



Clan MacMillan International

The Clan Centre

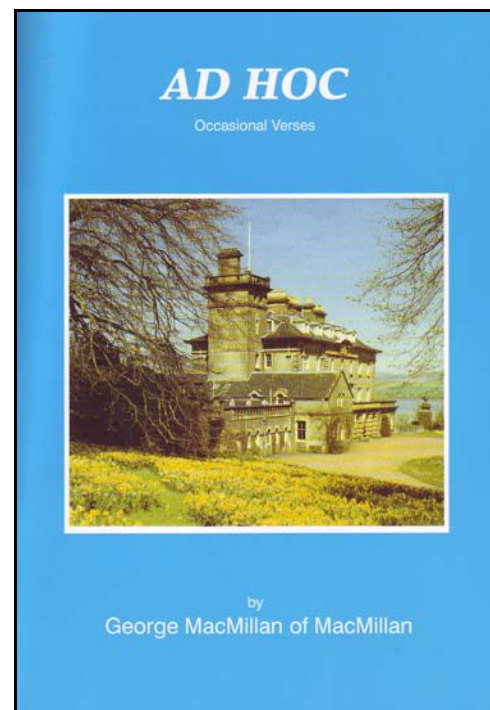
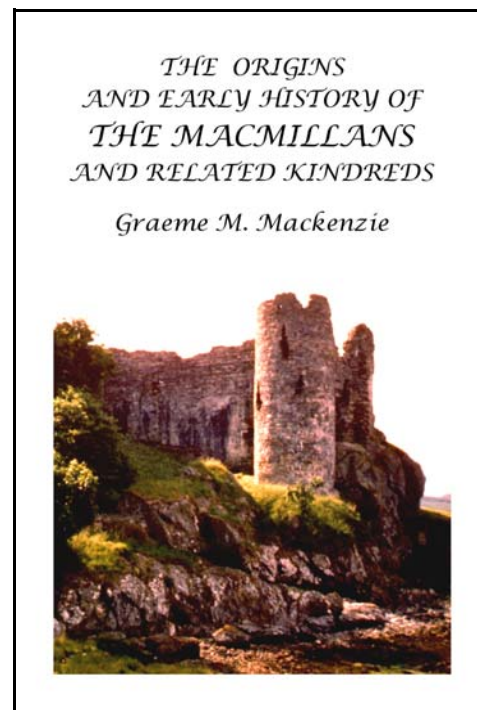


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Learn more about your clan

Enjoy the verse of your chief



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www.clanmacmillan.org



CLAN MACMILLAN *International* Magazine

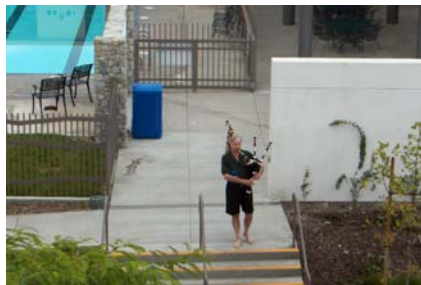


Father Mac
1921 - 2008

Issue No. 11
Nov / Dec 2008

*This issue includes: MacMillan Homes in Kintyre
25th Anniversary of the Australian Society
CMSNA, WA, & BC Gatherings in August*

CMSNA 50th Anniversary Gathering in California



George and Blanche with the CTS members - named on the opposite page - who were invested on the 6th of August in the First United Methodist Church, Ontario, CA, which is shown below centre



The Washington State Gathering



The British Columbia Gathering



Photos on this and penultimate page by Graeme Mackenzie, Mike McMillen, and Tessa Szczepanik

...and, on the way home

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

CTS was founded in 1995: Supporting the Clan MacMillan International Centre (CMIC) at Finlaystone, and providing educational materials and events for Clan MacMillan and Sept members around the world.

REV. CANON A. MALCOLM MACMILLAN, FOUNDING ABBOT EMERITUS OF CTS: 1921-2008:

'Father Mac' died 9 September 2008 in Westminster Village, Allentown, PA. He was 87 years old. He was an Episcopalian priest for 63 years and active in his parish right up to his death. For Clan MacMillan, his outstanding contribution was the creation of "The Community of the Tonsured Servant" (CTS) in Chautauqua, New York, USA in 1995. I first met Father Mac in Toronto, Ontario, Canada in 1972. He has had a full, bountiful life worthy of great celebration. This giant of a man will be sorely missed by all. CTS extends deepest sympathy to his wife Rev Pat Dwyer MacMillan, CTS; and his 3 children, Dr. Alexander M. MacMillan, CTS of Boston, MA; Rev J. David MacMillan, CTS of Washington, DC; and Rev Elizabeth Miller, CTS of Bethlehem, PA. His legacy is exemplified in the seven candidates that joined CTS in a service held in California in conjunction with the *Clan MacMillan Society of North America's* 50th Anniversary Gathering in August.

Shown at the top of the opposite page are the five REGULAR members of CTS that were invested at the service held at First United Methodist Church, Ontario, CA, on Wednesday, 6 August 2008. L to R: Jack L. Baxter of Morgan Hill, CA, USA; Sunday Dawn Robinson of Vittoria, ON, Canada; Abbot Blanche; Chief George; Roy Christopher Wainwright, of York, PA, USA; Ralph K. ('Mac') McMillan of Van Nuys, CA, USA; and Morgan Stanley Mullins of Yorba Linda, CA, USA. For Ralph and Morgan it was a re-investiture because they had actually joined CTS at the Investiture Service in Iona Abbey, Isle of Iona, Scotland in 2002 but were unable to attend at Iona. Two members awarded CTS HONORIS CAUSA were invested in absentia: Col. Douglas B. MacMullen of Sherman Oaks, CA, USA, the 9th President of CMSNA and Founding President in 1976 of the original Pacific Branch (CA); and Hugh P. MacMillan, D.Litt, of Ottawa, ON, Canada, 3rd President of CMSNA and Founding President in 1957 of the Glengarry Branch (ON).

The offering of \$341 from the Investiture Service in CA was sent to Karl McMillen for the "Thelma McMillen Center for Chemical Dependency Program" of Torrance Memorial Medical Center, Torrance, CA. When Karl's wife of 48 years passed away, he paid tribute to her and their late son with a gift of \$5.3 million to expand the Torrance Centre and its programs.

John (Jack) Laird McMullen, CTS, died 8 July 2008. He lived in Belleair, FL, USA, and is survived by his wife Rhoda. Jack was invested into CTS in Banner Elk, NC, in 1998. His death was recorded in the 2008 CTS Investiture booklet at CA.

Lillian Wark Wuttke De Giacomo, CTS, of Barnard, VT, USA, has completed the second volume of her life story called "Living with Loss". It again is a very readable, clear story told from the time of her first husband's death, through the pain of her 25 year old daughter's death to the discovery of her "MacMillan family". She tells her life story with great honesty and clarity and can be very proud of her accomplishments. She is 91 and getting ready to move to a new house.

Mike McMillen of Minneapolis, MN, USA has completed a photographic display of MacMillan sites in Scotland. The photographs surround a map of Scotland showing the locations of the areas of interest to all MacMillans. It will be displayed at the Clan MacMillan International Centre (CMIC) at Finlaystone, Scotland. CTS supplied a grant of \$400 to cover Mike's out-of-pocket expenses for this project. The CTS investiture collages supplied by myself are also displayed.

At the 6 August 2008 CTS business meeting in Claremont, CA, Chief George requested that the CTS Financial Statement as at 31 December 2007, that was distributed at the meeting, be printed in the CMI Magazine. The CTS Almoner (Treasurer) W. Dugal MacMillan and I are very happy that it will be printed, so please find it elsewhere in this Magazine. At the meeting we expressed a huge 'thank you' to Dugal who has kept our books so faithfully and accurately since the founding in 1995. CTS granted \$2,000 to CMIC in March 2008 for a total of \$28,380 since 1996: an average of \$2,180 per year.

The next CTS Investiture Service will likely be held on Tuesday 28 July 2009 in conjunction with the "MacMillan Homecoming 2009" Scotland. The service will likely be held in the ancient Kilmory Chapel, Knapdale, site of the famous MacMillan Cross of circa 1480. If there are hoards of MacMillans wishing to attend, then the service may need to be moved to the larger, private, Poltalloch Church (Clan Malcolm) near Kilmartin. Both are exciting venues.

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: Blanche McMillan, Abbot of CTS, 5364 Salem Road, Burlington, Ontario, L7L 3X3, Canada. Tel. 905-637-3395. Email: jbmcmillan@sympatico.ca (12 November 2008)



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**

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, coordinate, 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 other interested parties, 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 1st January to 31st 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



Brodie Castle photographed by Graeme Mackenzie

Clan MacMillan International Magazine Issue No. 11, November/December 2008

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Right:
**Mike McMillin,
Illinois Convener for
the North Central
States Branch at the
Illinois St. Andrews
Society Games at
Oakbrook, near
Chicago**



Editorial and Clan Centre News

We're fortunate to be able to offer you another partially coloured edition of the magazine - this time due to a particularly generous grant for that purpose from the Clan MacMillan Society of North America, for which we're very grateful. Their Fiftieth Anniversary Gathering in California would of course have featured heavily anyway, but it's good now to be able to show it in all it's glory.

The CMI subscription in US Dollars for the coming year has been brought back down to \$25 following the dramatic fall in the Pound against the Dollar in recent weeks. This is in accordance with the promise made last year - when we had to raise it from \$25 to \$30 because of the opposite movement of the exchange rates - and the matter will continue to be reviewed each year.

We hope the change in the exchange rates will encourage more MacMillans to come to Scotland in 2009 for the events marking "the Year of Homecoming" - particularly of course the Clan MacMillan International Gathering at the end of July. If you are intending to come please make your booking ASAP, using the enclosed form, since proper planning is otherwise impossible for us.

FROM THE CHIEF.

Brigadier Alistair H. Macmillan, a very senior officer in the Royal Army Medical Corps, handed over the books of the Clan MacMillan International Centre to Arthur G. MacMillan on 16 July 2008.

That bald statement of fact conceals a huge pile of history. Alistair, his father, his grandfather, and his great-grandfather all held offices of responsibility in The Clan MacMillan Society from its founding in 1892. Graeme featured this distinguished family in the CMI Magazine of June 2007.

Alistair himself combined Clan offices with his busy army career, first as Honorary Secretary of the Clan Society, and then (after a break while he was stationed in Germany) as Honorary Treasurer of the Clan Centre from 2000 to 2004, when he expressed his intention of retiring.

As he handed the books to Arthur in July 2008, he remarked that he had served as 'retired honorary treasurer' for slightly longer than as Hon. Treas. That was because he had been kind enough to agree to carry on till a successor could be found.

Alistair often reminded me of another distinguished soldier - my father. Neither of them wasted words: both were decisive and efficient; and both were men of the utmost integrity.

I catch myself speaking of the man almost as if he were dead. That is very far from reality: he is an alert 60-year-old. Unfortunately, though, like that great warrior, Achilles, he has a vulnerable spot - not his heels but his knees. If a Colonel Commandant of the R.A.M.C. can't get them sorted out by an expert, who can? We're all hoping so, anyway. Thank you, Alistair.

The New Website and Project MAOL

Those of you whose email addresses we have should by now have been told about the complete revamp of the website that we've recently completed. We hope the rest of you will have a look at it when you get the chance. If you do you'll see that it looks completely different - better we hope - and should be easier to navigate around.

We believe it's one of the largest and most informative of all Scottish clan websites, and it's recently been enhanced by the addition of a Clan MacMillan Forum which is the result of a fine combined effort by Adhania Olson (WA, USA) and Mike McMillen (MN, USA). Please have a look at it too - and then join in the discussions.

One of the main drivers of the website has always been family history, and in **Project MAOL** (Macmillan Ancestry On Line) we have a unique resource. It needs to be stressed however that any such record is only as good as the information fed into it - most of which comes from members - so always try to check the data for yourselves.

Kaye O'Reilly became our Webmaster in 2001 and has worked hard to have so much information on our website and we are all very grateful for her expertise.

Current committee members are Debra Vaughan and Jan Brooks. All members of the committee are to be congratulated for the input they give to the Clan MacMillan Society Australia.



Australian Society Committee Members. From the left: Kaye O'Reilly, Debra Vaughan, June Senior, June Danks, Myrna Roberston

Texas Society celebrate inaugural year and elect first slate of officers



Texas members enjoying the pipes & drums

The Clan MacMillan Society of Texas held their annual gathering in Austin on 4th October 2008. The business meeting reviewed the By-Laws drafted by E. G. McMillan, and elected the following officers: President (Texas Chief), Gary McMillan; Vice-President (Central Texas Chief), Mark McMillan; Vice-President (East Texas Chief), Jerry McMillan; Vice-President (North Texas Chief), E. G. McMillan III; Vice-President (South Texas Chief), Denny McMillan; Vice President (West Texas Chief), George McMillin; Secretary, Anne McMullen; Chaplain, David McMullen.

CTS Financial Report for Year Ending 31st December 2007

INCOME	CAN\$	USA\$	BALANCE ON JANUARY 1, 2007	
Primary memberships:			Tribute Fund	3234.42 6823.57
Jack L. Baxter		500.00	Jane Fund	1419.54 6144.54
Beverly P. Bell (Honoris Causa)			Savings Accounts	-1077.46 1981.79
Heidi B. Bell		250.00	Funds Transferred	600.00 -600.00
Nelson S. Gwinn MD		500.00		
Nelson J. S. Gwinn		250.00	BALANCE ON DECEMBER 31, 2007	
Robert L. Jones		500.00	Tribute Fund	3326.22 6634.23
Christopher H. Kemp		500.00	Jane Fund	1419.54 5000.00
Patrick S. McMillan		500.00	Savings Accounts	-177.32 4743.42
Sunday D. M. Moran	500.00			4568.44 16377.65
Stuart C. Owens MD		500.00		
Mary J. Baxter Owens		250.00		
		3750.00	Tribute Fund	
Tribute Fund Interest	091.80	196.88	Deposits: 3.25%mat.29Aug2011	3000.00
Jane Fund Donations	250.00		2.96%mat.03Oct2011	1500.00
Interest	219.24	469.24	2.96%mat.05Dec2011	2000.00
			3.1%mat.16Oct2008	1800.00
Interest		011.63	3.6%mat.01Feb2010	1000.00
Premium on exchange	021.30		Cash	0526.22 0134.23
	613.10	4427.75		3326.22 6634.23
DISBURSEMENTS			Jane Fund	
Grant to Clan MacMillan International Centre	2000.00		Deposit: 4.07%mat.04Apr2008	5000.00
Grant to Clan Projects	400.00		Cash	1419.54
Print Service of Worship	221.16			
		2400.00	Note:	
	391.94	2027.75	Tribute Fund is "The Rev. Canon A. Malcolm MacMillan and Sally Mark MacMillan Tribute Fund"	
			Jane Fund is "The Jane (Spurgin) MacMillan Tribute Fund"	



Clan MacMillan Society of Australia 25th Anniversary

From President June Dank's Report to the 2008 AGM:

This, the 25th AGM of CMSA, is a celebration of a group of people who have descended from emigrants from Scotland and Ulster from about 1840's. Presumably their aim was to find greater security as times were hard with clearances and potato famine added to a harsh climate and difficult geographic conditions. Many of

the migrants went to Canada and USA, but Australia was next on the list of possible countries and emigration here has been fairly consistent over the years.

Australians can appreciate the benefits from the legacy of Scottish culture. The relatively high educational standards, the religious and democratic values and abilities in agricultural, commercial, legal, medical and artistic fields have helped to

create a society of which we can be proud.

This year in Melbourne we had a luncheon at the Docklands, a tent at the Geelong & Ringwood Highland Games, attended the Kirkin' O' the Tartans at Scot's Church, and enjoyed lunch at the Scottish Clans and Associations function. We are particularly keen for younger people to join in our activities.

The Australian Society came into being following a visit to Victoria by George and Jane MacMillan in 1982, the main event of which was the gathering on the banks of the Yarra River which is pictured right. The story is taken up by Past President, and current Treasurer, June Senior, who, with her husband Max, has just celebrated her 60th wedding anniversary



Max and I were overseas when the MacMillan Gathering was held on the banks of the Yarra River in Melbourne in 1982. However we joined when the MacMillan Clan Society Australia was formed in 1983.



There have been four Presidents: Donald McMillan, June Senior, Elizabeth McMillan and our current President, Dr. June Danks. Stephen McMillan was Secretary until 1996 when Myrna Robertson was appointed Secretary. Present Treasurer is June Senior.

Special mention must be made of the excellent work member Robert McMillan-Kay has done for the Society. He published the newsletter from 1983 and did great work keeping the Society on an even keel (Robert & wife Ros are pictured left visiting Scotland in 2005).

When Robert moved to Queensland in 1990 June Senior took over the newsletter until 2003 when Mick McMillan offered to do it - and he continues to do an excellent job (Mick is pictured top left with the Society's banner).

A highlight of our 25 years was the visit to Australia by our Clan Chief George and his wife Jane in November 1997. A gathering of a large number of our members and friends from other Clans was held in Melbourne. It was a great day and a wonderful opportunity for our members to meet their chief.

News from the Clan Around the World

Conclave Tweaks Mission Statement New Trustees Appointed

A lively Clan MacMillan Conclave, held during the CMSNA 50th Anniversary Gathering in California, made some amendments to the Clan Centre's Mission Statement - as follows:

Old version: *The mission of the Clan MacMillan International Centre is to collect, preserve, display and disseminate material about Clan MacMillan and its Septs for the benefit of clan members and other interested people; and to assist the chief, clan societies and individual clanspeople around the world in the promotion of the clan and its ideals.*

New version: *The mission of the Clan MacMillan International Centre is to collect, coordinate, 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 other interested parties, and individual clanspeople around the world in the promotion of the clan and its ideals and charities.*

The possibility of having the heads of all Clan MacMillan branches/societies as Trustees of Clan MacMillan International was discussed, but it was thought this would make the Board of Trustees too unwieldy to be effective. Instead it was agreed that the Trustees should circulate an annual report on the Clan Centre and other Clan MacMillan International concerns to all branches/societies.

John B. McMillan has ceased to be a Clan MacMillan International Trustee. Robert Bell, President of the Appalachian Branch, and Blanche McMillan, Abbot of CTS, have been appointed Clan MacMillan International Trustees.

It was agreed that the target amount to be raised by each branch/society to meet the "Conclave Challenge" be raised from the equivalent of USD \$6 per member to USD \$8 per member.

Clan MacMillan to be at the Edinburgh Holyrood Highland Games in July 2009

Chief George MacMillan has booked a tent for the clan at the Highland Games to be held in Holyrood Park - beside the Queen's official residence in Scotland - on 25/26 July 2009. The games are part of the All-Clan Gathering being organised over this weekend in Edinburgh - other events including a parade up the Royal Mile and a pageant on the esplanade of the castle - and Clan MacMillan will follow it with their own three day gathering based at Greenock, near Finlaystone.

Highlights of the Clan MacMillan gathering will include a day-trip to Knapdale, with CTS service in the chapel at Kilmory Knap (home to the famous MacMillan Cross), a cruise "doon the watter" to the Isle of Bute, and a banquet at the historic Tontine Hotel in Greenock. Full details of the programme, and useful info about travel and accommodation, can be found on the website:

www.clanmacmillan.org/News.htm

A booking form for MacMillan events is included in the magazine.

Another Busy Summer in the North Central States

The North Central States branch has followed up its prize-winning appearance at the Minnesota Scottish Fair (see last issue of the magazine) with attendance at three more events: Illinois St. Andrews Society Games at Oakbrook, near Chicago (21 June); Minnesota Renaissance Festival (23-24 August); Southwest Missouri Highland Games (5-8 Sept).



Kim Groehler, Joanne Wahl, and Jack & Denise Schlager at the MacMillan Tent during the MN Renaissance Festival

New Clan MacMillan Officers in Arizona

The Arizona society has elected the new slate of officers pictured below. The Treasurer, Roger McMullen, is also responsible for their recently launched website at www.clanmacmillanaz.org



Charles Mullen
President



Nelsa Mullen
Secretary



Rev. John Cheek
Vice-President



Roger McMullen
Treasurer

Virginia McMullans at Radford

by Sharon Stoneman

The Sisters (Ginny West and Sharon Stoneman) manned the MacMillan tent at the Radford Highlanders Festival at Radford University on October 11, 2008.

With rain that week, it appeared that the Games would either be rained out or at least very soggy. However, Saturday morning was dry, though very foggy, with temperatures in the mid 40s, and by mid morning, the day had turned truly beautiful.

As you may be aware, last year's rumor was that there would be no more Games at the University. We had heard that the University President wished to cancel all future events which caused fewer clans and vendors to participate this year. At this time we are uncertain the fate of future Games.

As usual, we were anxious about pitching the tent for the event. We practiced tent pitching in the rain earlier that week and felt unusually confident that we could do it (thinking all the while that burly men would abound to aid the distressed Sisters)!



Ginny & Sharon lining up for the Clan Parade at Radford in a picture taken from the Festival Website

I am proud to announce that we pitched the tent in no time and were totally set up by 8:45am. (We thought something was truly amiss). We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and renewed friendships with many of the clanspeople. We had 12 people who signed in, out of whom 7 had McMillan/McMullen ties. We plan to attend next year.

Piping Medals for Appalachian Branch

Clan MacMillan member Alan Armstrong took second place in the Grade II Piobaireachd at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games in July. President Robert Bell also took second place in the 50+ Open Piobaireachd. Robert was probably just warming up ready to provide the wake up call at the CMSNA 50th Anniversary Gathering in California - which he did at 6.45 each morning, much to the bemusement of the students still in residence (he's pictured doing so on Page 2). As the Appalachian newsletter, "The Chatterbox", reports, the branch is still the largest in the clan - with 327 paid-up members at the end of the last financial year.

Double Celebration for McMillin Family

Stephen McMillin, younger son of Clan Centre Trustee Dr. Lamar McMillin, became engaged in Las Vegas in July to Jennifer Lynne Johnson. The happy couple accompanied Steven's parents to the California Gathering - look for the most colourful family group on Page 27 - where Carol McMillin was elected US Secretary of CMSNA. She succeeds Barry McMillen who was elected Vice-President.

A Surname Spelling Lesson from Australia



One of the key lessons to be learnt when researching Scottish ancestors is not to get hung-up on the spelling of your surname. The most common confusion concerns the use of Mac or Mc, and usually features the hoary old myth that the Scots are Macs and the Irish are "Micks. In fact, while it's true that Mc is commonly used in Ireland, it is also the most frequent form to be found in Scotland - though Highlanders do prefer the full Gaelic Mac to the abbreviation of which Mc is a form: i.e. M' (M followed by a reversed apostrophe). In the 19th and earlier centuries, however, consistency of surname spelling was not an issue anywhere in Scotland, and in most M'millan families you'll find both versions being used at different times - and even occasionally in the same record.

Having come to terms with that, one then has to learn that in some cases the Mac is omitted altogether; and a most striking example of this has recently come to light following a request for help from Australia.

Jo Brennan was tracing the family of her great-grandmother, Christina MacMillan. Christina and her older brother James - both of whom are pictured above - emigrated from Scotland as children in the early 1890s with their parents William James MacMillan and Christina Wilson. James died in 1972 in Australia as a "McMillan", but Jo found his birth certificate in Scotland in 1882 as "James McMullien". She couldn't however find the birth certificate of her great-grandmother Christina under any known form of M'millan.

Eventually the family were found in the 1891 census in

Scotland under the name of "Mullen", and the birth of Christina's younger sister Margaret was found as "Millen". When I suggested to Jo that she should therefore search for other forms of the Mac/Mc-less surname she did finally find Christina's birth as "Millin". Their father William James, who had died in Australia in 1914 as a "MacMillan", was born in Scotland in 1861 as a "Mullen", but his father James - who had been born in Co. Derry, Ireland, in about 1833 - died in Wishaw in 1871 as a "Mullin".

So a tale worth telling for the spelling lesson - but for the pictures too, since Jo has also kindly sent us a photo of Christina and James in later life (left & right below) with Christina's son Bert Sinclair (holding the baby). Our thanks to Jo for the story and pictures.



Connecting to the Clan through DNA

Rhonda McMillen Kemp CTS
Franklin, TN, USA



Several years ago, I had the privilege to travel with my family to Scotland for vacation. We toured many of the locations thought to be “Macmillan” lands, including the hauntingly beautiful Kilmory Knap Chapel (pictured above right) and its ruined village. I remember standing by the grave of Alexander Macmillan and watching the waters of the bay sparkle under the sinking sun’s rays. It was a magical moment, almost spiritual, and I remember the feeling in that moment as though something very deep within me felt connected with that piece of earth. I felt “at home.”

Last summer my family and I attended the Clan Macmillan gathering at Greenville, SC. Once again, I felt like I was at home with my big family, even



Alexander MacMillan’s Cross

though it was a first-time meeting for so many of the Macs at that party.

Of even more significance to me personally was that my earliest known Macmillan ancestor was born around 1800 somewhere in the Old 96 district of South Carolina. As we drove home from the gathering, I determined to find out how I fit in with this unusual group of friends. I wanted to know: Do I have a connection with Chief George? Do I have a common ancestor with some of the other Southern Macmillans? Can I find out anything more about my own family history?

Upon my return to Tennessee, I ordered the DNA kit from *FamilyTreeDNA.com*. As I am the daughter of a McMillen, I am unable to use my own DNA for the project. However, my father is an excited participant, as long as I handle all the communication and simply convey the results to him. Daddy submitted his test samples last summer, and what a wonderful experience we’ve had since that day. First of all, I have been welcomed into the online Macmillan Yahoo Study Group, where we all ponder each other’s family DNA and the implications of the results.

While I am “dumber than dirt” about DNA, we have an amazing group of McM’l’ns who’ve become DNA scholars. They analyze the data and collate it into accessible formats. David McMillan transfers the data to a special webpage he has created that shows how all the McM’l’n

participants relate to each other. Image how excited I was to see my dad shares a common ancestor with Chief George, even though that ancestor is hundreds of years in the past.

Additionally, we have an online network of McM’l’n history researchers. Through my participation in the online research group, I found someone I thought might be related to my earliest known ancestor. I convinced him to have a McM’l’n cousin submit a DNA sample (his grandfather was a McMillin). To our delight, we discovered that my earliest known ancestor is the brother of one of his ancestors. In the last month, we have combined our research to prove two generations further back, including our immigrant ancestor, James McMullan, born about 1740 in Ireland. Our success shows the power of combining DNA science and diligent history research.

I am so excited to be a part of the Macmillan DNA study group and to share my enthusiasm for family and history with others. Through my dad’s and my participation in the DNA project, I have a new group of “cousins” whose company I look forward to sharing, even if it is via email. And now my necklace that is a replica of Alexander’s cross is even more special to wear. Thanks to the DNA project, I can close my eyes, see Kilmory Knap bay, and know my DNA was there.

Local gatherings spreading in New Zealand

Though most of the main officers of the Clan MacMillan Society of New Zealand still live in the Auckland area, their excellent newsletters now report regular get-togethers in other parts of the country. Robert and Betty McMillan, for instance, hosted a mid-winter gathering of members and friends from the Lower North Island at their Highland Cattle Fold north of Levin on 13th July.

The potluck lunch started with haggis, which was piped in by Murray Easton and addressed by Robert McMillan himself (tallest in the back row of the photo on the right). More music was provided after lunch by Murray and by special visitor Robert Nairns - a Clan Cameron sponsored exchange student from Acharacle on the remote west coast of the Scottish Highlands.



Earlier in the year a dozen members from the south island province of Otago gathered on the evening of 8th April to meet Jim McMillan - Newsletter Editor - and his wife Marilyn McMillan when they ventured into the “deep south” from their home in Wellington. Betty Sime and her husband Ian had

arranged for the group to meet at the “Weavers Retreat” at Mosgiel. The restaurant there was once the home of the Manager of a Woollen Mill which had been established by Arthur Burns, a nephew of the bard Robert Burns who had once lived on the Ayrshire farm of Mosgiel back in Scotland.

Another MacMillan putting the clan motto into effect



Before joining Otago members for their gathering in Mosgiel, Jim and Marilyn McMillan had attended the public meetings of the Salvation Army Congress in Dunedin which was addressed by Christine MacMillan, the first Director of the Salvation Army’s International Social Justice Commission in New York, USA.

Christine MacMillan, born in Montréal, grew up in Toronto where, following High School, she trained as a Social Services worker. Prior to entering The Salvation Army Training College in 1973, she served as a Social Service Worker with Metropolitan Toronto Community Services and later as Director of Social Services with The Salvation Army in the City of North York, Ontario.

She was ordained as an Officer in 1975, and appointed to The Homestead, a treatment centre for women with addictions in Vancouver, BC. During her time in Vancouver, she earned professional qualifications as an addictions counsellor, founded The Cross Walk, a drop-in centre and base for street work in Vancouver’s downtown eastside; and the Kate Booth House, a haven for battered women and children. She was also involved in the building of a centre

to house a residential program for women/children undergoing treatment for substance abuse.

Since 1990, Christine has served in key leadership roles within the Salvation Army in the United Kingdom, Australia East, Papua New Guinea and Canada and Bermuda Territories, with a focus on social services and homelessness and poverty.

In June 2003 she returned to Canada as Territorial Commander and Territorial President of Women’s Ministries for the Canada and Bermuda Territory, and was promoted to the rank of Commissioner.

Earlier this year Commissioner MacMillan led devotions for International Women’s Day at the United Nations, speaking about the woman at the well in line with the theme of the devotions, which was water, a core issue of the UN agenda.

Malcolm MacMillan

“Father Mac”

1921 - 2008

A Personal Appreciation by Graeme Mackenzie

I first met Mac in 1994 at Finlaystone, in the course of the pilgrimage that he and Sally were undertaking to introduce their children and grandchildren to Scotland. Needless to say I was charmed, like everyone else, by this lovely couple and their fascinating family. What really impressed me then however - just after the first Clan MacMillan Conclave had met in hope and dispersed in some disillusion - was Father Mac's determination, and obvious ability, to find practical and imaginative solutions to the problems the Conclave had struggled with; particularly that of finding financial support for the then nascent Clan Centre.

Mac's answers were a new branch of the clan in his area of the United States, and the

international charitable body - a “Community of Honor” as he initially described it - that eventually became *The Community of the Tonsured Servant (CTS)*.

It's no exaggeration to say that without Father Mac the Clan MacMillan Centre would probably have folded a long time ago. This is not only because CTS itself provided immediate and regular financial support from its foundation in 1995; but also because of the example Mac set, and the work he personally put-in persuading the less than enthusiastic leaders of some clan branches of the need for them to offer full support to the Centre. All of that cumulated in the successful launch at the next meeting, five years later, of the “Conclave Challenge” on which the Clan Centre now depends almost as much as on CTS.

Clan MacMillan, The Centre, and I personally, along with his many other friends in the clan, were the beneficiaries then of the experience Mac had gained in getting things done over a long and truly remarkable life - which it has been my privilege to review again by re-reading his *“Memories: Glimpses of the life of a parish priest fighting for social justice”* which Mac recorded in 2006.

Alexander Malcolm MacMillan was born on 13th January 1921 in Atlanta, Georgia. His father, John Harrison MacMillan, was a



talented and industrious man - working as a designer and salesman of furnishings for offices, churches and banks - with a job that took him all over the southern United States. Mac's happy childhood was shaken however by the onset of the Depression, which resulted in his father losing his job and the family their home. Though they were rescued by the offer from Mac's maternal grandfather of a house in Jackson, Tennessee, the strain of these events on his father may have told, since he died not many years later when Mac was still in High School.

Mac's mother Jimmie Moselle White therefore took on the burden of bringing up her family alone (Mac had two elder brothers), which she did with the love and strictness then common in Christian families in the southern states.

Mac remembered his father encouraging him to read, which he loved, and his mother trying to teach him the piano, which he was not so fond of. Another important influence in his childhood was his Sunday School teacher, Walter Grady, who also gave him his first paid work, and an interest in Scouting which was to last for sixty years.

Mac discovered his vocation while still at High School, and he was in time elected President of the Young Churchmen of the



Taking it easy in the beautiful Butchart Gardens

Whilst everyone else was busy with last minute details I'm afraid I retired to a darkened room for a siesta. I wish I could say it was because of an early start that day, but truthfully what little wine I'd had seemed to have gone to my head....

The Chief's flag was draped over the balcony and an encouraging number of guests arrived. They all had the chance to chat with

George and Graeme, and we discovered one couple were first generation emigrants; the husband from Edinburgh and the wife from Paisley, which is only ten minutes from Finlaystone! A small world right enough. It was a wonderful relaxing get together, and our host impressed yet again by playing the pipes.

Next day Graeme and I took a trip to the Butchart

Gardens, which include - along with the Japanese, Italian, and Rose Gardens - a fantastic Sunken Garden, which is all the more impressive since it had originally been a quarry.

Dave and Mary really put themselves out for us, taking us to the Gardens and then on to the terminal for the ferry to Vancouver (where we're pictured below). Their hospitality was wonderful. I really appreciated it, and came away thinking that I really have to buy a bigger house so I can play host in return.



MacMillan Salmon Business in the Western Isles



Angus MacMillan

Angus MacMillan is the Managing Director of **West Minch Salmon Ltd.**, which is now the largest independent Atlantic Salmon farming and processing company in the Western Isles of Scotland.

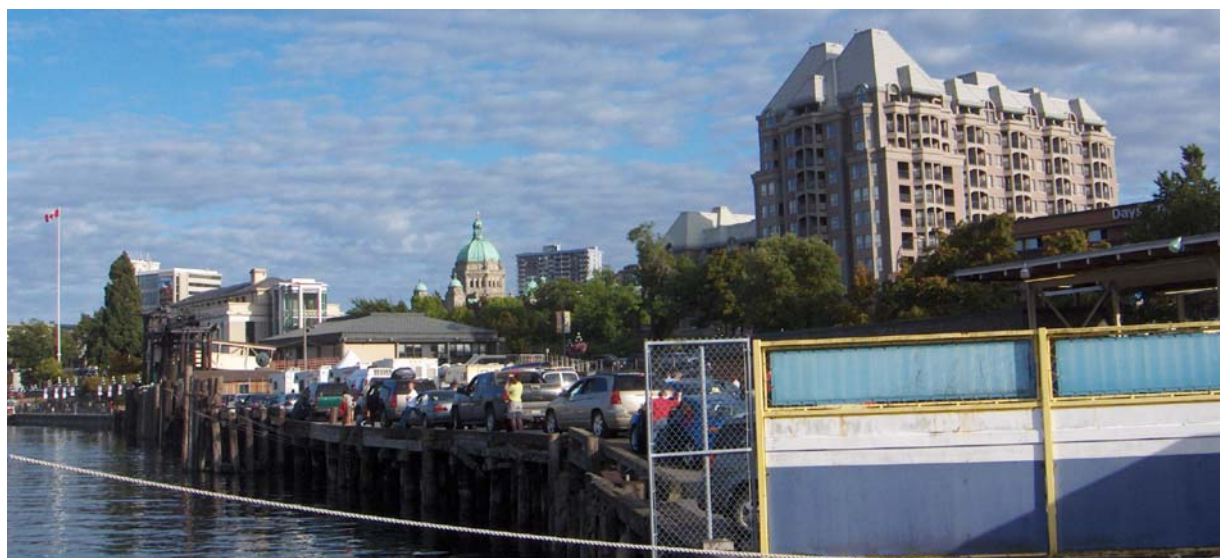
The company, which Angus founded in 1985, has three sites on its home island of Benbecula (Uiskevagh, Meanarvagh, Petersport), and others on the neighbouring islands of North Uist (Locheport) and Harris (Grosebay, Stockinish, Laxadale, Hermasaig, Na Cour, and Rhenigadale).

They specialise in organically produced fish with a unique taste and texture, which come from a mixture of sea and freshwater lochs. They're processed at the old shellfish-packing factory at Gramsdale that Angus took over and converted in 1991.

Their products are promoted by **Hebrides Harvest**, their sales & marketing division - see www.hebridesharvest.com - and the company can be contacted at *Gramsdale, Isle of Benbecula, Western Isles, HS7 5LZ. Tel: +44 (0)1870-602081*



Mac and Chief George in Bethlehem, PA, in 2001



And finally to British Columbia

Pauline Simpson

The Clipper took us smoothly to Vancouver Island (Victoria harbour is pictured above) - the only hiccup being the wait to go through immigration. The queue took the best part of an hour to navigate as it zig-zagged up and down the arrivals hall, and all I could think about was poor Dave waiting for us somewhere in the car-park.



Sandy Bitner makes her point over a cup of the island's best coffee

I'd met David McMillan and his son Thomas some months before at Finlaystone, but wasn't all that confident that I would know him again; but the advantage of travelling with the Chief is that everyone recognises *him*, and the rest of us tag along! Fortunately we made the rendezvous without any mishap. George was staying with childhood friend Sybil Butterfield and her husband, and Graeme and I were staying with Dave & his wife Mary and their family.

Dave had organised a couple of events to kick-start interest in a Clan MacMillan branch in British Columbia. The first was a visit to a winery in Cowichan Bay where we met up with Hugh P. MacMillan and Sandra Bitner, and joined in a tour of the vineyard - and yes, of course we sampled the wine!

After lunch in a popular coffee shop on the way back down to Victoria, we arrived at Dave's to find that Mary had all the catering in hand for the second event. This was to be a social evening and buffet to which Dave had invited local MacMillan business people.



George and Hugh P. MacMillan with Alan Edkins (centre), a descendant of James Macmillan - son of Allan of Glenpean - by one of his Native American "country wives"



The CTS Abbots, Mac & Blanche

Diocese of Tennessee. He recounts how, whilst serving as a youth representative for his state at the General Convention of the Church in Cincinnati, he had an experience that he calls a "conversion":

I was surprised to find so many black young people from all over the country at the Convention. At a meeting several of them came and sat at my table. Still having a lot of prejudices against Blacks, I was going to get up and storm away from the table. But right then I had a vision of the Mite Box that we used to give out during Lent. On the side of the box there was an illustration of children holding hands as if they were dancing in a circle, each child different. There was a child dressed in a kilt, a Spanish child, an African child, and children from other races and nations. As I was about to leave the table, I remembered that box and its message - this is what it is all about. All races and nations, one family in Christ. I stayed at the table. I came home from that convention a changed person.

Mac took his resulting determination to fight racial segregation to Lambuth College in Jackson - where he was editor of the campus newsletter and yearbook, and co-chairman of a joint-student association linking his white college and the nearby black Lane College. He then attended the School of Theology of the University of the South Sewanee, TN, where his thinking

on racial issues, and his involvement with local labour unions, got him classed - as he puts it - as a "dangerous radical". Nonetheless he still enjoyed the old-fashioned formality of the seminary, including what he describes as its "British traditions" - such as wearing caps & gowns to classes, coats & ties to dinner, and tail-coats & white ties for dances.

At the end of his second year of seminary Mac went to Bellevue Hospital in New York for his clinical pastoral education. It was there that he met Sara Jane Mark - his beloved "Sally" - who was a senior nursing student, and soon to become a clinical instructor in the nursing school. They became engaged, he tells us, as they rode the Staten Island Ferry; and, when Mac had to return to Tennessee to complete his last year at seminary, they each wrote a letter a day every day for a year, before they could get married in the Christmas holidays prior to Mac's graduation in February 1944.

Father Mac's first parish was Holy Trinity in Memphis, TN, and it wasn't long before he took

active steps to promote integration there by merging the hitherto separate black and white youth programmes and activities. This led to the first of many recognitions in his long ministry when he was awarded the *Pro Bono Public Community Service Award of the Memphis Negro Junior Chamber of Commerce*. It also led to a series of threatening calls from the local chapter of the Klu-Klux Klan - which Sally, who was indeed a "damn Yankee" (from Pennsylvania) often dealt with by pointing to Mac's impeccable southern background, which included an aunt who was active in the Daughters of the Confederacy.

After four "happy and exciting" years in Memphis (1944-1948), Mac was recommended to the Church of the Ascension in St. Louis by the National Chaplain of the Sons of the Confederacy, Rev. Marshall Winfield. He was, surprisingly, a liberal, and "forgot" to tell the senior warden of the St. Louis parish - who was looking for a conservative southerner to fill the post - that while Mac was a southerner, he could hardly be described as a conservative.



Mac blessing the Emigrants Cairn at Murlagan in 2002 in the presence of Chief George MacMillan and the late Sir Donald Cameron of Lochiel

Mac worked hard and successfully in St. Louis to turn around a declining parish - at the same time assuming a more prominent role in the national politics of the Episcopal Church, where he served on the committee to revise the Prayer Book. His rising prominence led to interest from a number of other churches; and eventually, after eight rewarding years in St. Louis (1948-1956) he accepted the call from St. John in Sharon, Pennsylvania - a large, wealthy and active parish where he was to face a range of new problems.

One of Mac's most memorable experiences in Sharon was his involvement with the local Mafia boss who, though himself an "inactive" Roman Catholic, had a Welsh wife who was one of Mac's parishioners. When the Mafia man went into hospital following a heart attack she asked Mac to visit him, which he did - indeed he even gave blood for him. Later on the Sharon Mafia fell out with their powerful neighbours in Youngstown - the famous "Murder Inc." - and a contract was put out on Mac's new-found friend. In the end he died of a stroke rather than a bullet, and Mac was asked to take his funeral. This was of course attended by hordes of men in black suits and wide-brimmed



Mac at Finlaystone with Chris McMullen, Chaplain of CTS, and Langbank minister Anna Rodwell



Mac preaching under the John Knox Tree at Finlaystone

hats arriving in limousines that attracted a great deal of interest from the local FBI. As Mac says: *...it was a fascinating exposure to a style of life you don't expect... particularly in a town the size of Sharon which was about 40,000.* Mac and Sally were seventeen years there (1956-1973).

Mac's final parish was also in Pennsylvania, but was an altogether different challenge. The Church of the Mediator in Allentown was another rebuilding task, with Mac leading a team of priests serving a number of declining churches which needed pulling together. The way Mac describes it the job may well have been an ideal preparation for what was to come with Clan MacMillan:

The team approach presented challenging work assignment and scheduling tasks, a lot of juggling. I realised that each member of the clergy team needed to have some sense of ownership or leadership. I had discovered from the past that clergy persons can be very jealous of each other. They want to run their own show.

Mac's work at Allentown also involved promoting reconciliation between two local hospitals at odds over a merger proposal, and since one of these

was a Roman Catholic foundation he worked closely with his Catholic opposite number - and with the local Presbyterian and Lutheran ministers as well.

Mac was obviously a very successful priest, and describes himself as ambitious when young; but goes on:

I have often said God has rubbed my nose in it by letting me be nominated but not elected Bishop in twelve dioceses. It took an awful lot for me to get the message that this is not what God had in store for me.

Mac's full-time career in the church was ended in 1986 by a serious heart attack which resulted in his retirement to the family cottage in Chautauqua, not far from Lake Eirie. There of course, like many retired people, he was busier than ever - particularly as the local bishop was an old friend who could find him all sorts of interesting things to do.

It was during Mac and Sally's fourteen years in Chautauqua that the family pilgrimage to Scotland took place; and it was in that delightful corner of New York State that, as a result of his visit to Finlaystone, the CTS was born in 1995.



Adhania shows George the building on the Microsoft Campus where she and Bill Gates had their offices

We enjoyed a light supper in a local Greek restaurant - which turned out to be Egyptian. The poor girl behind the counter eventually broke the news that she was supposed to have closed half an hour ago. As we were her only customers, she had perhaps been reluctant to spoil our fun.

On Saturday 9th August the Washington Branch was to be formed at a picnic in the local park. The weather forecast was anything but encouraging. Nothing daunted, Adhania mustered and pitched several tents to shelter the participants and the vast quantity of delicious food - some of it hot - provided for an unknown number of MacMillans.

While Adhania and the newly-arrived Graeme drove to collect me from the B & B, Pauline found herself welcoming the guests. By the time we arrived, she had all their life histories sorted out - and very interesting they were.

Was it to be food first or business? Adhania thought the business would go quicker if food was used as a carrot; but she relented. Morale rose palpably. We even had some music. Thus soothed and strengthened, we settled - about twenty of us - to a very business-like meeting, chaired, of course, by Adhania.

A constitution was discussed and adopted. People offered themselves for jobs with enthusiasm; and the

Branch sprang into existence. It was no sooner born than baptised: the rain turned from a drizzle to a downpour. So we all vanished, leaving Adhania to strike the tents and remove the remains of the feast.

I'm sure this young branch has a great future, with an active and business-like President, able office-bearers and an enthusiastic membership. May it prosper!

Next morning, Adhania picked up Pauline, Graeme and me and wafted us to Seattle to catch the ferry for Victoria - deviating very slightly to glimpse Bill Gates's empire, where she had had a pivotal role as a trouble-shooter

And so to Victoria...

The Victoria Clipper ferry from Seattle to Vancouver Island and two relaxed passengers



On to Washington State

George MacMillan

Following the North American Society Gathering in California the Chief, along with Graeme and Pauline, had been invited by State Convener Adhania Olson to attend the inaugural meeting of the Clan MacMillan Society of Washington.

After the heat and bustle of LA a two-hour flight took me to temperate Seattle, where Adhania and her husband, Rod, met me, thanks to that wonderful invention, the mobile telephone. On our way in their vintage Cadillac (one of a fleet) to their home near Carnation (where the milk came from) we had to stop at Barnaby's for an exquisite meal, featuring a lobster bisque. Adhania made no secret of the Olsons' delight in food; and, after that bisque, I could see why.



Under cover of darkness we eventually reached the palatial B & B (pictured below) where I was to be Adhania's guest for the next three nights. I slept soundly in the 'Moose Suite', whose door was guarded by a surprisingly comfortable arm chair made of moose antlers (George is pictured right relaxing in the Moose Chair).

After feasting on no ordinary breakfast, I accompanied my host on a dog-walking stroll through the neighbourhood, which consisted of largish homes scattered through a forest. Its floor was covered in all kinds of berries. I was told about the local wild life - human and ursine: bears, drawn perhaps by the berries, had wrenched a hut's door off its moorings



to rob the store of food intended for some very exotic chickens; and lads on motor-bikes found these secluded tracks ideal for high-speed romps, often drug-enhanced - something I found hard to harmonise with so tranquil a sylvan setting. My host, however, told me that such places are officially classified as 'attractive nuisances' (?) - not a bad description for Finlaystone, I thought.

Then I was off with Adhania (in a different Cadillac) to visit and lunch beside some spectacular local waterfalls. So fortified, I spent a while reflecting on our Los Angeles experiences, while Adhania completed preparations for the inaugural meeting of the Washington State Branch of Clan MacMillan, scheduled for the morrow.



CTS Investiture Service during the Liberty Gathering in New York in 2003

The Chautauqua gathering was my introduction to the USA, and my stay with Mac and Sally then was the first of many that I was to enjoy over the next few years with them and their family. I was indeed taken in and treated as a member of the family, both at Chautauqua and then at Bethlehem where Mac and Sally moved a few years later following his diagnosis with Parkinson's, and Sally's with Alzheimer's Disease.

I particularly remember my last stay with them in Bethlehem before Sally's death in 1999, when we all went up into the Pocono Mountains to celebrate the Celtic New Year - in November, when it was still warm in the lowlands, but absolutely freezing up in the hills. Sally probably had little idea what was happening, but still delighted in having so many family and friends around her - all of whom were falling over each other to make sure she stayed warm and in sight.

In 2001 Mac hosted his last Clan MacMillan gathering in Bethlehem, an event involving

the Lehigh Valley Scottish Society which he had helped found in his days as the parish priest at Allentown.

In 2002 Mac took a leading part in the Great Return Gathering in Scotland where he officiated at the blessing of the cairn at Murlagan in memory of the 1802 emigrants to Canada - a moving moment for him as family tradition says his ancestors also came from Lochaber. This was the last time I saw Mac as I didn't go to the 2003 gathering in New York where he assisted Blanche McMillan, his successor as Abbot of CTS, in the

investiture of yet more Companions of the Tonsured Servant. Mac will surely have been delighted to know throughout his last years in a nursing home how well the CTS has prospered, and what a fine job Blanche has been doing following in his footsteps.

Mac died on the 9th September in the Westminster Village Nursing Home in Allentown. His funeral was held on the 20th September in the Cathedral Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem. The sermon, given by Mother Laura Howell, began:

If some of you have come today expecting to hear about how perfect and saintly Father Mac was, you may lie back and think...about castles in Scotland for the next few minutes. I have never liked eulogies that describe someone in such glowing terms that they are unrecognisable.... When I first began to work with Father Mac, he gave me a strict warning. I've heard him say it to other people, too, so I don't think I'm telling tales out of school. He said, "You need to know that I am very stubborn and excessively wilful." He was not

exaggerating.... He was indeed a man of erudition, with high pastoral skills, and a great desire to be holy - whether or not he achieved that goal is up to his Maker to say.... He was passionate about the causes of social justice. He loved people: his family most of all, of course, but parishioners, colleagues, soup kitchen guests, and especially children. He was tremendously gregarious and generous. But he could also be cantankerous, demanding, focused to a fault, judgmental, and a noodle. In other words, Mac was a fine priest... But also simply human, with typical human failings.

While it's impossible to overestimate Mac's contribution to Clan MacMillan in the last fourteen years, in the end it's not his institutional achievements in church and clan that we'll remember him by, but as that wonderfully warm person and devoted pastor - which is how he would have wished it himself. Indeed, when asked about his legacy, he replied simply: *I would like to leave behind a reputation as a loving priest who cared about his people.* Just as such he'll be sorely missed by all, especially by his kin in Clan MacMillan.



Rev. Malcolm and son Rev. Dave at Finlaystone in June 2000

For the full text of Mother Laura's eulogy go to http://diobeth.typepad.com/diobeth_newspin/2008/09/sermon-by-mothe.html#more

The Galloway Gathering

Candice Brown & Peter MacMillan

Clan MacMillan in the UK held their annual gathering this summer (20-22 June) at Castle Douglas in Galloway. Peter MacMillan and Candice Brown came up from Lancashire to attend, and have kindly sent us the following account of events.

Arriving at The Kings Arms Hotel in Castle Douglas we spied Pauline with portfolio under her arm looking very smart, elegant and busy on our behalf. No doubt organising the meals for our first meeting. It was good to meet up with new and auld friends, and especially good to see a local family of MacMillans who had come down the road from Kirkcudbright. We also had folk from New Zealand, Surrey, London, Cheshire, Manchester, Lancashire, Perthshire, and Glasgow. The party had grown to such a size we had to overspill into the adjoining room and a great deal of fun was to be had enjoying a drink in both rooms!

Chief George welcomed everyone as we sat down to enjoy our meals; and once they were completed a birthday cake was escorted in for the Chief as we all sang 'Happy Birthday'. Later George introduced us to Hugh MacMillan, a teacher from Dumfries-shire, who read some of his excellent published poems - and was subsequently acclaimed as Clan Bard by chief and clan. George said he was now pleased to pass on the task of the Christmas Poem to Hugh. Other Readings followed with some of Peter's poems and George's read by Pauline.

Carol Elliot, Secretary of the Clan MacMillan Society of New Zealand then gave a very interesting and informative account of the work of her society. We are always full of admiration and grateful for those clans-folk who travel thousands of miles to our gatherings. And so it was that "the nicht drawe on wi sangs and clatter an the party grew even better" (sorry Robbie). As the



Carol Elliott at the grave of Kirkpatrick MacMillan

evening grew to a close we made arrangements to meet again in the morning.

The morning found us organized into groups to go to the annual Medieval Market in Kirkcudbright. It was great to see the market stalls on the town green showing traditional arts and crafts of Galloway, including wool spinning, jewellery, & clothes - and all the time wonderful aromas were never far away in this "Land O' Cakes" from stalls selling local foodstuffs. Further to all this there were local musicians playing traditional Galloway music to give a time-honoured experience to the event. All the stallholders and many of the people of the town also wore traditional costume. Some of the knights in shining armour were very intrigued to see a highland clan among them.

Many of the clan then went off to see MacLennan's Castle, situated in the middle of the town, while others strolled round Kirkcudbright visiting art galleries, the museum, and coffee shops. There was also an emergency services exhibition of police, fire, ambulance, and

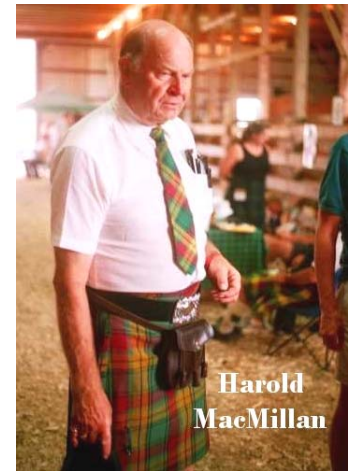


A lot of planning went into the gathering and it was a complete success. Sir Gordon opened the Games in Maxville. The guest speaker at the banquet was John Matheson who helped develop Canada's Maple Leaf Flag, as well as the Order of Canada. On Sunday there was the unveiling of a plaque in Williamstown in honour of the emigration to Glengarry in 1802. This ceremony was attended by Lorne MacMillan, a grandson of Archibald Murlagan, and by Jack Barker (still living, Spring 2008), a gt. gt. grandson of Archibald.

In 1963 a large number of Canadian MacMillans went to Scotland to attend the gathering there, and gatherings in the following years followed a more or less set pattern; with one in Canada, one in Scotland, and one in the United States at two year intervals.

Our local branch barely functioned for a number of years, but was finally reborn in 1997 as the "Glengarry and Ottawa Valley Branch". Our membership dwindled as the years went by. It is now no longer possible to have an annual meeting followed by a dinner with a speaker, as 40 people are needed to make the event viable. Changing family values mean that membership in the Clan MacMillan Society is well down the list of priorities.

The Branch however still maintains a presence at the Glengarry Highland Games in Maxville by manning a booth in the Clan building and by taking part in the Clan Parade. The emphasis of the Branch now lies in assisting financially with Project MAOL and with attempting to work on genealogical problems locally.



In closing, tribute must be paid to those early organizers of the North American Society. It has been a great 50 years. There have been so many wonderful people we crossed paths with over the years, some still living but many who have passed on. Nothing but good memories.

May the next 50 be as rewarding!

So to the 50th birthday party ... with apologies to Chuck Berry

*I left my home in Inverness Scotland, California on my mind,
I flew into Gatwick looking for a plane that took Zoom twelve hours to find,
We stopped in Calgary but by-passed the hotel, we very nearly missed the train,
And we was all the way across the Rockies, before we had a bed to lay-in.*

*Right away I took me a walk in Kamloops, lookin' for a decent bar,
And I was ready in the morning to board the flyer, smokin' down to Vancouver.
Next day I went with my through plane ticket, to the US Customs Man,
Then I spent two hours, standing in line, while he went as slow as he can.
A welcome it was not as he scanned my passport, then the finger of my hand,
But soon we were up and over the border, on a jet to the Promised Land.*

So we taxied to the terminal zone, but not much chance of cooling our wings with the temperature in the mid-90s. Shuttle found, we piled in, for our two hour journey across LA to Claremont and Pitzer College.

Mount San Antonio shimmered in the distance and cacti roasted on the campus, but only mad dogs and Englishmen - or in this case Scotsmen (same difference to many non Scots-Americans) - were out in the mid-day sun.

Oh for a beer. Not here you don't! Imagine British students being told there's no bar in their college - and a clan without a dram!! However, with our own hospitality room and balcony, and Connall Bell as our host, we weren't dry for long.

Day One: Shades, shorts, & sandals. We're off in search of the celluloid dream - on a yellow school bus; will Dirty Harry be waiting to rescue us somewhere en route (no, wrong Californian city). Universal Studios. It's not quite Disney World, but they seem to be doing their best to be just another theme park. They do have beer of course - well Budweiser - to go with the obligatory burgers and pizza.

Day Two: Ditto; but don't forget the sunscreen, as we're to be outside in gardens. And what gardens - Japanese, Chinese, Rose, Desert, Palm. We could have spent a couple of days here enjoying them, along with the Museum and Art Gallery, and still not have seen everything. Wonderful place; nice café; decent beer too!

Day Three: Double Ditto; because we're heading for the beach - via the La Brea Tar Pits (dinosaurs), and of course Hollywood. No time for a Surfin' Safari though, and not much even fully to appreciate those California Girls; but a great lunch on the Santa Monica Pier - with real beer served by a lass from Ulster.

Day Four: Kilts, socks & sashes for the CTS service in Ontario, CA (calm and colourful); back to base for the Conclave (a little less calm!); and finally on to dinner in the Altadena Country Club - a delicious climax to a memorable few days in the Golden State. Many thanks to Connall and Patricia for all the hard work that we know went into it.

Graeme Mackenzie

A Clan MacMillan Society in North America - The First Fifty Years

by Harold MacMillan

Treasurer of the Glengarry & Ottawa Valley Branch of Clan MacMillan

Here in Glengarry, our first contact with other MacMillans interested in the formation of a North American clan society, came through letters published in the Glengarry News authored by two gentlemen, Edward B. McMillan of Ipswich, Massachusetts, and Allister Macmillan of Wolfville, Nova Scotia. They wanted to know if there were any MacMillans in Glengarry who would be interested in forming a Clan MacMillan Society. There was some interest expressed locally and, after meeting with these gentlemen, a gathering was planned to try to form a local branch.

The first meeting was held in the room of the Agricultural Representative on Main Street, Alexandria, on 8th November 1957. It was agreed at that time to form an organization. Members of the committee named were: Rev. Donald N. MacMillan, Dunvegan, Honorary Chairman; Hugh P. MacMillan, Lochiel, Chairman; Harold MacMillan, Hawkesbury, Secretary. I quote from the *Glengarry News* of 14th November 1957: "Considerable enthusiasm was shown at the meeting, but Rev. Dr. MacMillan emphasized the necessity of developing interest in the Society before actual organization. By word of mouth members of the committee are to endeavour to interest as many MacMillans and others eligible to join. There are many septs of the clan and they are eligible, as well as husbands, sons and daughters of clanswomen."

Matters progressed very well, and a branch of the Clan MacMillan Society was in due course formed with Hugh P. MacMillan as Chairman. It was decided to call it the "Glengarry and District Branch".

In July of 1958 Sir Gordon and Lady MacMillan came to Ontario and visited St. Andrews Cemetery in Williamstown where a wreath was laid on the grave of Allan MacMillan of Glenpean, who was one of the two MacMillans responsible for bringing three shiploads of MacMillans and others from Lochaber, Scotland, to Glengarry in the year 1802. They also went to Grenville, Quebec, to view the home of Archibald Murlagan MacMillan who, with Allan Glenpean, was jointly responsible for bringing so many MacMillans to this area from Scotland.



Harold MacMillan (centre), as President of the Glengarry and District Branch, presents Sir Gordon and Lady MacMillan (right) with paintings depicting the arrival of the Lochaber emigrants in 1802 - assisted by the clan bard Rev. Somerled MacMillan (left) and his wife Janet - at the gathering in 1962

They visited the Presbyterian church in Grenville which had long been closed but which contained a large brass plaque in memory of Archibald Murlagan and his son Alexander, who died of cholera in 1832. Later Sir Gordon proceeded to Hamilton, where he was installed as Chief in a ceremony at the clan gathering where Hugh P. MacMillan had the honour of carrying the halberd.

The first annual meeting of the Glengarry and District Branch was held in Cornwall, at Shirley's Restaurant, on 10th February 1960. Later the Branch agreed to host the North American Clan MacMillan Gathering to be held in the summer of 1962. Cornwall would be the base and the gathering would be held to coincide with the Glengarry Highland Games in Maxville.



Dave Bury, accordion, and Peter MacMillan, fiddle, entertaining the clan at Haugh of Urr.

'lifeboat' (Kirkcudbright being a small fishing port on the North Coast of the Irish sea).

At the appointed time we gathered again to go to Threave House Gardens and Estate for lunch in their restaurant - after which we held a *forghaitherin'*, where it was decided to have another clan meal in the evening. The taxing task fell on Pauline to find a venue to take us all in as one party at short notice. We then explored the wonderful gardens of the estate, the whole of which is a wildfowl refuge with walks, nature trail and countryside centre.

Our next expedition was a safari into the Galloway Hills to find the Home of Susan & Peter Seed (Susan is a daughter of the last chieftain of the Galloway MacMillans). With the help of Pauline's excellent maps we set

off, passing Loch Ken and proceeding through New Galloway and St John's Town of Dalry. Soon we were on to Scotland's adventurous country roads as we went towards the source of the River Ken and Nether Holm of Dalquhairn.

At Dalquhairn we were greeted by Susan & Peter who made us most welcome to their home. Peter took us into the grounds to view 'The MacMillan Stone' which states that the land belongs to the MacMillan family, and which has been there since 1729. It was interesting to note that the house and adjoining buildings are now used as a religious retreat as well as a farm.

The hospitality shown us all was superb as we were invited to help ourselves to a magnificent spread laid out on the large kitchen table. All the excellent cakes, biscuits and scones, along with jam, were home made by Susan's fair hand. Most of the ingredients, the cream and butter that went along with the feast, were also from the farm.

All too soon we had to leave Dalquhairn, and saying farewell to Susan and Peter, we returned to Castle Douglas.

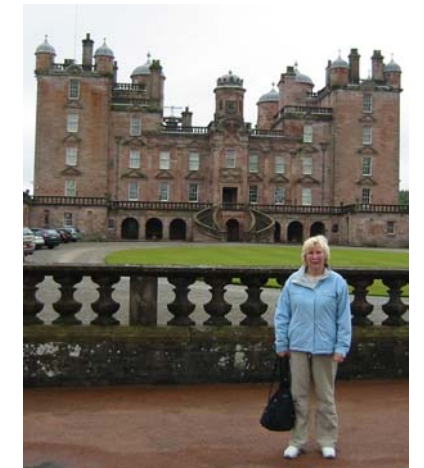
We met again in the evening at the Laurie Arms - we were in Annie Laurie country - at the village of Haugh of Urr. Hats off to Pauline who found us such a brilliant village pub venue for our evening meal.



We all sat down at a long table in banquet fashion. The food was superb with much laughter and banter. Dave Bury rounded off the evening with traditional tunes on his accordion, along with Peter on his fiddle. The pub must have liked us for we seemed to be heading for a 'lock in'. However - alas - the

party had to come to an end because some had to be up early in the morn for further events.

When we gathered next day for brunch in "The Green Tea Room" in the village of Moniave, some of the group had been to see the Henry Moor Statues on the road to Penpont. We met up again with Hugh MacMillan, and went on to Keir Mill to see the grave of Kirkpatrick MacMillan - bicycle inventor. In the graveyard Hugh's friend Robin gave us an informative talk about the history of Kirkpatrick and his Velocipede, after which we proceeded to the forge where Kirkpatrick had built it.



Candice Brown at Drumlanrig

There were placards on the wall there commemorating the event, the latest of which was unveiled by George in 1990 after the opening of the Bicycle Museum at nearby Drumlanrig Castle - which was our next destination. It's the Scottish home of the Duke of Buccleuch & Queensberry, and along with all the usual attractions of a castle, today there was also a farmers market in full swing.

Sadly however we soon had to say our farewells and depart on our separate ways - with new resolve to get to the 2009 Gathering - having enjoyed a thoroughly splendid weekend with wonderful people.

KINTYRE PENINSULA showing MacMillan holdings

M'neils of Gigha

GIGHA

M'neils of Ardmínish

Ardminish

M'ranalds
of Largie

• Killeen

• Largie Castle

Sorlie/Samuel M'millan
Tacksman of Cour in 1714

• Cour

M'millans of South Knapdale
(deprived c.1505 in favour of Campbells)

• Loup

• Skipness Castle

M'millans from Carradale are said
to have settled on Arran and to have
been the ancestors of the publishing
family and of Prime Minister Harold
MacMillan (later 1st Earl of Stockton)

John M'millan
in Glenacardoch 1860
(Gt. Gt. Gr. Fa. of
Brig. Alastair Macmillan)

• Glenacardoch

• Glenbarr Abbey

Archibald M'millan
in Brackley in 1658

• Brackley

• Kinashie

• Kilmichael Lag

• Rhonadale

• Gilbert M'millan
in Rhonadale 1541

• Dippen

Duncan & Neil M'millan
in Dippen in 1685

Alexander M'millan
Tcks. of Putechan in 1720

• Putechan

Alexander M'millan
Tcks. of Lagalgarve in 1750
(4x Gt. Gr. Fa. of George G. MacMillan)

• Lagalgarve

• Tangy Mill

Donald M'millan
Miller at Tangy in late 1700s

M'eachans
of Tangy

M'kays of
Ugadale

• Ugadale

• Kiltchenie

Alexander M'millan the Merchant
moved from Campbelltown
to Cork, Ireland, in 1759
(3x Gt. Gr. Fa. of George G. MacMillan)

• Campbelltown

Knockhanty • Malcolm M'millan
(son of Alexander of the Cross)

• Tifergus

Duncan M'millan

in Tifergus in 1505

(son of Malcolm in Knockhanty)

M'gilellans/M'eachrans of Killellan
a branch of M'couls of Craignish

• Killellan

Angus M'millan
in Gartloskin in 1661

• Gartloskin

• Mucklach

Duncan M'millan
in Mucklach in 1671

• Strone

• North Carrine

John M'millan in Carrine c.1700
(5x Gt. Gr. Fa. of George G. MacMillan)

• Gartvaigh

• Carskey

M'millan-M'neil
of Carskey in 1800s

• Machricastle

• Dunaverty

• Castle

• Borgadillmore

Alex & Malcolm M'millan
in Borgadillmore in 1692

M'neils of
Carskey

Neil M'millan
in Calinlongart &
the Mull in 1505

MULL OF
KINTYRE

Photo of Campbelltown - below - by Mike McMillen

