b>-1655.91</b>
<b>Balance on January 1, 2008</b>	<b>4568.44</b>	<b>16377.65</b>
Tribute fund on Dec. 31, 2008	2865.95	6500.00
"Jane" fund on Dec. 31, 2008		5000.00
Savings accounts on Dec. 31, 2008	<u>0305.77</u>	<u>3221.74</u>
<b>Balance on December 31, 2008</b>	<b>3171.72</b>	<b>14721.74</b>
<b>Funds Deposits:</b>		
Tribute 3.25%mat29Aug2011		3000.00
Tribute 2.96%mat03Oct2011		1500.00
Tribute 2.96%mat05Dec2011		2000.00
Tribute 3.6%mat01Feb2010	1000.00	
Tribute 4.5%mat16Apr2011	<u>1855.95</u>	
Tribute Total	2855.95	6500.00
"Jane": 1.73%mat04Jun2009		5000.00

**Summary of Clan MacMillan International Accounts for Year to 31 December 2008**

Income	£	\$	Expenditure	£	\$
Subscriptions	0765.00	1255.00	Telephone	0192.43	
Donations	1633.56	8320.00	Stamps/Printing	0738.41	
Project Maol	0060.00	0020.00	Pauline	1440.00	
'09 Gathering	0130.00		Graeme	6129.99	
Transfer from US	6314.85		Utilities	0099.18	
Miscellaneous	0795.66	0206.95	Misc	0093.75	1099.00
Calendar	0144.00	1240.00	Charges	0120.00	
			Transfer from US		10027.06
<b>Total</b>	<b>9843.07</b>	<b>11041.95</b>		<b>8693.76</b>	<b>11246.06</b>
Excess of expense		0204.11	Excess of income	1149.31	
<b>Total</b>	<b>9843.07</b>	<b>11246.06</b>		<b>9843.07</b>	<b>11246.06</b>
Opening bank balance		696.49	12911.5		
Excess of expense/income		1149.31	-204.11		
Closing bank balance		1845.80	12707.39		
Average exchange rate for transfers		\$1.59 to £1			

Miscellaneous income in US includes \$499 payment for Chief's travel which the Chief reimbursed with £400 payment to UK account. It also includes a payment of \$500 to Jane's Tribute fund. 2008 Conclave Donations from Mississippi McMillins and Clan MacMillan Australia are not included - their welcome donations arrived in December but were not banked until January.

## Editorial and Clan Centre News

One of the most encouraging things to emerge from the development of the Clan Centre Newsletter into the Clan MacMillan International Magazine is the willingness of an increasing number of branches to submit their own reports of their activities over the previous six months. Thanks are particularly due to the likes of Judy Young, Jim McMillan, Myrna Robertson, Mike McMillen, Ginny West and Sharon Stoneman who are all in the process of becoming our regular correspondents. For other branches however it's a case of scouring their websites and newsletters for tidbits that might interest their fellow clanspeople around the world.

When the newsletters arrive here for scouring, Pauline will have included the latest Project MAOL submissions. This time there was one of particular interest sent in by John Lynch from Florida. He's a 5xGreat-Grandson of emigrants called John McMillan & Marion McLamont. They're a particularly memorable couple because they're said to have eloped from Edinburgh and married on the ship to America. This touching tale was told me by a descendant from Texas just prior to my first visit to the United States - for Father Mac's gathering in Chautauqua. On the evening of my arrival there a MacMillan from Pennsylvania gave me an envelope

and asked me to have a look at it when I had time in case I could help trace the enclosed ancestors any further. They were John McMillan and Marion McLeamont (almost every family has a different spelling for her surname).

The following year we had our big gathering at Finlaystone, and what should be produced at it but a huge family tree of more of their descendants - this time to be found in Wyoming. The next year a family arrived on a visit from California - and they too were descendants of John and Marion. Now we have a Florida connection for them - and how wonderful it is that the Clan Centre can link them all together.

### From the Chief:

Members may be aware that, immediately after the All-Clan Gathering being put on in Edinburgh on 25 and 26 July, Clan MacMillan is holding a loosely-connected three-day event based on the Greenock area.

It will begin on Monday 27 July with an informal 'frolic' on the back lawn here at Finlaystone, starting at 2.00 pm. That will merge into a barbecue with some entertainment (including poetry by our witty Clan Bard, Hugh Macmillan). Cost £15 per person.

On Tuesday 28 July we plan a trip to Kilmory Chapel in Knapdale (not far from Lochgilphead) for a C.T.S. investiture at 2.30 pm. We hope to take a bus there; but, as it has limited capacity, we may ask those that wish to drive to do so. The trip will last all day. If you're interested, please contact me as soon as possible (cost £20 per person).

On Wednesday 29 July we plan to go to Mount Stuart House on the Isle of Bute - a fascinating place, in my opinion, but with no

obvious MacMillan connection (though many MacMillans have lived elsewhere on Bute - often families connected with nearby Knapdale and Arran). Rothesay harbour is easily reached by train and ferry. But the Mount Stuart bus that meets the ferry may struggle to take us all. So, if you plan to come on that trip, please tell me soon, so that we can hire an alternative.

That evening we plan to dine in the Tontine Hotel in Greenock (£35 per person). Again, since seats are limited, I'd like to know your intentions as soon as possible.

### To all UK members of Clan MacMillan International:

When the two British Clan MacMillan bodies (The Clan MacMillan Society of Scotland - centred mainly on Glasgow - and the Glen Urquhart Macmillans) found it impossible to carry on as they were, they put themselves under the wing, so to speak, of CMI, in the hope that a future group of clanspeople might feel inspired to resuscitate them in some form - perhaps as a UK-wide 'Branch'.

That would be in line with the aspirations of the founders of the original society in 1892.

To form a branch, one would need to have three essential office-bearers, and some committee-members to support them. The offices would be those of Chairman, Treasurer, and Secretary/Newsletter-Editor. Or the jobs could be differently distributed. It is envisaged that members would receive the Branch newsletter if they paid a subscription to the Branch. The Branch, in turn, like other branches would receive a challenge to donate to the cost of running the Clan Centre, based on the number of its members and the suggested rate per member at the time. They might also, we hope, continue to subscribe to CMI and thus receive the Magazine.

I know of one person who might be prepared to respond to this suggestion. I hope others will feel moved to join him. Please let me know if the idea appeals.

The Chief can be contacted by phone +44 (0)1475-540285, or email: chief@clanmacmillan.org

# News from the Clan around the World

## New Zealand Society Host Clans at Country's Oldest Highland Games

by Jim McMillan

*Editor of NZ Newsletter (from which this report is reproduced - with thanks)*

### 31 Jan. - Turakina, Manawatu, 145<sup>th</sup> Highland Games

This was the second occasion that Marilyn and I had attended the Turakina games. Also attending were President Avon from Auckland, Duncan (Wellington Rep) & Pam from Upper Hutt, Robert & Betty from the Horowhenua and Hawkes Bay Rep, Sue Haack. These are the oldest games in New Zealand and it was a privilege for Clan MacMillan to be invited to participate as "host" clan this year. In addition to having the first tent in clan row, we also led the parade of the clans [pictured top right].



The duties of the host clan include arranging for a piper to lead the parade and we are grateful to Robert McMillan for arranging with Stuart Easton of Palmerston North to do the honours. Stuart is a NZ Champion, won all the open events that morning thus following up his successes at Waipu on New Years Day. Robert also took part in the Haggis Ceremony later in the day. Avon did a great job rounding up the other clans and leading the march with our banner (*see photo*) into the strong wind that prevailed for most of the day.

Avon commented "that it was good to meet up with our enthusiastic group from the Wellington area, who had a brief meeting to plan their ideas and activities for the year." The games included Solo Piping & Drumming, Highland, National & Scottish Dancing, Pipe Bands, a Tug-o-War for most age groups, Field events for Adults and Children, a Harrier Road Race, A Hill Race, and the Clan March. Highlights included a Piping Recital by gold medallist Richard Hawke of Christchurch. Entertainment into the evening concluded with the band 'Ben the Hoose'.



Left:  
The New Zealand Society tent at the Turakina Games

Right:  
Duncan McMillan representing the clan at the Upper Hutt Gathering in October 2008



Please note that the New Zealand Society's website has a new address: <http://clanmacmillan.cepnz.co.nz>  
So too has the Appalachian Branch; see <http://www.clanmacmillanappalachian.org>

## Appalachian Branch's Annual Games Schedule

April: Loch Norman, NC Laurel Hill, Ararat, VA	Sept: Tulsa, OK Charleston, SC
May: Savannah, GA Bethabara Park, NC Gatlinburg, TN Glasgow, KY	Oct: Williamsburg, VA Radford, VA Stone Mtn., GA Waxhaw, NC
June: Greenville, SC	Richmond, VA
July: G/father Mtn., NC	Foothills, NC

## A Bell in Antarctica

Craig Bell, son of Appalachian Branch founder Jim Bell, spends his winters in Antarctica as a facilities maintenance officer at a scientific base there. "The Chatterbox", the Appalachian Branch's own newsletter, reports that some time ago Craig ran round the South Pole in a MacMillan kilt.

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

*CTS was founded in 1995 to support the Clan MacMillan International Centre (CMIC) in Scotland, and provide educational materials & events for Clan MacMillan and Sept members around the world.*

**CTS Investiture Service:** The next CTS Investiture Service will be held at Kilmory, Knapdale, Scotland, on Tuesday, 28 July 2009. Kilmory Chapel houses the magnificent, 10 foot high, "Cross of Alexander MacMillan" circa 1480. There is also a second MacMillan Cross, missing its top, erected circa 1500 by Duncan Macmillan for himself and his father Malcolm.

**Candidates for Investiture on 28 July 2009:** Sir Graham Macmillan, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, England, to be invested Honoris Causa; Janie Macmillan Howell (Mrs John), London, England (daughter of Sir Graham); Marilee MacMoyle, Weaver, AL, USA; Barbara & Arthur G. MacMillan, Yr of MacMillan & Knap, Scotland; and Amanda & Malcolm MacMillan, Bishopton, Scotland. Arthur and Malcolm are sons of Chief George MacMillan. Arthur, the eldest, is 'An Tainistear' (Heir) and has been the owner of Finlaystone for several years.

**CTS Grants to CMIC:** In March 2009, CTS granted US\$2,000 to CMIC. This brings the total grants to CMIC to \$30,380 since 1996, or an average of \$2,170 per year over the last 14 years. Concerning another donation, the "Thelma McMillen Centre for Chemical Dependency Program" of Torrance, CA, sent a nice thank you letter for the donation of \$341 in 2008.

**We are pleased to note the wedding of a member of CTS:** Stephen L. McMillin was invested at Louisville, MS, USA, in 1999. On 23 May 2009 he and Jennifer Lynne Johnston are to be married. Stephen is the younger son of Carol and F. Lamar McMillin Jr., M.D. of Vicksburg, MS.

**We are sad to report the death of 3 members of CTS.** Col. Douglas B. MacMullen of Sherman Oaks, CA, USA, died 11 January 2009 at age 89. Survived by a son Douglas Jr. Col Douglas was invested CTS Honoris Causa in absentia in Ontario, CA, on 6 Aug. '08. He was the 9<sup>th</sup> President of the Clan MacMillan Society of North America (1973-1977) and founding President in 1976 of the original Pacific Branch. Janet (Nette) Hart McLaren (nee Downs) Macmillan of Clarkston, Scotland, died 28 April 2009 at nearly age 92. Nette was invested at Banner Elk, NC, USA, in 1998. Survived by husband Nigel S. C. Macmillan, daughter Fiona, and son N. Gordon. Adhania MacMullen Olson of Carnation, WA, USA, died on 1 May 2009 at age 69. She was invested at Iona Abbey, Scotland, in 2002. She was one of the 10 who erected the Murlagan & Glenpean MacMillan Cairn at Murlagan, Loch Arkaig, Scotland, in 2002. Adhania was involved with the DNA project, the Forum, and was the Convener in 2008 of the Clan MacMillan Society of Washington (State).

**Donations to CTS General Fund:** In Oct. '08, Hugh P. MacMillan of Ottawa, Ontario, sent a gift to the CTS general fund. Hugh P. had been invested Honoris Causa in absentia in Ontario, CA, on 6 Aug. '08. In June '07, CTS made a second grant of US\$400 to Mike McMillen of Minneapolis, MN - the latter \$400 for his out of pocket expenses in creating a photographic display in CMIC. Mike emailed on 26 Nov. '08 to say that printing, shipping, etc, came in well below what he expected and that he would return US\$207.99 to CTS, which he did. This will be in the 2009 CTS financial statement.

**CTS Financial Statement for the year ending 31 December 2008:** The CTS 2008 Financial Statement by Almoner (Treasurer) W. Dugal MacMillan of St. Catharines, Ontario, appears elsewhere in this Magazine. The Statement was received on 12 May '09. CTS regalia is purchased approximately every 5 years. We thank Dugal for his faithful and accurate financial statements since the founding of CTS in 1995. He has to deal with several varied financial items, such as income in US\$, CDN\$, & UK pounds; two Tribute Funds; investing income from the two Tribute Funds; monitoring investments; and forwarding the 'Sept of Blue' donations to CMIC (wearing his other financial hat, as the Bursar of the Clan MacMillan Society of North America for the last 28 years.)

**The two CTS Tribute Funds:** We welcome contributions to: "The Sally and Rev Canon A. Malcolm MacMillan Tribute Endowment Fund" (est. 2003) and the "Jane MacMillan Tribute Fund" (est. 2005). As noted earlier, in 2008 F. Lamar McMillin Jr., M.D. of Vicksburg, MS, made his second generous donation to the CTS 'Jane MacMillan Tribute Fund'.

**For further information concerning membership in CTS (an invitation is not required), to make a donation to the Tribute Funds or to make a bequest, please contact:**

Blanche McMillan, Abbot of CTS, 5364 Salem Road, Burlington, Ontario, L7L 3X3, Canada.  
Tel: 905-637-3395. Email: [jbmcmillan@sympatico.ca](mailto:jbmcmillan@sympatico.ca). Skype also, if you wish at [j\\_b\\_mcmillan](https://www.skype.com/name/j_b_mcmillan)

This page submitted by Blanche McMillan, 14 May 2009.



## Janet Hart McLaren Macmillan née Downs 23rd May 1917 - 28th April 2009

*We were very sad to learn of the death in April of Nette Macmillan who, along with her husband Nigel and son Gordon, had been a loyal supporter of Clan MacMillan and its various societies for very many years. Nigel himself has written this appreciation of his much loved wife of over fifty years. Both the picture above and below right were taken at Clan MacMillan gatherings at Finlaystone.*

Nette, as she was known, was born in 1917 in Mearns. When she was eight years old the family moved to Montrose where her father (ex Cameron Highlanders) had bought a newsagents shop. Both Nette and her sister Rebe attended Montrose Academy. Their Dad died of war wounds at forty three so neither of them could go to university, and Nette trained as a book-keeper/accountant. The shop was closed shortly after and the family returned to Mearns. Nette had a successful career firstly with a newsagent and latterly in the car industry. Successful in her job, she was earning, at £8 a week, £2 more than husband Nigel. She gave up her career to bring up her family.

Nette met Nigel at a Scottish Country Dance class in the Fairweather Hall in Mearns in 1951. They became dance partners and were founder-

members of the Crookfur Country Dance Club, which still meets in the Fairweather Hall.

Their honeymoon was in Campbeltown (because there had been a railway there?) and Nette went down the local coal mine with her husband. Later on she was to be the third woman ever to visit an offshore oil rig - the first two being Princess Ann and Margaret Thatcher!

Fiona was born two years after their marriage, and Gordon three years after that. Nette could make anything you want: fancy dress costumes, pictures, shoe boxes, prizes for tombola, or gifts for charity. She was a hoarder. Nette *invented* recycling when being green meant you were a frog. She never threw anything out. Boxes were never got rid of, worn sheets were cut up the middle and sewn together, collars and cuffs were turned, and skirts altered to fashion. Discarded clothes became dishcloths, dusters and hankies. Leftover food went into the fridge in wee pots.

She was a caring person and helped at Church fetes, Brownies, Guides, Scout and school functions. At one Christmas Fair her homemade dresses for Sindy Dolls completely sold out.

Nette was never angry, never cried, and was never unkind to anyone. She put up with sailing; years after the boat was sold Nigel heard her confiding that

she hated getting soaked and cold "for the fun of it". Model railways - "well, I know where he is. He's in the loft".

She was a tennis and badminton player and finally got tickets, along with Fiona, to see Wimbledon in 1996. When Henman played a blinding pass, Nette leapt up on her seat and punched the sky - at 79!

She had one big secret - her age. Birth dates were a no-no. Fiona and Gordon were adults-plus before they knew the truth. Her 80th passed off for her 70th. She only finally "came out" on her 90th last year, to the surprise of most of the guests.

She had an extremely good life and a happy marriage - fifty five years. Nigel always said he got the best of the bargain.



## Virginia McMullans On the Stomp Again

Ginny West & Sharon Stoneman (Joint Conveners of the Virginia McMullans) attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Highland Festival and Games on April 25, 2009 at Laurel Hill in Ararat, Virginia, which is the birthplace of J.E.B. Stuart, a flamboyant General of the American War.

Laurel Hill is about 6 miles north of Mount Airy, NC, birthplace of Andy Griffith, star of the Andy Griffith Show, popular during the 1960s.

Ginny and Sharon report that:

"On Friday, we took in the sights and had banana splits for lunch at the Soda Shoppe, circa 1950s. We're happy to report that there were more clans and vendors present this year. On Friday, a store clerk told us that there were lots of McMillans in the area. This seems to be the case as we had seven sign in. We enjoyed the beautiful day and spent time renewing friendships".

Clan MacMillan received a red ribbon for participating for a second year. The founders of the Festival hope to make this an annual event and the McMullans are making plans to represent the clan there again next year.

The Virginia McMullen/McMullan Reunion is to be held in Stanardsville, VA, USA on May 29 and 30, 2009. Cousins from Georgia are travelling to Virginia to join in the fellowship and fun. A meet and greet is planned for Friday night at the Golden Horeshoe Inn, which is located on property once owned by ancestor John McMullan. This property is adjacent to the Skyline Drive, part of the Blue Ridge Parkway. On Saturday, a picnic reunion is planned at South River Church with self guided tours of what was the village of McMullen, Virginia. The festivities may even include some creek stomping.

## Australian AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Clan MacMillan Society of Australia will take place on 25th October 2009. There'll be a BYO Lunch at 12 Noon, and the venue is:

*Soroptimist House,  
383 Toorak Road,  
South Yara,  
Victoria.*

Meanwhile, members of the Society attended the Ringwood Games in April when, in the words of the Secretary Myrna Robertson, "the weather changed into a Scottish day, but we had some hearty souls who carried on despite it all. The pipers played and the dancers danced, the Clans marched, and the games were opened, by our President. We just had time to leave the ground, when down came the rain, and up went the umbrellas".

## News from the Pacific / South California Branch

Judy Young

Our branch will be celebrating 25 years of existence the end of May at the Costa Mesa Gathering. Thanks to Ralph 'Mac' McMillan who had the tenacity to see this branch get started along with Morgan Mullins who came along shortly after to lend his support.

We'll be hosting our second annual Jane MacMillan Scholarship Fund Raising event at a wine tasting party and silent auction on June 6 at Vino 100 in San Marcos, CA.

Our branch has sponsored a trophy in Highland Dance at the Costa Mesa Games for the past several years in Jane MacMillan's name.

## News from the North Central States Branch

Mike McMillen

We had our Minnesota Highland Games Saturday. A bit cool and windy but otherwise pleasant. A very good turnout. Attendance had dropped precipitously when it moved from Macalester College in St. Paul to a fringe suburb some years ago. The location is obscure and lacking in ambiance. However, it was bustling, which is a good sign.

Members dropped by from as far away as Milwaukee, citing the newsletters and broadcast e-mail. The media seems to be working.

We try to be as inclusive as possible, allowing all paying members to sign on to work the tent if they like. This necessitates

those of us who have some knowledge of history and genealogy to stay close by.

We had needed a flag stand and something to advertise septs and spellings, as most people hereabouts assume MacMillan is the only acceptable spelling. I tried combining the two, the product is shown in the photo attached. Surprisingly, it didn't collapse in the wind. [The stand is pictured on page 2].

### **Kirkcudbright to Pittsburgh:**

*In 1853 the Rev. William McMillan of Alleghany, PA, was recognised in Scotland as the legal heir of the late George McMillan, mason, of Pittsburgh, USA, and once of Kirkcudbright, Scotland. Does anyone know anything more?*

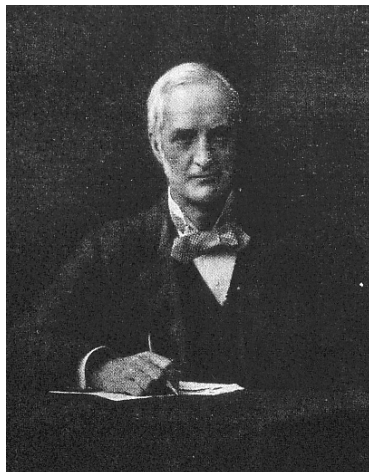
# Tea Tycoons & Butchers

## Some MacMillans in the Edinburgh area

Graeme Mackenzie

Most clan members will have heard of the Whisky Bells, the Shortbread Walkers, and Soup Baxters, but few in the clan will know about the Macmillans associated with Scotland's most famous firm of tea blenders. I only became aware of them when looking into the ancestors of Chrystal Macmillan, the feminist and barrister whose name now adorns the Edinburgh University building shown on the cover of this edition of the Clan MacMillan International Magazine.

Jessie Chrystal Macmillan (1872-1937) was the daughter of John Macmillan (1843-1901) and Jessie Chrystal Finlayson (c.1844-1894). Her father, who's pictured below, joined tea importers and blenders *Andrew Melrose & Co.* as an apprentice in 1859 - four years after the death of the firm's founder. By 1865 John Macmillan's outstanding talents as a blender saw him given sole responsibility for buying and blending in Scotland's pioneering tea company.



Andrew Melrose had started selling tea in 1812 from a small grocer's shop in Edinburgh's Canongate. His big break came however in 1833, when the East India Company's monopoly of tea from China expired. Melrose spotted the opportunity and set off in person for the Far East. When he returned to Leith two years later the 600 packages of tea in the holds of the clipper "Isabella" were the first to be imported into Britain outside of London. In the next half century "Melrose's of Scotland" became a major player in the rapidly expanding UK tea industry, being renowned in particular for the quality of their blends.

While three of Andrew Melrose's sons followed him into the family business, none of them turned out to share their father's skills as a blender - which opened the way for the young John Macmillan's extraordinary rise to prominence in the firm in the early 1860s. By the end of the century the company had a royal warrant, and he was described as the greatest authority on Indian teas in the country. His unexpected death, which occurred at the height of his powers on the 8th of January 1901, was reported at length in "The Scotsman":

**"Tragic death of Master of Edinburgh Merchant Company.**

*The annual dinner of the Merchant Company ... was brought, almost before it had commenced, to an abrupt termination in tragic gloom by an incident possibly without precedent in the public life of the city. This was the sudden and swift death of the*



*Master of the Company - Mr. John Macmillan - who occupied the chair. Needless to say, the melancholy event occasioned the greatest excitement amongst the guests, and, when the fact became known that the Master of the Company had been struck dead in the midst of the festivities, all were plunged into the profoundest grief."*

John Macmillan had just proposed the royal toast, and after the national anthem was observed to slump in his chair. When asked what was wrong he's said to have muttered "I'm gone", and, despite the attention of the many eminent doctors attending the dinner, he was dead within minutes.

The wealthy tea merchant was remembered at his funeral as "... a succourer of many ... such a help to the widows and fatherless, and to the poor and helpless ...". Further echoes of his clan's traditions are to be found in Corstorphine Old Church burial ground where his family raised a magnificent Celtic Cross in his memory.



Melrose's Tea Packing Works in Leith

## Adhania Olson

15 Oct 1940 - 1 May 2009

George MacMillan



As if from nowhere news reached me that Adhania Olson had died on 1st May. It's hard to imagine the feelings of her husband, Rod, when he discovered her on his return from work that day. She was so full of life that she tricked us into thinking she was indestructible.

To my mind, the chief delight of the Clan network is its knack of fostering contact with a huge variety of magnificent and admirable characters. Adhania was one such. "Adhania: that's an unusual name. Where did your parents find it?" I (like many another, I'm sure) asked her soon after we first met in 2002. "My parents didn't choose it: I gave it to myself", she replied. "It's derived from 'adhan', the Moslem call to prayer.". (The 'dh', by the way, is pronounced like 'z'). She explained later that her parents had given her nice, but bland names, which were far too easily forgotten. Adhania, like her name, is unforgettable, an 'original', a 'one off'.

Her originality is reflected in many ways. Her first career was in nursing. A series of radical shifts brought her into a highly specialised section of Bill Gates's team at Microsoft, where she spent twelve years of her working life (the picture below left shows her with me last August outside the door of the headquarters building where she worked).

She was just as original when it came to the Clan. First to go into orbit was the MacMillan D.N.A. Project, which has shed a great deal of light on relationships between various sections of the Clan, and also between MacMillans and Camerons.

Next came the Clan Forum. She had a very clear idea of what was required to make the forum truly international and attractive to the young; and she pursued her vision with a rare combination of energy and tact.

As if that wasn't enough, her third achievement was the founding

of the Washington Branch of Clan MacMillan. Here too she showed a rare combination of efficiency and a light touch, which brought out the strengths of everybody about her.

Adhania was a 'larger-than-life' personality; yet she would never seek to dominate those around her: her spirit was far too generous for that.

Apart from her conduct of the meeting that founded the Washington Branch, my most cherished memory of her is of the day we built the cairn at the head of Loch Arkaig to commemorate the migration of 1802. Adhania was content to supply the stones for others to place on the cairn - no light job, and not particularly glamorous either - but essential to the completion of the memorial (which is pictured below right).

Dear Adhania. You leave a huge gap in many lives - but Rod's most of all. We remember you, and we remember him.



## New DNA Project Co-ordinators and Forum Administrator

We're happy to announce that successors have been found for two of Adhania's roles in the clan. Gary McMillan, co-founder of the Texas branch, and David W. McMillan, have volunteered to take on the role of administering the Y-DNA Project jointly. Both have written in

past editions of the Magazine about the project (see Nos. 6 & 9) where their knowledge and enthusiasm for the subject are apparent.

Tessa Szczepanik has kindly agreed to become the Administrator of the Clan MacMillan On-line Forum.

Tessa's also recently started work as a professional genealogist, and living in England is well-placed to research MacMillan families there, and to handle enquiries about military records held in the UK National Archives near London. Her email is [info@genealogy-researcher.co.uk](mailto:info@genealogy-researcher.co.uk).

## Spotlight on the Septs

# The Blues



The only sept of Clan MacMillan to have its own organisation - complete with newsletter ("Out of the Blue") are the Blues. Though they operate pretty independently, the "Sept of Blue" have always been loyal to the Chief and Clan Centre, to which they have made regular donations since its foundation - while at the same time sponsoring scholarships at home in North Carolina, and supporting the work of their own excellent historian, Rev. Douglas Kelly.

The name Blue (Bleu/Blew etc) appears to have come into being in Argyll as an English-language equivalent for a Gaelic name which was thought to stand for *Mac'illeghuirm*, "Son of the blue-eyed lad"; the lad in question being assumed to have been a MacMillan because of the name of Blue's long association with the clan. The fact however that there's no traditional tale about such a blue-eyed MacMillan, as there is about the Brown-haired clansman from whom the sept of Brown are said to derive, suggests that a more recent interpretation of the name may well be correct.

The alternative explanation of the original Gaelic name is that it stands for *Mac Ghille-Ghuirman*, "Son of the Servant or Devotee of St. Gorman", and given the MacMillans' medieval connections with other saintly cults this does look more likely.

As such it's a name that appears in many parts of Scotland as well as in Argyll where the "translation" to Blue became popular in the mid-1700s - a process paralleled with many other difficult Gaelic names (see in particular the MacMillan septs of Bell and MacGill).

The earliest documented bearers of the name so far found in Argyll include *McIlighuirm in Netherrudill* who was plundered in 1699; *Donald McGurman in Kilmahamaig* in 1748; *Angus McGourman* or *McGuirman*, a shoemaker in Tayvallich in 1757; *Neil McGurman in Ardno* in 1757; and an *Archibald Bleu in Kilnochavick* in 1763.

Many Blues emigrated from their homes in Knapdale and Kintyre in the 18th and 19th centuries, with their MacMillan cousins, to settle in the Carolinas. An account of one such family was written in the late 19th century by Mathew P. Blue, and published privately as *Genealogy of the Blue Family....* (Montgomery, AL, 1886).

Scottish local historian Ian MacDonald, who lives in Clachan, Kintyre, has been very helpful to Blues seeking their Scottish roots, and there's an article by him, published on-line by the Kintyre Magazine, called *The Blues of North Kintyre*.

Douglas Kelly's main works are: *Scottish Blue Family from Carolina to Texas* (Dillon, SC, 1982), and *Carolina Scots* (Dillon, SC, 1998).

The picture above shows the recently restored John Blue House near Laurinburg in the aptly named Scotland County in North Carolina. It's the venue for the "John Blue Cotton Festival", an annual event being held this year on the 10th-11th October. For further details see [www.johnbluecottonfestival.com](http://www.johnbluecottonfestival.com).

The month before sees the "Historical Crafts and Farmskills Festival" (26th-28th September) organised by the Malcolm Blue Historical Society at Aberdeen, NC. This event provides the venue for the Annual General Meeting of The Sept of Blue to be held on September 27th.

For further information about the Sept of Blue please contact the President:

*Patti Blue Burke,*  
*265 Blue Siding Road,*  
*Carthage,*  
*NC 28373,*  
*USA.*  
*Email: [pburke001@embarqmail.com](mailto:pburke001@embarqmail.com)*

Some years ago the Sept of Blue had a special Blue Tartan made, a sample of which can be seen at the Clan Centre in Scotland. It's available to purchase either through the Sept of Blue, or from Great Scot International (Tel. 704-535-8955). The cost is US\$64 per yard, with 30 yards the minimum order from the suppliers. The Sept of Blue itself will however handle individual smaller orders - adding them together until the required minimum amount is reached.



*Corstorphine Old Church and Macmillan's Cross (enlarged below)*

The lengthy inscription on John Macmillan's cross mentions all of his nine children, including John Melrose Macmillan (c.1876-1950) and Thomas Finlayson Macmillan (c.1874-1948) who also served as Chairman of Melrose Ltd.

The tea company itself in due course became part of Premier Foods, which in 2005 sold its entire tea division (including other well-known brands such as Typhoo) to *Apeejay* - one of India's leading tea producers. The Melrose name lives on however in supermarkets - in Scotland at least.

Though John Macmillan lived his later years in Corstorphine, on the west side of Edinburgh (his magnificent mansion is now part of Edinburgh Zoo) his family were previously associated with the eastern edge



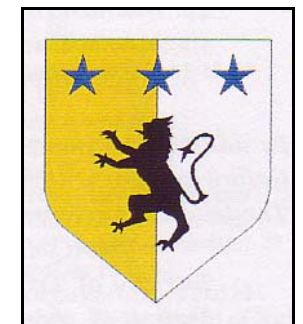
of the city. His father George (died 1899), a successful grazier and cattle dealer, was born in 1812 in Dalkeith, which was home to generations of M'millan butchers or "fleshers" like George's father John.

When John McMillian (note the spelling of the surname used by this family in this generation only) married Isobel Torrance in 1810, his cautioner was his father, *John McMillian Senr.* The names of John McMillian Jr's family would suggest John Sr. can be equated with the John McMillan born in 1788 in the neighbouring parish of Inveresk & Musselburgh to John McMillan & Janet Wilkie[son]. Janet was the daughter of another butcher, and though her husband was working at the time of their marriage for a brewer, the chances are his family were also fleshers - though so far it's not proved possible to trace the line any further back.

One of the other prominent families to come from M'millan butchers in Inveresk are the McMillan-Scotts. They descend from William McMillan, a flesher who was married to Euphan Sharp around 1700. Their eldest son Thomas lived at Shorthope, Inveresk - now part of Musselburgh - of which his younger brother William (1712-1758) eventually became laird.

William was succeeded by his son Thomas (1748-1832), whose own son, Thomas McMillan WS (born 1792), died childless in 1838. The estate of Shorthope was then inherited by Thomas McMillan-Scott WS (1816-1862), the son of Thomas McMillan's sister Marion (born 1784) and her husband Walter Scott. One of their descendants is Edward McMillan-Scott, currently an MEP for Yorkshire and Humber Region, and a Vice-Chairman of the European Parliament.

The McMillan quarters of the arms matriculated by McMillan-Scott (shown below) are a slightly differenced version of the MacMillan of Dunmore arms. If this reflects a now untraceable relationship with the chiefs of the Knapdale MacMillans, it might provide an explanation for all the M'millan fleshers to be found in Inveresk, Dalkeith, and Edinburgh itself from the late 17th century onwards; i.e. they were there to butcher and sell beef from the cattle whose trade had made the fortunes of the Dunmore family earlier in the 17th century. This might also explain why Captain Iver MacMillan (1746-1807) - a cousin of Alexander MacMillan the Merchant in Campbeltown (1735-1789) - chose to spend the fortune he accrued in the service of the East India Company making himself the laird of Inveresk. Sadly his only son died at sea unmarried and the estate of Inveresk passed out of MacMillan hands as suddenly as it had come into them.



# The Family of Rev. John McMillan “of Balmaghie”

## Founder of the Reformed Presbyterian Church [RPC]

Project MAOL Family No. 044.

Information on many of the children and descendants of Rev. John McMillan comes from pages of a family bible possessed by Mrs. George Ward in Dorset, England, whose Gt Gt Gd Mo. Margt. McMillan is assumed (but not yet proved) to have been descended from the Rev. John.

### ABBREVIATIONS:

NAS: National Archives of Scotland  
 SCT: Scotland  
 KR: Kirkcudbrightshire  
 LA: Lanarkshire  
 IRE: Ireland  
 c: circa (about)  
 e: estimated  
 DM: Dumfriesshire  
 IN: Inverness-shire  
 ST: Stirlingshire  
 WI: Wigtownshire  
 Edin: Edinburgh  
 ENG: England  
 AUS: Australia  
 ML: Midlothian

A brief account of the life of “The Cameronian Apostle” can be found in **Somerled MacMillan “The MacMillans & their Septs” (page 105)**.  
 A full biography is **H. M. B. Reid, “Life of Macmillan” (1896)**.  
 James McMillan and James McCartney were charged in 1714 with the attempted murder of McMillan’s successor as Church of Scotland Minister of Balmaghie - presumably during the “Battle of the Ploughshares” of 9th December 1713. See **NAS/GD.124/6/183**.

