



# Remember Those From Whom You Came

## Newsletter Of The Clan MacAlpine Society

*The Worldwide Organization For MacAlpines*  
*2nd Quarter 2018 ~ Volume 40*



Kenneth McAlpine



William McAlpin



Michael McAlpin



Sir William McAlpine



Finn Alpin



Sidney Fay McAlpin



Earl Dale McAlpine



Bruce McAlpine

## Commander's News

*The Tartan Day Celebration in Rockford Illinois was a special occasion. The Pipes and Drums of Clan MacAlpine are featured at the event. They have been an institution in the Chicago Area for over one hundred years. It was a particular honor to represent the family at the event and meet these great people.*

*In June we will have a small celebration in Edinburgh to honor our Sennachie Elect Mark McAlpin, who has completed his studies at the University of Strathclyde and is now a certified Sennachie (elect). The position will be deemed elect until such time as we have a Chief.*

*The Sennachie is an ancient Scots/Picts position within the Clan structure that is charged with preserving the history, honor, deeds and lineage of those who have gone before them. Well done Mark.*

*The Highland Games season is once more upon us, and our thanks go to those who participate in the events and contribute so much to our Society and the entire Scottish Community in this important effort to preserve our heritage.*

*Our Annual Meeting will be held at the Stone Mountain Highland Games in October. There is an exciting venue set up for it and I look forward to seeing many of you there*

*Yours Aye  
Michael T McAlpin, Commander*



**Commander:** Michael T. McAlpin

**Society Officers:**

**President:** Earl Dale McAlpine

**Vice President:** Mark McAlpin

**Treasurer:** Janet McAlpine

**Secretary:** Robin McAlpine

**Member at Large:** Finn Stavsno Alpin

**Newsletter Editor:** Janet McAlpine

**Shennachie Elect:** Mark McAlpin

# President's News



I'm happy to see the flurry of activities by the MacAlpine Society so far this year. So many attended the Burn's Celebration dinners around the world, Tartan Day celebrations while others are hosting Society tents. It's so important to include our families and children in these events so they may learn more about their Scottish heritage.

I'm very proud of my nephew Jason and his family for stepping up to host the clan tent at Scottish Fest USA in Orange County, California. The family recently made the journey to Scotland to learn more about their Scottish roots.

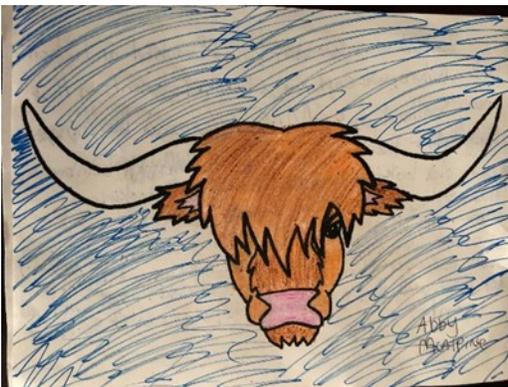
I recently posted some coloring pages on our FB page. I thought these might be a good way to introduce Scottish traditions to young children. I would like to see the finished artwork colored by your kids and grandkids.

Just a reminder that this is an election year for the Society. We have the positions of secretary and treasurer coming up for a vote. Please send your nominations to Robin in [robinmcalpine@yahoo.com](mailto:robinmcalpine@yahoo.com). Make sure the person you are nominating is willing and able to do the job.

I would like to thank Janet McAlpine of Reno for stepping up and filling in at the treasurer position after Kenneth resigned. We are so thankful to have such a talented family with such a variety of backgrounds.

I look forward to seeing you all at the AGM at Stone Mountain, GA in October.

Best,  
Dale



## The Pipes and Drums of Clan MacAlpine



Proudly displaying the Argyll Boar on a Crown, which is so much associated with the MacAlpines and our Society, the Pipes and Drums of Clan MacAlpine is the 15<sup>th</sup> oldest pipe band in the U.S. Founded over one hundred years ago by an emigrant from old MacAlpine towns on the Kintyre Peninsula.



The Clan MacAlpine Pipes and drums are the featured event at the Tartan Day Celebration in Rockford, Illinois, held at the beautiful Veterans Memorial Hall.



The band played splendidly, the Mayor brought greetings and spoke of the contributions of the Scottish Community and the President of the local Robert Burns Club highlighted the significance of the Declaration of Arbroath.

The MacAlpine Commander, Michael McAlpin, presented a contribution to the Pipe Band's Scholarship Fund.

Following the Tartan Day Celebration, we had a fine lunch and continued our discussions at the Prairie Street Brewhouse in Rockford.

## Married to MacAlpine

By Robin McCain McAlpine



A little bit of background:

I grew up proud of my Scotch-Irish heritage. I was proud to have Mc in front of my name. I have a friend, McIntosh, who plays the bag pipes, speaks a bit of Gaelic, and wears the kilt. I have known him all my life and he helped me learn to be proud of our heritage. I was enamored by him and really loved to hear him play those pipes. He is/was always one of the heroes in my life.

You may have heard the fact that I have known Dale since I was ten years old. His father had recently passed away and he was a quiet, sad boy. I had the biggest crush on him as a young girl. Of course we went our separate ways, raised two families and were blessed to find one another again to live a beautiful life together.

That being said, I was the one who took Dale to his first Highland Games in Costa Mesa, CA, where we met my friend Mac (McIntosh) who then introduced Dale to Kenneth McAlpine (the spark). Kenneth introduced Dale to Doris' book where he found his family line and the spark turned to fire. The fire has raged on now for nearly 20 years.

Since Dale's father died at a young age, and his grandfather passed the year before. Dale did not have a male leader in his life. He had no one to ask about his heritage as he got older. So meeting Kenneth and finding his line in that book was like a lifeline for him.

However...it was not just his journey. He shared it with me and I helped with whatever I could throughout his search for proofs of his family line in order to receive his coat of arms. I rode the merry-go-round with him

for about ten years. It took a long time for him to get that reward. It proudly hangs on the wall in our house to this day.

And...now I want mine. I want to research my line. I want to find how my family came here, how they immigrated, where they immigrated to. I want to fill my closet with my tartan, with ties and skirts and dresses in my tartan. You see, I already have a closet full of MacAlpin "stuff".

But wait...You want to know the one thing I do know about the McCain's? Way back somewhere that I know not, the McCain's and the MacAlpin's are related.

Wait what?

Do you mean to tell me that I married my cousin? Yes, I married my cousin. And the kicker is, when I inquired about the McCain tartan on the McCain Facebook page you want to know what the answer was? You can wear the MacAlpin tartan. My dreams of a closet filled with McCain tartan are dashed....

On a good note, that will save Dale some money on clothes. Lucky boy!

# Argyll's Uprising, Kilmartin, and the MacAlpins

Submitted by: Mark S.C. McAlpin, Sennachie (elect)

In the crowded events that shape Scotland history, it's perhaps unsurprising that Argyll's failed rebellion of 1685 is a largely forgotten chapter. However, the uprising does have ties to Kilmartin and to MacAlpins.

In 1685, in protest against the accession of Charles II's brother, James II of England and VII of Scotland, the 9th Earl of Argyll, Archibald Campbell, led a rebellion in Scotland. It took place shortly before and in support of the Monmouth Rebellion, led by James Scott, 1<sup>st</sup> Duke of Monmouth. Argyll's Rising was intended to tie down Royal forces in Scotland while Monmouth's army marched on London.

The Government in Scotland seemed to have been aware of Argyll's plans, as they took the precaution of appointing the Marquess of Atholl as Lord Lieutenant of Argyllshire and ordering him to march there with a strong force, occupying the one area where Argyll could count on significant personal support.

The core of Argyll's force would eventually be made up of 1200 clan levies from Campbell lands, including Kintyre, Knapdale, Dunoon, Kilmartin and Craignish. On the 27th of May, Argyll's declaration at Tarbet issued the following command to his tenants,

I hereby require all my vassals everywhere, and all within my several jurisdictions, with the fencible men within their command, to go to arms, and to join and concur with us, according to the said Declaration, as they will be answerable at their highest perils, and to obey the particular orders they shall receive from me from time to time.

Carnassarie Castle, located approximately 1.2 mi to the north of Kilmartin, was then the property of and a stronghold of the Campbells of Auchinbreck, one of the most powerful families of the day. Sir Duncan Campbell of Auchinbreck, had joined the uprising and had hosted the Earl of Argyll and his men for many days. Carnassarie was later occupied and sacked by Royalist forces.

Family legend has it that, whether under orders or under their own accord, a band of MacAlpins, led by John McAlpin of Kilmartin, unsuccessfully attempted to blow up Carnassarie, while it was occupied by Crown forces., Their failed attempt lead to their arrest and conviction of treason against the Crown, and the forfeiture of their livestock. John McAlpin was fined four cows by the Marquess of Atholl, which could amount to a prolonged death sentence during the winter months.



The Government forces defeated Argyll's rebellion, and turned its attention to defeating Monmouth. In the meantime, many of the captured ringleaders were executed including Argyll. Campbell of Auchinbreck escaped and went into hiding, and Carnassarie was burned by Royalists.

In the aftermath of the rebellion 177 of Argyll's followers were transported to Jamaica, while 100 were sent to New Jersey. Argyll was eventually captured and executed in Edinburgh.

Note: Fortunately, excellent records of the list of rebels against the Crown were kept, and are available in "The Commons of Argyll, which were extracted from the Inveraray Sherriff's Court records and published by Duncan McTavish in 1935. Amongst the rebels from the Kilmartin/Knapdale MacAlpines were John MacAlpine of Ardna, John McAlpin, a weaver of Knapdale, John McAlpin of Bardorach, Malcolm McAlpin of Lecknaben, Malcolm McAlpin of Oib, Malcolm McAlpin of Ballino, Malcolm MacAlpine of Ardintraive, Gilbert McCapin of Glasvar, Malcolm McAlpin of Ballmor, Duncan McAlpen, Duncan, McAlpin of Clachandysart, Gilbert McAlpin of Glesvar, John McAlpin of Auchigdrom, and Neil McAlpin (ygr).

It is interesting to note the place-names listed are consistent with traditional MacAlpine place-names of the area.



## TIME TO RSVP!

The 2018 Clan MacAlpine Society AGM Dinner will be held in conjunction with the 46th Annual Stone Mountain Highland Games. Dinner is scheduled for 6 pm, on Friday, October 19th!

Our 2018 AGM and dinner is a short 4 months away. To help in our preparations, it is time to confirm attendance. Please RSVP by July 15th to Michael McAlpin, Jr. at [mmcalpin73@gmail.com](mailto:mmcalpin73@gmail.com) if you plan to join us for dinner on October 19th! Final cost for dinner depends on number of attendees, but we are expecting \$50-\$60 per person.

We have lined up some great entertainment, to include:  
• *Special Guest Speaker* • *Whisky Tasting* • *Scottish Music*

We are excited to announce we have reserved the Robert Burns Cottage of Atlanta for our venue!  
The Cottage is located at 988 Alloway Place in Atlanta.

### Hotel accommodations:

We have blocked rooms at the Courtyard by Marriott Decatur Downtown/Emory  
130 Clairemont Avenue - Decatur, GA 30030

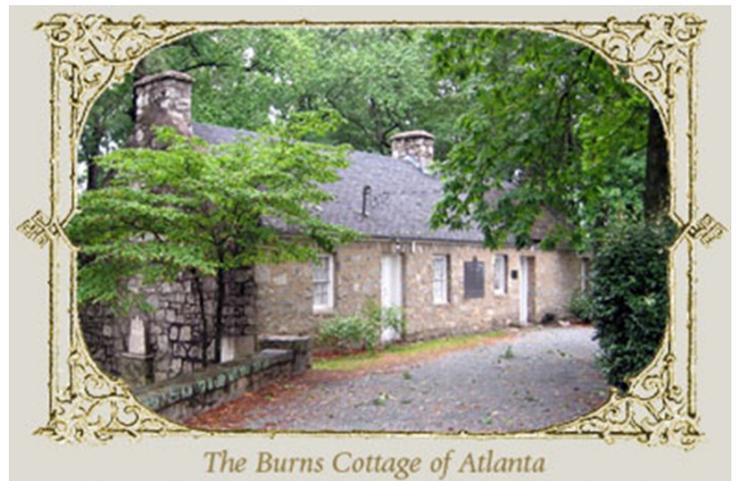
Room Rate is \$149 plus tax. It is suggested you book early! The block ends on September 28<sup>th</sup>, or upon reaching capacity. Please open the following hyperlink for more information on reserving accommodations:

[McAlpine Room Block Marriott Hotel](#)

*Note: Accommodations closer to Stone Mountain can be secured but note that Friday traffic in Atlanta getting to the Burns Cottage will be difficult, so we chose a location closer to the Burns Cottage as the Saturday drive to Stone Mountain will be quicker.*

## Atlanta Burns Cottage Site of our 2018 AGM Dinner

On January 25, 1896, the anniversary of his birth in the year that was the centenary of his death, the founders of the Burns Club of Atlanta held their inaugural meeting at the Aragon Hotel. This group of men met annually to celebrate Robert Burns, and in 1907 incorporated for the purposes of raising funds through issues bonds, the proceeds of which would be used to build a permanent clubhouse. The Atlanta Burns Cottage was due to the significant efforts of many of the leading men of Atlanta.



*The Burns Cottage of Atlanta*

*Providing a tangible glimpse of the life, times, interests, programs and legacy of enjoyment of the works of The Bard.*

# Many MacAlpine Males Have Taken Y-DNA Test

By Stu Pike

If you're into genealogy tracking the MacAlpine surname (and spelling variations) it can be a lot of fun. However, when looking at census, church or paper records it can be difficult to tell if you are related to the other MacAlpines in a region. Fortunately Y-DNA which tracks the surname (ie, your father, your grandfather, your g-grandfather, etc.) can sometimes tell which of the various MacAlpine sub-clads you belong to. Of equal importance it can tell you which sub-clad you are NOT related to.

Eighty-nine (89) MacAlpine men have had their DNA tested showing a splinter of various sub-clads.

## My FamilyTree DNA Project Website Title - Y-DNA Colorized Chart

For genealogy within the most recent fifteen generations, STR markers help define paternal lineages. Y-DNA STR markers change (mutate) often enough that most men who share the same STR results also share a recent paternal lineage. This page displays Y-Chromosome DNA (Y-DNA) STR results for the project. It uses the colorized format. The columns display each project member's kit number, paternal ancestry information according to project settings, the paternal tree branch (haplogroup), and actual STR marker results. The color coding of STR names is explained [here](#). In the haplogroups column, haplogroups in green are confirmed by SNP testing. Haplogroups in red are predicted. Above each subgroup, we display the minimum, maximum and mode values for each STR marker in the subgroup. STR marker values that differ from the mode values are color-coded. You can read about the coding system [here](#). You may learn more about Y-DNA STRs on the [Understanding Y-DNA STRs](#) learning page.

Markers: Y-DNA12 Page Size: 500 Show All Columns

Kit Number	Name	Haplogroup	DYS390	DYS19	DYS385	DYS406	DYS388	DYS391	DYS392	DYS393	DYS456	DYS459	DYS464	DYS467	DYS474	DYS477	DYS481	DYS484	DYS487	DYS490	DYS494	DYS500	DYS503	DYS504	DYS506	DYS509	DYS512	DYS513	DYS515	DYS517	DYS518	DYS520	DYS521	DYS522	DYS523	DYS524	DYS525	DYS526	DYS527	DYS528	DYS529	DYS530	DYS531	DYS532	DYS533	DYS534	DYS535	DYS536	DYS537	DYS538	DYS539	DYS540	DYS541	DYS542	DYS543	DYS544	DYS545	DYS546	DYS547	DYS548	DYS549	DYS550	DYS551	DYS552	DYS553	DYS554	DYS555	DYS556	DYS557	DYS558	DYS559	DYS560	DYS561	DYS562	DYS563	DYS564	DYS565	DYS566	DYS567	DYS568	DYS569	DYS570	DYS571	DYS572	DYS573	DYS574	DYS575	DYS576	DYS577	DYS578	DYS579	DYS580	DYS581	DYS582	DYS583	DYS584	DYS585	DYS586	DYS587	DYS588	DYS589	DYS590	DYS591	DYS592	DYS593	DYS594	DYS595	DYS596	DYS597	DYS598	DYS599	DYS600	DYS601	DYS602	DYS603	DYS604	DYS605	DYS606	DYS607	DYS608	DYS609	DYS610	DYS611	DYS612	DYS613	DYS614	DYS615	DYS616	DYS617	DYS618	DYS619	DYS620	DYS621	DYS622	DYS623	DYS624	DYS625	DYS626	DYS627	DYS628	DYS629	DYS630	DYS631	DYS632	DYS633	DYS634	DYS635	DYS636	DYS637	DYS638	DYS639	DYS640	DYS641	DYS642	DYS643	DYS644	DYS645	DYS646	DYS647	DYS648	DYS649	DYS650	DYS651	DYS652	DYS653	DYS654	DYS655	DYS656	DYS657	DYS658	DYS659	DYS660	DYS661	DYS662	DYS663	DYS664	DYS665	DYS666	DYS667	DYS668	DYS669	DYS670	DYS671	DYS672	DYS673	DYS674	DYS675	DYS676	DYS677	DYS678	DYS679	DYS680	DYS681	DYS682	DYS683	DYS684	DYS685	DYS686	DYS687	DYS688	DYS689	DYS690	DYS691	DYS692	DYS693	DYS694	DYS695	DYS696	DYS697	DYS698	DYS699	DYS700	DYS701	DYS702	DYS703	DYS704	DYS705	DYS706	DYS707	DYS708	DYS709	DYS710	DYS711	DYS712	DYS713	DYS714	DYS715	DYS716	DYS717	DYS718	DYS719	DYS720	DYS721	DYS722	DYS723	DYS724	DYS725	DYS726	DYS727	DYS728	DYS729	DYS730	DYS731	DYS732	DYS733	DYS734	DYS735	DYS736	DYS737	DYS738	DYS739	DYS740	DYS741	DYS742	DYS743	DYS744	DYS745	DYS746	DYS747	DYS748	DYS749	DYS750	DYS751	DYS752	DYS753	DYS754	DYS755	DYS756	DYS757	DYS758	DYS759	DYS760	DYS761	DYS762	DYS763	DYS764	DYS765	DYS766	DYS767	DYS768	DYS769	DYS770	DYS771	DYS772	DYS773	DYS774	DYS775	DYS776	DYS777	DYS778	DYS779	DYS780	DYS781	DYS782	DYS783	DYS784	DYS785	DYS786	DYS787	DYS788	DYS789	DYS790	DYS791	DYS792	DYS793	DYS794	DYS795	DYS796	DYS797	DYS798	DYS799	DYS800	DYS801	DYS802	DYS803	DYS804	DYS805	DYS806	DYS807	DYS808	DYS809	DYS810	DYS811	DYS812	DYS813	DYS814	DYS815	DYS816	DYS817	DYS818	DYS819	DYS820	DYS821	DYS822	DYS823	DYS824	DYS825	DYS826	DYS827	DYS828	DYS829	DYS830	DYS831	DYS832	DYS833	DYS834	DYS835	DYS836	DYS837	DYS838	DYS839	DYS840	DYS841	DYS842	DYS843	DYS844	DYS845	DYS846	DYS847	DYS848	DYS849	DYS850	DYS851	DYS852	DYS853	DYS854	DYS855	DYS856	DYS857	DYS858	DYS859	DYS860	DYS861	DYS862	DYS863	DYS864	DYS865	DYS866	DYS867	DYS868	DYS869	DYS870	DYS871	DYS872	DYS873	DYS874	DYS875	DYS876	DYS877	DYS878	DYS879	DYS880	DYS881	DYS882	DYS883	DYS884	DYS885	DYS886	DYS887	DYS888	DYS889	DYS890	DYS891	DYS892	DYS893	DYS894	DYS895	DYS896	DYS897	DYS898	DYS899	DYS900	DYS901	DYS902	DYS903	DYS904	DYS905	DYS906	DYS907	DYS908	DYS909	DYS910	DYS911	DYS912	DYS913	DYS914	DYS915	DYS916	DYS917	DYS918	DYS919	DYS920	DYS921	DYS922	DYS923	DYS924	DYS925	DYS926	DYS927	DYS928	DYS929	DYS930	DYS931	DYS932	DYS933	DYS934	DYS935	DYS936	DYS937	DYS938	DYS939	DYS940	DYS941	DYS942	DYS943	DYS944	DYS945	DYS946	DYS947	DYS948	DYS949	DYS950	DYS951	DYS952	DYS953	DYS954	DYS955	DYS956	DYS957	DYS958	DYS959	DYS960	DYS961	DYS962	DYS963	DYS964	DYS965	DYS966	DYS967	DYS968	DYS969	DYS970	DYS971	DYS972	DYS973	DYS974	DYS975	DYS976	DYS977	DYS978	DYS979	DYS980	DYS981	DYS982	DYS983	DYS984	DYS985	DYS986	DYS987	DYS988	DYS989	DYS990	DYS991	DYS992	DYS993	DYS994	DYS995	DYS996	DYS997	DYS998	DYS999	DYS1000
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# Carnassarie Castle in Kilmartin Glen

By: Jo Woof



After our morning ramble around the **Nether Largie stones and Temple Wood**, we pulled off into a car park a little further north and got out to walk up the path to Carnassarie Castle.

I must have first seen Carnassarie Castle in 1984, so long ago that you'd think it was still occupied by its original inhabitants, and since then I've been glimpsing it

sporadically on successive visits to Kilmartin Glen, without ever bothering to go and take a proper look. I was therefore very interested to see what it was like close up. A gaunt and imposing ruin, it sits atop a low hill and glowers down at you as you walk up the footpath.

“It has been suggested that the name Carnassarie is a combination of carn, possibly after the large prominent cairn, Carn Ban, that lies within the farm... and airigh, Gaelic for a shieling or settlement. Another suggestion is that it is a combination of Carn Asairaidh meaning Cairn at the path or route.” Historic Environment Scotland, ‘Carnassarie Castle, Argyll’ – Assessment by Roderick Regan, November 2016.



Failing to find a door on the east-facing side, we circled it in a clockwise direction, passing through a picturesque archway with the date ‘1681’ carved above it, but still we found no way in. The front (and only) door revealed itself eventually, tucked away into the tower on the north-west corner.

The stonework above the doorway is badly weather-worn, but bears the Gaelic inscription DIA LE UA NDUIBHNE which means ‘God be with O Duibhne’. Historic Environment Scotland explains: “Duibhne was the progenitor of the Campbells, and O Duibhne was how their clan chief was designated.” This was therefore a Campbell stronghold; according to the visitor information board, the panel would once have been brightly painted in heraldic colours.



Having found the door, I was slightly reluctant to go in, because it didn't look all that welcoming. I turned into the larger part, the now-roofless keep, which still rises to a height of five storeys. Despite the bright morning outside, the stone walls were dark, cold and damp, silent witnesses to unspoken things.

I felt as if I had to keep moving, so I headed up the narrow spiral staircase with the aim of getting some fresh air at the top. These features always have a slightly dizzying effect on me, because of the twirling physical motion in a confined space. You have to look constantly at your feet, because the steps are barely wide enough to tread on and you have to place your feet at a slant, which is awkward. After a couple of ‘landings’ – in reality, openings that offered increasingly vertiginous views of the interior – I emerged at the top, to breathe in the soft air and gaze out over the landscape of Kilmartin Glen.

(Continued on page 8)

## *Carnassarie Castle in Kilmartin Glen . . . Continued from page 7*



The wall-walk consisted of a railed path around the ramparts, with a steep drop on both sides. It was surprisingly high and I might have found this more testing than I did, but I was glad to be out in the open. I avoided looking vertically down, but instead pointed my camera at arm's length into gloomy cavern and hoped for the best. Then I realised I had to get down again.

Undiscovered Scotland says: "If you've ever wondered if you might be a closet vertigo sufferer, this is the place to find out for sure."

In the late 16th century, Carnassarie held a warmer welcome. This was the purpose-built home of John Carswell, the first Protestant Bishop of Argyll and the Isles. Born in Kilmartin and educated at St Andrews University, Carswell was the personal chaplain of the 5th Earl of Argyll, Chief of Clan Campbell, and was 'arguably the outstanding Gaelic scholar of his day.'\* His translation of John Knox's Book of Common Order, published in 1567, was the first book printed in Scots Gaelic.

\*Historic Environment Scotland, 'Carnassarie Castle, Argyll' – Assessment by Roderick Regan, November 2016)

Described as one of the first Renaissance residences in Argyll, Carnassarie Castle was built to look like a medieval tower house which had been added to and embellished – because, of course, that's what had happened to most of the other, genuine tower houses in Scotland at that time! The Earl of Argyll had the wealth and resources to ensure that the result was both impressive and opulent. His masterpiece boasted spacious and lavishly decorated rooms, exquisite carvings by masons who had travelled from Stirling or Edinburgh, and a 'belvedere' or viewing platform on the top floor. I hope that the privileged guests who were shown up there had a better head for heights than I do.

Carswell died in 1572 and was buried in [Ardchattan Priory](#) on Loch Etive. Carnassarie remained in the hands of the Dukes of Argyll and endured in relative peace for nearly a century. In 1685, in protest against the accession of Charles II's brother, James II of England and VII of Scotland, the 9th Earl of Argyll led a rebellion in Scotland which resulted in his capture and execution in Edinburgh. The castle was sacked by Royalist forces in retaliation, and was never restored to its former glory. A shame, but – as many sources point out – this means that the remaining architecture was left intact and unaltered for successive generations to study.

I wonder what Carswell made of the all the standing stones and burial cairns which were practically on his doorstep. Impossibly old as they are in comparison, with no names to link with them, no bond of clan or kin, on a moonlit night I would much prefer to walk around [Ballymeanoch](#) or [Temple Wood](#) than the echoing chambers of Carnassarie Castle.



Jo Woolf is a writer from Argyll. Her splendid works can be seen on her website [www.thehazeltree.co.uk](http://www.thehazeltree.co.uk)

# MacAlpine Family Experiences Scottish Heritage

By Jason McAlpine

A few years ago I remember seeing posts from my Uncle Earl and his wife Robin of their trips to Scotland or in their traditional kilts and tartans. It began a curiosity in me about my heritage and the dialogue between my uncle and I started. I began to feel proud of who I was and those I shared a history with. My family traveled to the beautiful country of my heritage in March of 2018.



We were honored to be asked to host the MacAlpine Clan tent at the Scots Festival in Cost Mesa, California on May 26-27, 2018. We loved all of the sights, sounds, and smells of the festival. The Scottish bagpipes have a way of speaking to the Scottish soul. We were able to watch some of the traditional activities of the Highland games, while my son was able to try his very own caber toss. We were able to learn more about our clan and even meet others related to the MacAlpine Clan.

There was a sense of camaraderie, respect and honor among the people at the festival, one that was mirrored in the Scottish people we met in Scotland. My wife and I are in agreement that the Scottish people are the most welcoming people, always willing to go the extra mile to help one another.

It was a true blessing and honor to host our clan tent. My wife, our kids and I (and our Scottish cow, Hamish) are excited to learn about, travel and experience more about our beautiful country, heritage and history. We look forward to hosting another clan tent in the future.

Aye!  
Jason McAlpine



# McAlpine Family's Trip To Scotland

By Desiree McAlpine

My first time traveling out of the country was an amazing experience. The second and third time did not disappoint either, BUT there is nothing compared to traveling with those closest to you. My husband's first time traveling out of the country was on our two week trip to Scotland in March and even better, our kids got to experience it with us. There's nothing quite like seeing amazement in your children's eyes as they discover and explore some place new.

Our trip was a whirlwind of sights, sounds, tastes, and experiences. For first timers to the international traveling scene, our kids got to



travel by plane, bus, train, taxi, and even ferry. Our itinerary took us from Edinburgh to Glasgow, over to Oban, up to Inverness, to Aberdeen and back to Edinburgh. It was a lot to fit into a two week trip, but our kids were up for the adventure. They may just be natural born travelers! We visited everything from castles and cathedrals to museums, monuments and battlefields, which served as turning points in the history of Scotland. These places inspired awestruck wonder and amazement, while at the same time allowing us the opportunity to teach our children of their heritage. A heritage that is rich in history. A heritage that needs to be passed on to our children. A heritage they can be proud of!

There are far too many things that we love about Scotland, which undoubtedly will grow with multiple return trips. Some highlights and family favorites of our trip include: the old cobbled streets and beautiful castle view in Edinburgh, the lovely coast of Oban, the small village feel of Inverness, and Drum and Crathes Castle near Aberdeen. We loved the Scottish breakfast, steak pie, and IRN BRU (especially our kids)! We have fallen in love not only with Scotland, but the Scottish people. Planning of the McAlpine Scotland trip 2019 is already under way!

Slainte Mhath!  
Desiree McAlpine



## Clan MacAlpine Society Kilt Pins

Custom designed by Mark McAlpin, incorporating elements of the boar's head, pine tree, crown, and sword, all of which are linked to the MacAlpines, and appear prominently in MacAlpine Heraldry.



The pins are made of silver weighing approximately 1 ounce -  
Dimensions are 4"x 1 1/8"

\$75 USD payable by PayPal or check  
Please contact

[NotCommonKiltPins@outlook.com](mailto:NotCommonKiltPins@outlook.com) for questions or purchase

## Clan MacAlpine Society Information

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