

Remember Those From Whom You Came

Newsletter Of The Clan MacAlpine Society

The Worldwide Organization For MacAlpines
4th Quarter 2022 ~ Volume 58



Kenneth
McAlpine



William
McAlpin



Michael
McAlpin



Finn
Alpin



Mark S.C.
McAlpin



Earl
McAlpine



Bruce
McAlpine

Commander's Note

Nollaig Chridheil, Merry Christmas, haud Hogmanay and a Guid New Year to you.

I have enjoyed meeting and chatting with our kinfolk at various Scottish events, highland games, Burns Dinners, St Andrews events etc. There seems to be in each person I meet a sincere desire to understand where we lived, how we lived, and for most of us, why we left. There is a tangible connection to our homeland, although most have never been there. The old Gaelic term for that is duthcas. It doesn't translate well but expresses a sense of belonging, of being rooted by ancient lineage to a particular place. Our people are drawn to that, and it shows.

Our congratulations to Michael Buchanan, former Commander and newly inaugurated Chief of the Buchanans. Carolyn and I had the opportunity to spend a day with he and his wife Paula when we represented the MacAlpines at the Edinburgh Tattoo when it performed in Sydney Australia in 2019. We enjoyed the time with them very much.

Coming up soon it will be Christmas, and Hogmanay.

Generally called New Year's Eve everywhere else, Scotland celebrates Hogmanay. It's an opportunity to greet friends and neighbors perhaps with a "handsel" (a gift given by the hand). Often these gifts are symbolic wishes for the New Year to come. Coal for heat, whisky for good health, shortbread to symbolize good food. When you sing Auld Lang Syne this year, pause to reflect on our ancient traditions.

January 25th will be the 259th anniversary of the birth of Scotland's immortal Bard, Robert Burns. It is a grand reason to put on the MacAlpine tartan and go out and celebrate.

If you have never been to one of the highland games, they are all great events; the MacAlpines host a hospitality tent at many of them. The next Games we are hosting a tent at will be in Florida in January.



Le gach deagh dhùrachd
With every good wish

Michael T McAlpin
Commander
Name of MacAlpine

Commander: Michael T. McAlpin, FSA Scot

Society Officers:

President: Earl Dale McAlpine

Vice President: Mark McAlpin

Treasurer: Janet McAlpine

Secretary: Sue Potter

Membership/Marketing: Robin McAlpine

Member at Large: Finn Stavsbo Alpin, FSA Scot

President's News

This year has been a wonderful but busy year of traveling. For eight months, Robin and I have been on the road in some country or other. We've seen nine countries (Canada, Hungary, Austria, Germany, Netherlands, Italy, Spain, Portugal, the United Kingdom). Our travel companions have differed on each segment and added fun to each of our trips. Bud & Judy McCain (Robin's parent's) from Missouri, Mike & Carolyn McAlpin from Georgia, Ada & Raktim Mangianti from Italy (Ada was a foreign exchange student who stayed with Robin's family 30 years ago). We ended our travels with two cruises, one from Rome to Lisbon (where we visited with Robin's niece) and the other from South Hampton to Miami (our ride back to the US). Robin and I have seen so many beautiful places and met a plethora of amazing people, experienced many cultures and much history. We visited with family and friends along the way and bucket list items were checked off our list. It has been an amazing year of experiences, however, "there is no place like home", and we are looking forward to returning to our somewhat normal routines.



The MacAlpin/e Society board held a virtual board meeting using Zoom hosted by Vice President, Mark McAlpin; attended by Commander, Michael McAlpin; member-at-large, Finn Alpin; membership and marketing chairman, Robin McAlpine and myself. We had a successful meeting and discussed plans for 2023. Keep your eyes on Facebook and the newsletter for announcements regarding tent locations and games where we will be participating in in the months to come.

We were disappointed to learn about some malfunctions of buttons on our website. The PayPal/Venmo/Credit Donations button was not working. It has been repaired and tested. Sorry for any inconvenience caused by this issue but appreciate users letting us know they were having problems when trying to donate.

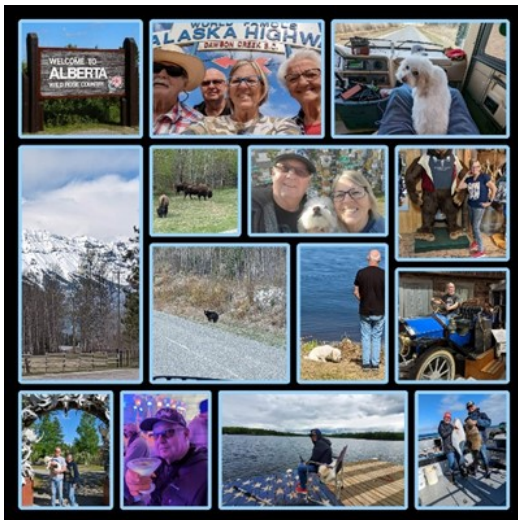
Wishing you all the Joy this season brings!

In Kinship,

Dale



We met up with Mel and Graeme McAlpine at the Tower of London



Some highlights of our two-month trip to Alaska



Highlights of our European trip



The Arms of Duncan Alastair McAlpine

Submitted by Robin McAlpine

This is the seventh in a series of articles relating to the MacAlpine arms.

Duncan McAlpine grew up in Montreal during the Depression. In 1940, soon after he turned 18, he entered the venerable granite armory of the Royal Highland Regiment of Canada (Black Watch) to offer his services in the war against Nazi Germany.

After the war he joined 1st Canadian Highland Battalion as a company commander in Germany, and subsequently served as a company commander in 1st Battalion, RHC in Camp Aldershot, Nova Scotia. Following a tour of duty at NATO Headquarters in Fontainebleau, France, he assumed command of 2nd Battalion, RHC in West Germany in 1963 and continued in command when 2nd Battalion returned to Gagetown, New Brunswick in 1965 and when it deployed to Cyprus in 1966.

Between tours at National Defense Headquarters Canada, he commanded the Combat Training Centre in CFB Gagetown in 1970, and Canada's military contingent to the International Commission for Control and Supervision in Viet Nam in 1973. He was appointed Commander Canadian Forces in Europe in 1975. By the time he retired from the regular army, he wore a chest full of medals as one of Canada's few lieutenant-generals on the active list.

After his military career, he worked for a period for Brascan Corporation and the Ontario Hospitals' Association before moving to Kingston, Ontario. In Kingston, he was active in the university and his church, as well as finding time for his lifelong love of history. He also was a trustee for the Salvation Army, and Chairman of the Board of the Ontario Hospital Association. He was awarded the Silver Acorn from Scouts Canada. By the end of the 1990s, Mr. McAlpine was back in the uniform of his beloved Black Watch when he was appointed the regiment's honorary lieutenant colonel. He later became honorary colonel, reporting on the unit to the colonel-in-chief, Prince Charles.

Despite his age, Mr. McAlpine attended as many events as possible. On Nov. 10, 2009, Mr. McAlpine wore his Black Watch ceremonial uniform, complete with kilt, medals, white spats and sporran, when he greeted Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall at the regiment's historic armory on Bleury Street in Montreal. Carrying his claymore in his left hand, the insignia of commander of the Order of Military Merit hanging at his neck, Mr. McAlpine saluted his colonel-in-chief before the prince presented new colors to the regiment. It was a glittering occasion. Mr. McAlpine, beaming proudly, was front and center, where he belonged, 70 years after he first walked in the door to join up



Arms of Duncan Alastair McAlpine

Blazon

Azure a saltire Argent surmounted by a sword point downward Argent its hilt beset dexter to sinister with a maple leaf Argent fimbriated Azure a maple leaf Argent fimbriated Gules a maple leaf Or fimbriated Gules both infilling an ancient crown Or;

Crest

Blazon

A castle tower Azure masoned Argent charged with a rose also Argent barbed Vert seeded Or rising therefrom a demi eagle wings displayed Or beaked Argent langued Azure each wing charged with two Scotch pine cones Azure;

Supporters

Blazon

On a grassy mound strewn with cones of the Scotch pine Argent and roses also Argent barbed Vert seeded Or two collies Or and Argent armed Sable the dexter gorged with a collar Azure charged with three oak acorns Argent the sinister gorged with a collar Azure charged with three Maltese crosses Argent;

Motto

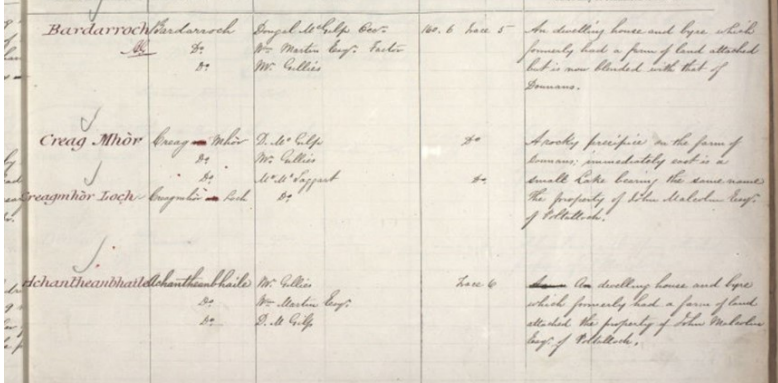
Blazon

THA CUIMHNE AGAM-SA GU BHEIL AILPEIN BEO. This Gaelic phrase means "I remember that Alpin is alive".

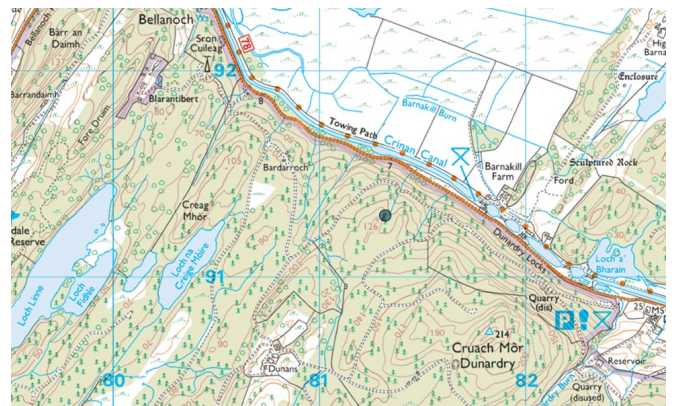
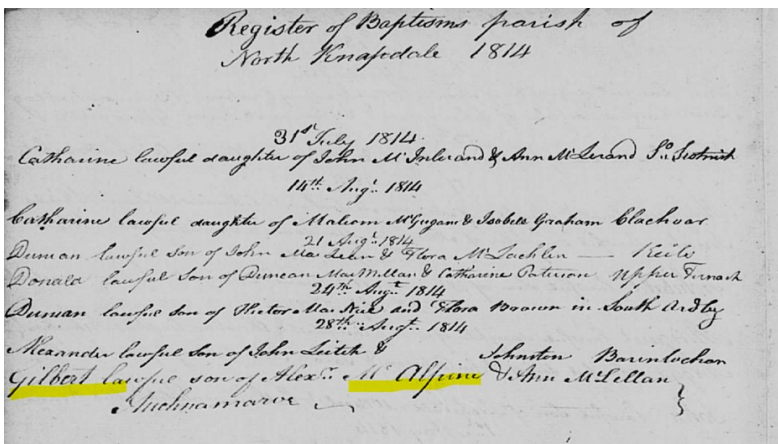
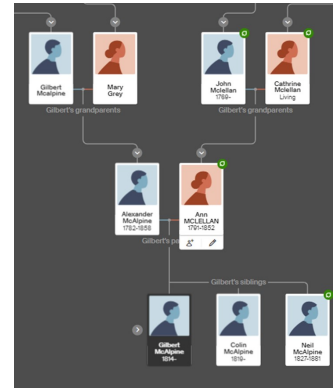
The Homestead Project - The MacAlpines at Achantheanbhaile

Submitted by Mark S.C. McAlpin, Sennachie elect

Achantheanbhaile (thin field in Gaelic) is 5 miles south of the Duntrune Castle and about 2.6 miles southwest of present day Kilmichael Glassary. The Argyle Ordnance Survey Names Book 1868-1878 lists Achantheanbhaile as: A dwelling house and byre (Cowshed) which formerly had a farm attached to it. It was part of the Poltalloch Estate of Niel Malcolm.



Unfortunately all that is left are the ruins and the National Record Of the Historic Environment in Scotland lists it as a deserted farmstead. Satellite imagery show 2-3 buildings and that matches the ordnance survey map. The Hearth Tax Records, Niel Malcolm Poltalloch Estate Census show Gilbert McAlpine living at Achantheanbhaile. Gilbert later moved to Canada with his parents and the rest of the family in 1828.



Society Member Joins Prestigious Fellowship



Michael T McAlpin
FSA Scot, Commander, Name of MacAlpine

**Our Commander has been elected
Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland (FSA Scot)**

The *Society of Antiquaries* of SCOTLAND was founded in 1780 and it was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1783. It is the second oldest antiquarian society in Britain. The purpose of the *Society* is set out in the first of its Laws '*...the Study of the Antiquities and History of Scotland, more especially by means of Archaeological Rsearch*'; the *Society* today is concerned with every aspect of the human past in Scotland.

The *Society* is an active body. Members have, from the beginning, been known as *Fellows of the Society*, and there are now some three thousand *Fellows* around the world, as well as twenty-five *Honorary Fellows* elected for their outstanding scholarship. Membership is by election, held annually on St Andrew's day, 30th November; it is open to all with an interest in the history and archaeology of Scotland.

As the senior antiquarian body in Scotland, the *Society* has an important role in the cultural life and heritage of Scotland. It draws on a wide range of experience through the *Fellowship*, and provides an impartial voice independent of the opinions of Government, University, or Agency. The *Society* is often consulted on different matters relating to the heritage, and it is represented on many committees and councils including the Ancient Monuments Board for Scotland. Membership of the *Society* enables *Fellows* to play a part in safeguarding the Scottish past.

Admission to the *Society* is by election. Elections are held annually on St Andrew's Day, 30th November. The names of those seeking admission are circulated to the *Fellowship* before that meeting, and candidates are advised of the outcome of the election shortly after the ballot.

The society was founded in 1780 and incorporated by Royal Charter in 1783, with the aim of investigating antiquities and natural and civil history in general with the intention that "the talents of mankind should be cultivated" and that the study of "natural and useful sciences should be promoted". Past illustrious fellows of the society include Sir Walter Scott and Dr John Alexander Smith. Michael follows Society Member Finn Alpin in this prestigious group.

Join us at the Central Florida Highland Games



Look for the MacAlpine Tent

Update on the McAlpin DNA Project at Family Tree DNA

Submitted by Eric McAlpine, Project Co-Administrator



As many of you know, the MacAlpine Society initiated and for some time has administered a project through Family Tree DNA related to DNA testing and the surname McAlpin and all of its variants. The project primarily involves Y-chromosome testing and patrilineal descent. I have recently volunteered to help with the administration of this project.

One of the difficulties with genealogy in Scotland is that the use of surnames was not consistent until around the 16th century (or even later in some areas like the Highlands). This means that a shared surname is not necessarily an indicator of common ancestry. And vice versa – people with different surnames can be genetically related. For this reason, the project is open to anyone who wants to explore their connection (or potential connection) to the McAlpin surname.

In the past few years, DNA testing has improved and more tools are available to provide information about the genetic origins of project participants. Not surprisingly given the history of surname adoption in Scotland, the project participants represent some of the most common high-level Y-DNA groupings (known as haplogroups) in Scotland, and the distribution appears to be similar to that of the population in modern Scotland.

We are currently working on some more detailed sub-groupings of the current participants. While the McAlpin DNA Project has grown, the number of participants is still too small to draw any conclusions. In order to get a clearer picture, we need more members to participate in the project and DNA testing. We'd like to encourage all McAlpin's/ McAlpine's (and those with one of the 80+ variant spellings detailed on the Home page of the Society webpage) to have a male in their patrilineal line tested. A description of the project and current pricing for genetic tests can be reviewed at: <https://www.familytreedna.com/group-join.aspx?Group=McAlpin>

We hope to have some interesting results to report in the near future.

Flowers of the Forest

Garlin Michael McAlpin, 68, passed Sunday, November 13, 2022 at his residence.



Mike was a native of Cleburne County Alabama. He loved the outdoors and was an avid hunter. Deer hunting and fishing were his greatest pass time. He loved to sing and entertain people and was a great storyteller. Vacationing in the mountains and at the beach with his family each year and making memories with them was something he always looked forward to. Mike loved his family and was especially proud of his three grandsons.

Mike owned his own cabinetry business, Trim Master until his death. Mike had a Master's Degree and taught Carpentry and Cabinet making at Cleburne County Trade School from 1992 until his retirement. There are countless students from his classes who have gone on to own their own business due to his teachings.

Mike is preceded in death by his parents, Garlin and Betty McAlpin and nephew, Tyler Pollard.



New Chief of Clan Buchanan



John Michael Baillie-Hamilton Buchanan appointed as chief of the Buchanan Clan.

As the leader of one of Scotland's oldest clans, the newly-inaugurated chief pledged to lead the clan into the modern era. This historic Clan Chief's Inauguration ceremony was based on existing resurrected ancient Celtic rituals and customs.



The event took place at Cambusmore, Callander, the modern seat of Clan Buchanan and the chief's ancestral home. International representatives of the clan's diaspora celebrated alongside the chiefs and other representatives of ten ancient Scottish clans. The last Buchanan chief, John Buchanan, died in 1681 without a male heir. Identifying the new chief required decades of genealogical research conducted by renowned genealogist, the late Hugh Peskett.

The inauguration event drew on Scottish traditions dating back prior to the coronation of the first King of Scots, Kenneth MacAlpine, in 843 AD. Heralded in by trumpet fanfare and accompanied by a procession of pipers and banner bearers, the chief was officially named and presented by the Lord Lyon King of Arms, Dr Joseph Morrow. The chief was honored with the Letters Patent, which confirmed the Court of the Lord Lyon's acceptance and legitimacy of his chiefship.



Charleston Games

Submitted by Charles McAlpine

Greetings. It was a great day in Charleston, SC with the *flawless* execution of the Charleston Highland Games. The Charleston Games are the second oldest in the American Southeast, having been established in 1971.



The event has been moved to the Riverfront Park along the Cooper River in beautiful Charleston. (This venue offers easier parking and ingress/egress than the previous location at Boone Hall Plantation). It was a glorious day with a nice breeze off the river, and over 10,000 in attendance yesterday - a record crowd. I thoroughly enjoyed visiting all of the Clan tents and building camaraderie with others with similar heritage.



The layout of the clan tents surrounds the athletic field so wherever you are you can get an easy view of the games, not to mention the views over the Cooper River and the Naval Shipyard in the distance. There are other meadows and event tents, bands, food court, and dancing that you would typically see at a Highland Festival as well.

Would-be' travelers to the Games next year might know that City of Charleston is worth visiting *beyond* just the Highland Games. Spend some extra days and explore all of the vast history, culture, and hospitality of one of the most beautiful cities in America.



I look forward to meeting all of you soon.

Kindest regards,

Charles (Chuck) McAlpine
Bluffton/Hilton Head Island
Coastal Carolina

50th Stone Mountain Highland Games October 2022

Submitted by Michael McAlpin Jr.

On October 15th-16th, The MacAlpines hosted a tent at the 50th Annual Stone Mountain Highland Games just outside of Atlanta, GA. This year the weather was beautiful, and the games were highly attended. In fact, of all the years we have been coming to the Stone Mountain Highland Games, the attendance on Saturday looked as high as I can recall. The games over the last couple years have adjusted the layout, and the set up in use now is much more spectator friendly. Our thanks to the dedicated work of so many volunteers and to the Stone Mountain Highland Game Organization!

Saturday started with our tent set up, which is pretty quick now as we have worked out what is needed to be successful. After the tent was set up, we took a few minutes to have breakfast. Eggs and Haggis cooked with peat to give an authentic Scottish flavor. If you ever get a chance to go past the Scottish Cottage food truck while at the games, stop and eat, its very good! The balance of the day was spent walking the clan tents, sharing history and clan updates. Multiple Celtic bands play on stage throughout the weekend and are also worth a listen. We had multiple visitors to our tent and appreciate the discussions on our origins. It is always encouraging to hear the passion and the interest in our mutual histories and what activities are out there that support continued learning.



On Sunday, Clan McAlpine participated in the Parade of Tartans, where each clan is marched onto the parade field and their name announced. In attendance for our family was our Commander, Michael McAlpin Sr and his wife Carolyn, Mark McAlpin, Michael McAlpin and his wife Jennifer as well as their two daughters Abigail and Suzannah. Suzannah brought her friend Avalyn as well. A great time was had by all!



In closing, if you are interested in hosting a clan tent at a Highland Games near you, please reach out and we can help map out what is needed and best practices.

Two Weeks in Scotland Two Ways

Submitted by Mark S.C. McAlpin, Sennachie elect

I recently had the great fortune to once again be back in Scotland.

The trip was broken into two different weeks with two different sets of traveling companions, wanting to do two different types of things.

The first half of the trip was spent with my trusty Scotland travelling companion, who happens to be my cousin as well. We have each been to Scotland seven times and decided to do something a little different, not that traveling with him isn't an adventure in of itself as we always like to go the route less traveled.

We decided to do a modified NC 500 squeezing a few other stops in lieu of the full route. The North Coast 500 is a 516-mile scenic route around the north coast of Scotland, starting and ending at Inverness Castle.

Our first stop after grabbing the car and heading out of Edinburgh is the delightful suburb of Dundee, Broughty Ferry. Located 4 miles east of Dundee city center. We toured the Broughty Castle, and then met our friend, mentor, and author, Dr. Bruce Durie at the Ship Inn, situated in an enviable waterfront location on the banks of the river Tay.

The Ship Inn dates back to 1847 and was originally on record as a spirit distribution house. We exchanged stories over a meal of Cullen skink, steak and ale pie, and Abroath Haddock, caught just up the way in Abroath, famous for their smoked haddock. After that we made our way towards Inverness. Along the way, we passed through Pitlochry, which is the geographic center of Scotland and home to the smallest distillery in Scotland, Edradour, and their cask strength is a personal favorite. The distillery was once run by only three people, I think that has increased to four. Unfortunately, the distillery was closed to tours due to low staff availability and Covid.

From Pitlochry we made our way up the road just a bit to Blair castle and took the tour, unfortunately no photos allowed. From Blair Castle we made our way to our final destination for the day, Inverness. With a small amount of effort, we located our B&B, the Jacobite Rose, and managed to find a place for a dram.

We decided on the Malt Room, going in for just a wee dram, and as luck would have it managed to meet several folks, and it turned into a several drams. Thank-you Mari, who made us feel welcomed and invited us to sit at the bar. To Gordon, who works at a local distillery and gave us some anecdotal education. To Sarah who was a gracious bartender and didn't miss a beat in keeping us in line. To Paddy who is literally a whisky Pandora (Paddy I like whisky like...) and nailed each time. We tried Ledaig 22 (pronounced Lay-chaig) which I think was my favorite, a Bunnahabhain 28, Kilcholman Senaig, a Springbank 15 that needed, just a drop of water to open up, a Ledaig 12 that was brilliant, and another from Springbank, Longrow.

The following day after a filling Scottish breakfast we said goodbye to the Jacobite Rose and started on the first true leg of the NC500. We headed towards Thurso, by way of Dunrobin Castle. After the castle we had wee morning dram at Balblair Distillery. Okay it was 2 but they were wee.

After Balblair the weather started to turn so we headed towards Wick, on the way we took a slight detour to the Clynelish Distillery. We made our way back to the route and made our way to Wick. Where, guess what? Another distillery, lay in wait. This time we stopped at Old Pulteney. At Old Pulteney, I actually got the privilege of bottling my own bottle of Scotch. With my own bottle in hand we made our way to John O'Groats. From there we traveled towards Dunnet Head, which is the northern most point on mainland Britain. After hiking around Dunnet Head for a bit we made our way to our final destination for the day, Thurso. We dropped our bags at the house and headed into town, stopping at the beach for the view. We ate a fine meal of venison with a side of haggis bon bons, pea greens, and mashed potatoes, at the Y Not restaurant and then finished the evening with a few beverages at the Comm Pub.

The next morning after a hearty Scottish breakfast again at Y'Not we set out to Ullapool. Not long after we set off, we were set upon by a band of marauding sheep. After striking a fair deal with the sheep we headed toward Melvic. While in Melvic we walked out to Farr Bay. After the brief hike, we headed out to Durness and Smoo Cave. Smoo Cave is a large combined sea cave and freshwater cave. The name is thought to derive from a Norse word meaning hiding place.

From Durness we headed to Achmelvic Bay. From Durness it was a short jaunt to Lochinver. From Lochinver it was a long stretch in the weather to Knockan Crag, but it was worth the weather and short hike to see the Knockan Crag. During the nineteenth century Knockan Crag became the subject of much debate when geologists noted that the Moine schists at the top of the crag appeared to be older than the Cambrian and Ordovician rocks such as Durness limestone lower down. Disagreements over the processes that could have caused this to occur were referred to at the time as the "Highlands Controversy".

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Two Weeks in Scotland Two Ways . . . Continued from Page 9

From Knockan Crag we made our way into Ullapool. We checked into the Lady Smith House and proceeded to investigate the town and its fares. We had dinner at Seaforth. We started with the Cullen Skink which is a fish a potato chowder, and then haddock and chips for the main course. After that we headed for the Argyle for a night cap as we had another long pull the next day.

The next day we were headed away from NC500 and bound for Kilmartin, which is a 5.5 hour drive headed back towards Inverness and along the western shore of Loch Ness. After a hearty Scottish breakfast we said goodbye to the Lady Smith House and Ullapool and hit the road early. Since it was mainly a driving day we decide to play Scotland roadside bingo and spot iconic Scottish "things." We spotted a man fly fishing, a red squirrel, a thistle, sheep, standing stones, a belted Galloway cow, a highland cow, and the elusive red stag.

Though we were traveling along Loch Ness, we unfortunately did not get a glimpse of Nessie, but did manage to stop at Urquhart Castle long enough to snap a picture. From there we headed towards Fort Augustus and Glengary Castle, and on to Fort William and past the Commando Monument at Spean Bridge. From Fort William we headed to Oban. Along the way we saw Castle Stalker.

We kept making our way towards Oban. Along the way we passed Dunstaffnage Castle, just north of Oban. We decided to stop for a bit in Oban, and see if it had changed much from our last visit. Oban is a lovely town on the west coast of Scotland and a hub of activity, as it is on the rail line and one of the ferry ports out to the islands. Since we were in Oban we had to of course go to the Oban Distillery, since it is right there in the town center.

Even though Kilmartin was seemly only 30 miles away in truth it was still close to an hour away as the road from Oban to Kilmartin is full of twists and turns and single lane areas with Passing Places. We left Oban eager to get to Kilmartin. Just shy of Kilmartin we pulled to Carnasserie Castle. We had been here before and so had our ancestors when they tried to blow it up when it was an English garrison. Photo opt.

We pulled into the Kilmartin Inn, and proceeded to check in. Since we needed to check in at the museum we walked across the street. Even though the museum is under renovation and expansion and is temporarily closed, the cafe had food trucks up and since we skipped lunch we decided to check out the offerings. We kept it relatively light with a sausage and haggis roll, since we knew we would be getting a fantastic meal later at the Inn. The rolls were divine and I probably could have had another one. As luck would have it one of the museum staff was out having coffee and helped attempt to secure a meeting to talk donations exhibits etc. A tentative meeting was set for the next morning (Monday). With that being taken care of we walked next door to inspect the church. The church went for sale but nobody knows what to do with it so it is currently being used as museum storage.

We walked around and then took in the view of the Glen. If we hadn't seen standing stones before it would have been easily checked off here. Next order of business was to head towards Tayvallich and the peninsula, only a short 12 single track drive away, to do a little homestead reconnaissance. We made our way to Tayvallich and then turned south to head towards the southern point, taking mental notes along the way. We reached the end of the drivable road and found Keills Chapel.

We headed back towards Kilmartin, and stopped to survey the Mhoine Mhor (the great peat or great moss). Then stopped for a photo opt at Dunadd once the seat of power in the area. Then we decided to check out the Kilmartin castle to see what had been done to it. Someone had recently purchased the castle and turned it into a B&B. Didn't see the pool that was supposedly put in but overall it looked to be in great repair.

We made our way back to the Inn, happy to see our seats in the little pub were open. Yes, we call them "our" seats. We have sat there, ate there, talked there, shared stories there, made friends there, and of course drank there. Tonight, was to be no different.

Richard, who runs the place greeted us warmly, and Magdaline brought us a few drinks. After a few beverages we decided food was in order. We decided on the specials. We started off with a round of haggis topped with a round of black pudding, topped with melted local sheep cheese, then topped with red onion chutney. I might have gone to haggis heaven with this one. With dinner finished we decided to have a beverage and relax. Once the dinner crowd cleared Richard joined us for a beverage or so. Over the course of the next 5 hours, many a pint and dram were shared, and many a story told, and many a new friend made. We met Louise and Greg who run the up and coming gin distillery Kilmartin Glen Spirits, Robert and William, Gene, who used to own the Inn, many, many, many years ago, and her beautiful dog Lady, who I wished I would have taken a picture, who was none too shy for my affections. Just before midnight we took mercy on Magdalene and closed out and headed to bed.

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Two Weeks in Scotland Two Ways . . . Continued from Page 10

Monday we were off to Glasgow. We had a hearty Scottish breakfast plus what Richard called a revolution to Scottish breakfast, a square sausage, which was different than expected but tasty none the less. Apparently, we kept Richard too late so he headed back home to make his wife breakfast. We exchanged goodbyes and waited for a bit for the museum director to contact us. We didn't hear from him so we set off. Only later did the message come through but we were almost in Glasgow by then.

We passed Inveraray Castle, and then made a stop at Devil's Pulpit, making it down to the bottom. Apparently, we went the hard way as we saw there were "stairs" on the other side. Only made slightly more complicated by having to cross on a fallen tree eight feet in the air. We made our way to our hotel, parked and checked in. We walked over to the Merchant for a refreshment and exploring. We made it to the Glasgow Cathedral and the necropolis, and decided to head back to grab an early dinner, then trying out a recommendation we got from Tim who had walked me through the process of pulling my own whisky bottle at Old Pulteney.

We stopped at Sloan's and the recommendation was solid, and happens to be the oldest bar *and* restaurant in Glasgow, not to be confused with the oldest bar in Glasgow. We stopped in at Scotia, the oldest pub in Glasgow and you could feel the character and stories as soon as you walked in. There were a handful of people in the bar, and we thought we would just pop in real quick. We took a seat not far from the bar and not far from a gentleman playing the guitar and belting soulful tunes with a Scottish brogue that would make Jamie jealous. What we thought was going to be possibly a short evening turned out quite the opposite. We met Paul, who was there with his pa Jerry, who would take an occasional turn on the guitar and sing a few tunes. Apparently, it was a house guitar as it got passed around a bit including to Will who was an upcoming young guitarist and the bartender who played while the other bartender did a soulful rendition of Tennessee Whisky. We finally met Andy during a break, who was the gentleman singing when we came in. The hours passed with music, songs, stories, and drinks. We occasionally sang along if we knew the song.

At the end of the night Paul and Jerry said their goodbyes as they had to catch the train, but thanked us genuinely for joining them and sharing in the evening. Before we left, we chatted more with Andy, who we found at one time was a musician, but retired and just comes to the pub to sing because he enjoys it so much. He thanked us for joining in and spending the evening with him, to which we heartily agreed it was our pleasure.

Tuesday we headed to Edinburgh. We were corrected a few times on how pronounce this and I think I finally got closed to how to type it phonetically. Edin-BAR-a. We were staying at a chain hotel in Glasgow so we only had an abbreviated Scottish breakfast. No haggis, it was a near calamity.

We made our way towards Edinburgh. Most of the hour of that time is getting past the outskirts and into the city. This was my cousin's last night in Edinburgh and my last night before started pretending to be a tour guide. We rented more of an "apartment" in a place called Distiller's House in Haymarket. Really, how could we not? We were early so we decided to seek out some refreshments and maybe a small nibble. We parked the car in a lot and walked around the corner to Nicholson's. Unfortunately, the chef was off, so we had a beverage and some crisps and decided to move on.

Taking the train from Haymarket Station to Waverly Station., we visited St. Cuthbert's chapel and St. Guile's chapel, then making the rounds to the Walter Scott monument which is kind of hard to miss and the 74th Highlander monument (our ancestor was in the 74th). We had a good look at the Castle and Holyrood Palace but we had been there a number of times, so we opted for a photo and I wasn't quite sure where the others were going to want to go in the second half of the trip, so "Cuz" and I decided to revisit a few of our favorite places. We made our way to the Black Cat we're we had ham and cheese toasties and got introduced to a few new whiskies. One was Mackmyra, and I can't pronounce or spell the other one. For an off-beat little place, they have a great scotch selection. We wrapped up and headed to what is probably the most unassuming and hard to find gem's and also one of the favorites, Hoot the Redeemer. We were super early so we knew it would be dead. But that was okay. The pure eclectic kitsch of the place is enough to entertain one for a few hours. We grabbed a beverage and struck up a conversation with the barman/server and asked for places to eat and or drink in Haymarket.

We checked into our very nice apartment and unwound for a bit. We decided on eating at the Jolly Botanist, which is primarily a gin joint but the bartender at Hoot said the food was fantastic. We grabbed a few drinks and decided on each having the Ballantine chicken. Which is a chicken breast stuffed with haggis, wrapped in prosciutto, and served with a whisky pepper sauce and toasted mashed root vegetable. I'm a big fan of this dish and this version did not disappoint. We closed out and headed back to Nicholson's to watch the Celtics Liverpool game. Then back to the hotel to watch the BBC Gaelic channel to finish the night.

Wednesday "Cuz" was off back to home and I was to meet the folks for the next half of my trip. I had time between seeing my cousin Michael off and meeting up with my friends who were coming in from London.

Hosting a Tent

Calling All MacAlpin/e's.....

Yes, that means you! I'm looking at you and you and you!

We need help spreading the MacAlpin/e name and merriment across the globe. How? Host a tent. Really, it's that simple.

Do you remember the time you attended the Highland Games, and you couldn't find the MacAlpine tent? Do you remember how disappointed you were? The only remedy is you! Unfortunately, we can only attend so many games and reach so many miles. Think about hosting a tent and making someone smile because they found their family at the Highland Games.

You don't have to be an expert in the family history or Scottish lore. You just have to be willing to stand and greet and have folks register when they stop by. If they have a question, you can get their question and email address and submit for someone to answer.

We will provide you with a startup kit and pay the festival fees for the first year. If you plan on hosting the following year, or at other games, hold on to the kit and use it again and again. However, if you try hosting and it just isn't for you, we ask that you return the kit to us.



Once you decide to host a tent, you will need to find out a few things from the event organizers. Details of what specific games provide are generally available on that games' website, along with tent sponsor applications etc.

- 1) Do they provide a tent, or do you need to take a pop-up tent?
- 2) Do they provide table and chairs?

What we provide in our startup kit:

- 1) MacAlpine banner
- 2) MacAlpine poster
- 3) Informational trifold
- 4) Copies of last two newsletters
- 5) Sign in sheets
- 6) Boars Head Stamp
- 7) Nametags

Hosting a Tent . . . Continued from page 11

In addition to what the society provides, you will need some or all of the following:

- PVC pipes or other poles to hold banner above tent
- Assorted bungies to hold pvc pipes or other poles to tent poles (as pictured)
- Zip Ties
- Cutter/Scissors to remove zip ties
- Tablecloth
- Table Decorations (one can often find Scottish coffee table books at second-hand stores)
- Netting to hold pictures along the side of tent (depending on your set-up)
- Fasteners to hold pictures (binder clips work well)
- Duct Tape (always good to have)
- It never hurts to have some hard candy or individually wrapped candies in a bowl

For personal comfort, you may want to bring:

- An ice chest with ice
- Bottles of water
- Plastic cups
- A bottle of scotch (optional, where allowed)
- Small plastic cups (shot size if serving scotch)

Some tent hosts like to add a game for the children, so we created the MacAlpine Sheep Game (if you want it email robinlmcalpine@yahoo.com). The game consists of lost sheep, which can be distributed to other clan tents, along with a scorecard to be signed by the tents where the lost sheep are located. Upon completion of the scorecard, the child can return to the MacAlpine tent for a treat (ex: crispy rice treats and small granola bars). If you add the game, don't forget the treats.

Multiple clan tent photos can be seen [here](#))



Robin McAlpine
Membership/Marketing

Clan MacAlpine Information

We invite you to learn more about Clan MacAlpine Society by going to our website <https://macailpein.com/> and reviewing the wealth of information found there.

We hope you enjoy receiving your quarterly issues of this newsletter, *Remember Those From Whom You Claim*, that contains articles of interest and activities our members participate in. For those of you on Facebook, check us out. We have many contributors to that site.

On our website you will find the store where you can order clan items, get membership information, find information on the Clan MacAlpine DNA project, and a variety of other sections about MacAlpine history and the history of Clan MacAlpine Society.

Also on the website you have the opportunity to support your Society by checking out the page on "Funding Projects" to discover ways you can make a donation to Clan MacAlpine Society. It is through your donations that we are able to participate in or support heritage activities. You can earmark your donation for:

- ◆ General Society Operations
- ◆ Society Clan Tent Fund
- ◆ Kilmartin Museum Fund
- ◆ Pipe and Drum Band Fund
- ◆ Scottish Dancing Fund

Watch for Highland Games in your locale. Look for a Clan MacAlpine Society tent and celebrate your heritage by meeting fellow MacAlpines.

Clan MacAlpine Society Information

Website: <https://macailpein.com/>

Mail: Clan MacAlpine Society
102 Rainbow Drive #48
Livingston, TX 77399-1002 USA

Contributions: On <https://macailpein.com/>
Or a check made payable to:
Clan MacAlpine Society
c/o Janet McAlpine, Treasurer
3530 Parque Verde Lane
Reno, NV 89502 USA

MacAlpine Society Store

We are pleased to announce the opening of the MacAlpine Society Store. The store will offer a small showing of MacAlpine themed products. Proceeds from sales in the store will go to continuing funding, highland dancing and piping scholarships, tent hosting supplies, and research projects. The store can be reached either off a link from the Society website menu or directly at <https://macalpinesociety.myshopify.com/>.



Hills and Streams and MacAlpines Unisex Tee



Hills and Streams and MacAlpines Women's Tee



Hills and Streams and MacAlpines Mug 11 oz.



Tartan Mug 11 oz.



Tartan Mug with MacAlpine 11 oz.



MacAlpine Tartan Poker Cards



Clan MacAlpine Lapel Pin



Clan MacAlpine Challenge Coin

Clan MacAlpine Society Kilt Pin TEMPORARILY OUT OF STOCK



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 approx. 1 ounce. Dimensions are 4"x 1 1/8" - \$75 USD