# Highland Family History Society

James Aaron Roy: A Scottish Soldier A Mother & Daughter in Inverness Asylum My Grandfather Tulloch's Story – Part Two Clann Ualraig: The Highland Kennedies – Concluded

Volume 42, Issue 3, May 2024



#### bisbladd family bistory society

#### *Comunn Sloinntearachd na Gaidhealtachd* Scottish Charities No. SCO15987

#### HFHS Journal, Volume 42, Issue 3, May 2024

#### ©2024: Highland F.H.S. & contributors

Cover Photo: Looking west from Fortrose

#### **CONTENTS**

Editorial	3
News	4
Members' Letters	5
James Aaron Roy – A Scottish Soldier	6
Mother and Daughter in the Same Asylum	10
Grandad Tulloch's Story – Part Two	14
Looking for Ancestors in Rent-Rolls	19
Clann Ualraig – Concluded	20
The Chisholm Letters	26

#### **HFHS OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

CHAIRMAN & SAFHS REPAngus BethuneSECRETARY & TREASURERStuart FarrellJOURNAL EDITORGraeme MackenzieSYLLABUS SECRETARYJonathan McCollHIGHLAND ARCHIVES LIASONAlison Mason

**All correspondence:** c/o Family History Room, Highland Archive Centre, Bught Road, Inverness IV3 5SS. *Please mark each item for the attention of the appropriate official* 

#### EDITORIAL

As a professional genealogist, specialising in Highland clans and families, there is probably no subject I have to spend more time talking about than the spelling of names. My interest in the subject might be traced back to my own moniker; after all everybody wants to call me Graham McKenzie when the name my father gave me was Graeme Mackenzie. It used occasionally to bug me—especially when I had to endure being called "Grimey" at school—but as soon as I became a genealogist, I realised it didn't matter.

In those days (and it was a long time ago now!) the variety of ways to spell my surname was brought home to me on the micro-fiche indexes to the OPRs, where you could see in one go the many versions of the name that were recorded between 1553 and 1854. This is actually still a very useful tool since, on the computer, ScotlandsPeople no longer even attempt to give you an alternate spellings option for any name-not even the basic Mac or Mc variation - and you're left with the choice of working through their "fuzzy" or "phonetic" matching options (which throw up a whole lot of irrelevant material, alongside a few potentially useful versions) or separately entering every possible variation that you know of, or can think of, one-by-one; a very time-consuming process, even if you have a good working knowledge of what those possible variations might be. If you're lucky enough to be accessing ScotlandsPeople at their Centre in Edinburgh, or at the Highland Archive Centre in Inverness, you can still ask to see the old OPR Index fiche (and hope the young staff know what you're talking about, and where to find them). This is an option I still use from time-to-time, especially when dealing with names I am less familiar with than Mackenzie/MacKenzie/McKenzie.

These are the three modern standardised versions of a surname for which I have so far found 118 variations documented since 1466, when the first certain chief was recorded as *Alexander Mackennych*. There are earlier examples of what we might call Scots-language versions of the Gaelic *MacCoinnich*—such as Makkyneth & Makyny (1264/5 in Perthshire) and McKennayth (1253x1299 in Buchan)—and English-language versions such as *Kennathsoun* in 1430; but most of the variations after that are phonetic versions of the Gaelic original which George Black, in his "Surnames of Scotland" tells us would have been pronounced something like *Mackaingye* (there is no "z" in Gaelic, which is why so many of the old phonetic forms have a "y" where now we have the "z").

My running count of versions of the name has recently increased dramatically from researching members of the clan in America. I have found one individual in late 17th and early 18th century Virginia recorded over 32 years with 20 different versions of his name, including Alixander Meckeny, Alex. Makeney, Allaxander Mackeny, Allexander Mackeney, Alexander McKenny, Alexa<sup>r</sup> Mackaney, Alex<sup>r</sup> Mckensie, and Alex<sup>r</sup> Mckenzy.

#### NEWS

#### AGM and April Talk

The Society's Annual General Meeting was held on the 18th of April in the Highland Archive Centre. The Secretary/Treasurer reported that though the membership of the society had declined a little in the course of the year, the savings made by the decision to send the Journal to members as a PDF attached to an email had saved so much on printing and postage that the society's finances were in extremely good shape.

A presentation of flowers was made to Imelda MacDonald on her retirement as a members of the Committee, and an appeal was made for volunteers to offer their services in future as Committee Members.

The AGM was followed by an interesting talk from Norman Newton on "Hunting Ancestors in Connecticut and New York.

The Society's programme of talks will resume on 17th of October, with speaker and title to be announced in the Journal in August.

#### New M.I Book

Newly arrived from the printers. "Kilmorack – Kilmorack Burial Ground, Kilmorack Cemetery and Struy Churchyard". Over 900 stones; 152 pages; £12 ex P&P.

#### Free Church Books - Stock Clearance

All Free Church books now with Free Postage and Packing. Some have limited stock so buy soon.

You can order all our books online at the HFHS stand on GenFair:

https://genfair.co.uk/supplier/highland-family-history-societycomunn-sloinntearachd-na-gaidhealtachd-65/

Details of all our publications are at: www.highlandfhs.org/publications/

Email Address for articles, enquiries etc: HighlandFHS@gmail.com.

#### NEW MEMBERS

2892. Mr. K. MacLeod. 2893. J. Marshall. 2894. Mrs K. Deans. 2895. B. Grider. 2896. Mrs G. Anderson. **DEATHS** 556. Mrs J. F. Hall.

#### **MEMBERS' LETTERS**

#### Dear Sirs,

I have been reading Graeme Mackenzie's very interesting book *Genealogy in the Gaidhealtached,* which my husband purchased through the Highland Family History Society some time ago. I was particularly interested in Chapter 4, "Surnames and Septs", Boll o' Meal Frasers. On reading this, I felt sure some important family history was getting lost!

As a child growing up in England, I remember my father firmly telling me that "I was not a Boll O'Meal Fraser and don't let anyone say you are"! At the time, this didn't really mean a lot to me. However, much later in life, when my father was no longer alive, I decided to research my Fraser Family History. The family roots were in Glen Convinth, Kiltarlity. Quite early on with this research, I found my great grandfather's surname name had in fact been Fraser-Lee. However, the Lee part of the name had been dropped by the time he registered the births of his 8 children. His wife my great grandmother was a Fraser. The name Lee was given as a forename to two of their grandchildren. Having found this information, my search turned to find just what the Lee connection was.

On a trip to the Inverness Archives, then based next to the bus station, I had a very interesting, informative discussion with the archivist there at the time, Alasdair McLeod. He questioned why I was researching the Frasers, the Lees were a far more illustrious family! He referred me to John Bannerman's book, 'The Beatons a medical kindred in the classical Gaelic tradition'. In the section "Beatons in Glenconvinth" it explains how a branch of the Beaton family were employed by the Frasers of Lovat as physicians. *Clann an lightche*, kindred of the physician. This was a family using their Gaelic occupational surname instead of their kindred name.

It would be a great pity if this piece of Family History was lost. I hope this information will be useful to the FHS. My earliest family record from Kiltarlity OPR is of a John McO'Lee having a son Simon born in 1777.

Yours sincerely, Sheila Stirling nee Fraser.

*Editor's response:* Many thanks for your letter, and I'm glad you enjoyed "Genealogy in the Gaidhealtachd". Since I have Fraser ancestors from Kiltarlity – indeed from Glen Convinth – I've always found the various Boll o' Meal families of great interest, and I learnt a lot about them from the late Hugh Barron who noted the traditions about the Lees and others in the booklet "Kirkhill and District" (and some Barrons were of course also Boll 'o Meal Frasers). My research into the MacLeays – as one of the Septs & Related Names of the MacKenzies – has revealed more twists to the tale, since one claimed origin of that name is M'An-léigh, "Son of the Doctor". I'll aim to put an article about them in the next issue of the Journal.

### James Aaron Roy – a Scottish Solider



#### Jim Bailey

This is the life and times of James Aaron Roy, a Scottish solider born in Keith, who became a Captain in the 71st Highland Regiment of Foot (Light Infantry). In his time he fought in the Peninsular Wars, was a prisoner of war, fought at Waterloo, came to Ireland to the post of Barrack Master, and died in Tralee, in 1858 age 74 years.

This started off as a "lockdown" exercise and later, combined with a wet summer, I decided to see how much information I could gather from online and library sources. James is not an ancestor of mine but I have found his life was worthwhile researching, as I had to investigate new areas of genealogical search and learned about muster rolls, army lists, prisoner of war records and court petty sessions. This story is full of holes, brick walls, just don't knows, and the frustration of online searches for snippets of information about the life of James Roy which may or may not even be on record.

There is only scant information about James Roy and his life and service in the British Army. Of all the army historical records that are available, the 71st Regiment has the least recorded, and even that is the bare minimum; just one of the brick walls I encountered along the way.

The Scotland's People website give a record of James's birth:

Keithe 11 th Junes 784. mes hawful for to famer Roy latein heith now done to america to marg & Bean in het to was born 7 th Seby Wahtore this pay\_ With up to Alex prince

"Gone to America" strongly suggests that James senior was in the army and had gone to fight in the American War of Independence, which had almost come to an end in 1783.

At some date James junior joined the 1st battalion of the 71st Regiment of Foot—later to become the 71st Highland Light Infantry. At birth, his name is just James Roy, but later he has added Aaron as a middle name and I can only presume that this was done to avoid confusion with the many other James Roy's who were in military service at this time.

[The Army List says James was commissioned Ensign on 6 September 1804, and promoted Lieutenant on 27 August 1806–Ed].



"Anecdote of the bravery of the Scotch piper of the 71st Highland Regiment, at the Battle of Vimiero". National Army Museum: www.collection.nam.ac.uk/

Records from various sources of his life are quite scant, but medal roll records show that he was awarded a medal for his service in the Peninsular War (1793-1814), was a prisoner of war, fought at Waterloo, and latterly was the Barrack Master at Ballymullen Barracks, Tralee, Co. Kerry, Ireland.

French Prisoner of war records and other online information provided details of his captivity. During the Napoleonic Wars the British Navy were involved in the blockade of the port of Lorient in Brittany, James was among the crew of the brig "The Monkey" when the ship was wrecked on the island of Belle Isle in December 1810. A brig at that time was a 2 masted gun boat. James was fortunate to survive the shipwreck as the captain and 48 of the crew were drowned in the sinking. The POW records show that James was formally taken into captivity on 5th May 1811.

At some point James, was released in exchange for French prisoners, and in 1813 he was promoted from the rank of Lieutenant to Captain. The Edinburgh muster rolls for the 71st Regiment in December 1814 and March 1815 have James as the Adjutant of the Aberdeen Recruiting Staff, as he was also from 25 October to 24 November 1816.

For his service during the Peninsular Wars, James was awarded the Army Gold Medal, the Military General Service Medal, and a Long Service Medal, and he appears on the list of captains receiving the Waterloo Medal [pictured right]. This was the first time a medal had been awarded for a particular battle, and all the soldiers taking part were issued with one, although in the awarding of the medal, class discrimination was evident; gold for senior officers, and bronze for other ranks.



In Scotland's People website there is an entry for James's marriage on April 4, 1815, to Mary Bremner.

Anno 18. Here married here by The Ker Me William Green of Elgin Cappain James Rey ofthe and Mile Mary Brommer in the Ja mary Brommer in this Parish number of loitnesses

James and Mary had at least 4 children: John, Margaret Elmslie, Catherine McKenzie, and Mary Harriet. Only the girls survived into adulthood. The only birth/baptism records I could find were those of John & Mary Harriet.

1820. Baptism John Bremmer Roy, 5th June at St Mary on the Hill Chester. Mother Mary. The birth is recorded as 3rd May at the barracks. This might have been at Chester Castle which served as a barracks at this time. The birth was registered by mother Mary as James might have been serving elsewhere. There is no further record of baby John and it's possible he died young.

Mary Harriet Roy was baptised on 6th June 1827 at Tamerton Foliot, Devon, which is on the outskirts of Plymouth. The actual parish record shows James as Captain in the 71st Regiment. There is no further record of his wife Mary, and she may have died prior to his move to Ireland. The three girls or young woman moved to Ireland with their father in 1844 or 1845. The previous Barrack Master at Tralee, Oliver Stokes, had died in 1844.

The position of Barrack Master was usually given to non-commissioned officers who had reached an age where they would normally be discharged and might today be regarded as a retirement post. The barrack master could be considered as something akin to the position of site manager responsible for barracks bricks and mortar. While regiments would come and go, the commanding officers of the regiment would be responsible for the behaviour and discipline of the men under their command.

Barrack master would have been an important position and for James it would be quite a feather in his cap. He would be able to regard himself as having a prestigious place in society in Tralee and around the county.

James Roy's name appears on the Griffiths Valuation of Ireland (1847-1864) as Barrack Master. The aim of the valuation was to produce a guide as to the value of land in Ireland in order to deicide the liability for the Poor Rate in each Poor Law Union.

No. and Letters of Reference to Map.	Names.		Description of Tenement.	Area	· Rateable Annual Valuation.		Total Annual Valuation
	Townlands and Occupiers.	Immediate Lessors	Description of Tenement.	Alta	Land.	Buildiegs.	of Rateable Property.
- 27 a	James A. Roy,	Board of Ordnance,	· Barrack-master's house, offices, and garden, .	0 1 10	1 0	0 13 0 0	14 0 0

PARLIAMENTARY BOROUGH OF TRALEE.

James Aaron Roy's name appears in the Tralee Petty Sessions minute book of 1853. The Petty Sessions were the lowest courts and were mainly concerned about money, domestic disputes and public order offences and were heard from 1828-1912. The equivalent today of the Small Claims Court.

5th October 1853:

James Aaron Roy, Complainant; Denis Falvey of Tralee, Defendant. "The Defendant unlawfully committed spoil and damage upon a Car [at] Defendant's property on 7th September last at Russel St., Tralee, by keeping a heap of stones and rubbish to the danger of persons passing and repassing."

12th October carries a similar entry. It would appear the outcome was case dismissed. The mention of the word car is not as we would refer to a car but in this case to any kind of vehicle, horse & car, carriage etc. Drivers of such vehicles were always called "carmen" at that time.

James Aaron Roy died on 6th June 1858 age 74 and is buried in Ballyseedy Old Cemetery, Tralee. In the church of Saint John the Evangelist, Ashe Street, there is a wall memorial [shown below left] dedicated to:



James Aaron Roy, Formerly Captain of the 71st Highland Light Infantry, Late Barrack-Master of Tralee. Died June 3rd 1858, Aged 74 Years. This tablet is placed by his children in testimony of their affection and respect for his memory. Since by man came death by man also came the resurrection of the dead. 1 cor. XV-XX11.



Similarly, there is a commemorative stained-glass window [shown above right] in St Johns depicting the parable of the Good Samaritan, which is known as the Brady Window. At the bottom it says:

"In affectionate memory of Mackenzie, Catherine Brady, daughter of the late James Aaron Roy, Captain 71st Regt. Died 1st December 1877. Erected by her sisters Margaret Elmsley Lawlor and Mary Harriet Hill."

IN AFFECTIONATE MEMORY OF	MACLENZIE CATHARINE BRADY			
DAUGHTER OF THE LATE JAMES AARON ROY.	CAPTRIN 71ª REG7: DIED 1ª DECEMBER, 1577;			
EBECTED BY HER SISTERS MARGAR	ELMSLEY LAWLOB AND MARY HABBET HILL.			

## Mother and Daughter in Asylum – both admitted on the same day!

#### **By Stuart Farrell**

A few years ago I wrote the tale of two sisters in Inverness District Asylum, now here is a story of a Mother and Daughter who were admitted both on the same day. Cecilia Hamilton and her daughter Cecilia Ethel Hamilton were both admitted to the Inverness District Asylum on 6th May 1893, I had found them while doing a project on the Inverness Poor Records—Entries on Find My Past—which were as follows [Volume VI, pages 497 & 498]:

HAY or HAMILTON, CECILIA - Residence: 5 Queensgate, Inverness; Age: 52; Date of Minute of Parochial Board authorising relief: 18 May 1893; Amount and Description of Relief: Asylum; Place of Birth: Inverness; Religious Denomination: Protestant; Condition: Married; Trade or Occupation: Housewife; Wholly or Partially Disabled: Wholly; Description of Disablement: Insanity; Wholly or Partially Destitute: Wholly; Earnings: None; Nature of Settlement: Birth;

Name & Age of Wife, Child or Children: Husband George Hamilton, Auctioneer died 16 years ago and interred in Tomnahurich Cemetery. Parents John Hay, Pensioner and Janet Mackenzie or Hay, both dead and interred in Churchyard;

Other Information: See Record of Applications No.130/1893; Register: 14 May 1893 Amount paid for year to date per Lunatic Roll £1.4.2, 18 May 1893 Committed to District Asylum on 6th inst., 10 Jul 1893 Read letter of 2nd ultimo from Manager of Caledonian Bank here stating that there are no funds in Bank belonging to Pauper and also letter from Mr Scott, Solicitor, of 27th May stating that he has no funds with which to pay for her, 9 Aug 1893 Reported her removal from Asylum recovered on 1st inst. when chargeability ceased, 14 May 1894 Amount paid for year to date per Lunatic Roll £5.1.8.

HAMILTON, CECILIA ETHEL - Residence: 5 Queensgate, Inverness; Age: 19; Date of Minute of Parochial Board authorising relief: 19 May 1893; Amount and Description of Relief: Asylum; Place of Birth: Inverness; Religious Denomination: Protestant; Condition: Single; Trade or Occupation: None; Wholly or Partially Disabled: Wholly; Description of Disablement: Insanity; Wholly or Partially Destitute: Wholly; Earnings: None; Nature of Settlement: Birth;

Name & Age of Wife, Child or Children: Parents George Hamilton, Auctioneer, Inverness died 16 years ago and interred in Tomnahurich Cemetery & Cecilia Hay or Hamilton [see entry];

Other Information: See Record of Applications No.131/1893; Register: 14 May 1893 Amount paid for year to date per Lunatic Roll £1.4.2, 18 May 1893 Committed to Asylum on 6th inst. Reported her removal from the Asylum on 17th inst. when chargeability ceased, 14 May 1894 Amount paid for year to date per Lunatic Roll £0.6.4.



Inverness District Asylum (latterly Craig Dunain Hospital) was opened in 1864 Photo by Ivor MacKenzie: CC BY-SA 2.0

So what had happened to cause both of them to be admitted on the same day to the Asylum? A search of the Asylum records held in the archive centre at Inverness revealed the following from their warrants for admission [Ref: HHB/3/5/3/14, entries 2911 & 2912]:

Firstly, that the Petition to grant order for admission was made by Hugh Fraser, Inspector of Poor for the Parish of Inverness, with their address noted as 5 Queensgate, Inverness. Cecilia Hay or Hamilton was noted to have had attacks over two years whilst her daughter Cecilia Ethel Hamilton had had one attack in the last year but neither of them had been previously admitted to the Asylum. The daughter was noted as having no occupation.

Cecilia Hay or Hamilton's case notes [HHB/3/5/2/26 pages 212-213] indicate she was admitted on the 7 May 1893 and discharged on the 1 August 1893. Noted as previously insane 2 years ago. She thought that Constable Chisholm was her son. She saw the figure of a woman coming through the floor, said the house smelt of sulphur and chloroform, that men were hidden in the walls, and that a machine in the house would explode. She gave no explanation for any of these. She was noted to be in poor health when admitted, being "thin & poorly nourished" with a temperature of 99.8°, a poor appetite, and was slightly feeble. By July she had improved. She was doing needlework and was clean and tidy in her habits and had no delusions.

Cecilia Ethel Hamilton's case notes [HHB3/5/2/26 pages 208-209] indicate she was admitted on the 7 May 1893 but discharged 10 days later. Noted that she believed that persons were living in the walls of the house, smelt of chloroform in the next room and saw sulphur fumes from the floor.

It was noted that neither had any family history of mental illness, though it was stated that a son was in a "penitentiary". But what of their origins and what became of them after they were discharged from the Asylum? Cecilia Hay or Hamilton, the daughter of John Hay and Janet Mackenzie, was born at Green of Muirtown, Inverness, on 2 August 1841 and baptised on 10 August 1841. She was one of 6 children. In the 1851 Census her family was at 11 Muirtown Street, Inverness (likely same house she was born in): Janet Hay, 52, Grocer; Elizabeth Hay, 18, Bonnet Maker & Milliner; James Hay, 15, Bookseller's Apprentice; Cecilia Hay, 9, Scholar; and John Mackenzie, 41, Journeyman Shoemaker (Brother of Janet).

Cecilia married George Hamilton, Auctioneer, on 19 June 1863 in Laurencekirk, Aberdeenshire. George Hamilton was 22, the son of Jacob Hamilton, Farmer & Auctioneer, and Janet Halliday. At the time of her marriage her father was noted to be a deceased grocer.

By 1868 Cecilia was living in Inverness when the following was reported in the *Inverness Courier* of 20 August 1868: "Accident. Last night, in Stephen's Brae, a horse, with a dogcart, ran away and fell. Mr George Hamilton, auctioneer, who was seated in the conveyance, was thrown out, and we are sorry to learn was considerably hurt about the head. He was taken into a house at hand, and his injuries were attended to by Dr Mackay."

In the 1871 Census, Cecilia and her husband George Hamilton were resident at 7 Church Street, Inverness, with two servants and the following family: Edward G. Hamilton, 5, Scholar; George W. Hamilton, 4; Jessie H. Hamilton, 8 months. Tragedy struck on 22 April 1877 when Cecilia's husband died of heart trouble at 82 Church Street, Inverness. The following notice was given in the Inverness Courier of 26 April 1877:

"Death of Mr Hamilton, Auctioneer. The announcement of the death of Mr George Hamilton, auctioneer, will be received in this district with unfeigned regret. Few men were so well known throughout town and country, and his energy and attention to business were universally appreciated. On succeeding his late father, Mr Jacob Hamilton, the deceased set himself to the duty of extending the business, which he could only accomplish by providing a fresh outlet for trade. Nearly twelve years ago he established the weekly cattle sales which have now grown to such proportions, and this enterprise brought him into close connection with the farmers of the district. Mr Hamilton, we believe, was also the originator of fat shows at Inverness, the first having been held under his superintendence. His genial, kindly and bright disposition made many friends. At certain seasons his activity seemed to be ceaseless; and there can be little doubt that in his devotion to work he overtaxed his physical strength. As the business extended, Mr Hamilton associated Mr Sim and Mr Shivas as partners with himself, and the firm of course continues to be carried on by the survivors. Mr Hamilton has been cut off at the early age of thirty-six. He leaves a widow and young family, with whom much sympathy is felt in their bereavement

The will of George Hamilton in 1877 notes that he left an estate of £942.1.5 (about £15,000 today) to be comprised of furniture and effects, £142.18.6; money in the Commercial Bank, £213.11.8; money owed by Hamilton, Sim & Shivas (his business) of £400; and outstanding debts due to him of £185.11.3.

By the 1881 Census Cecilia was still at 82 Church Street, Inverness with the following family: Edward G. Hamilton, 15; George W. Hamilton, 14; John D. Hamilton, 8; Cecilia Hamilton, 7; and Janet Hay, 82, (her mother). In 1891 she is keeping a Lodging House in Queensgate, Inverness, with the following family: John D. Hamilton, 18; and Cecilia E. Hamilton, 17.

After her release from the Asylum, Cecilia left Inverness and by the 1901 Census she was at 128 Carlton Vale, Willesden, Middlesex, England, in the house of her son Edward Hamilton (a window cleaner), with his wife Mary and three children. She may have died in 1910, aged 69, in Paddington, when the electoral register suggested she was living at 51 Waverly Road.

Cecilia Ethel Hamilton was born 18 March 1874 at 7 Church Street, Inverness, to George Hamilton, Auctioneer, and Cecilia Hay, who, as noted above, had married 19 June 1863 in Laurencekirk, Aberdeenshire. Upon her release Cecilia Ethel Hamilton was to be found in the 1901 Census as a nurse in the East Sussex County Lunatic Asylum, Wivelsfield, Lewes, Sussex. Had her stay in the Inverness Asylum given her an incentive to help others because of her own experience? By the 1911 Census she was a Boarder at 193 Beaconsfield Road, Southall, Norwood, Middlesex, where her occupation was given as a Mental Nurse. In the 1921 Census, Cecilia E. Hamilton was resident at Fiscroft Mill Road, Worthing, Sussex, aged 47, with her occupation being Trained Nurse in the household of a Mr Edmund Wansey, 63, noted as an Independent Land Owner with a wife and two cousins living with him. The 1939 Register finds Cecilia Ethel Hamilton resident at The Anchorage, Renney Road, Plymstock, Devon, noted as Retired. She died Jan-Mar 1943 District of Bridgwater, Somerset [Free BMD].

So what caused the delusions that led mother and daughter into the Asylum? A gas leak? Lead water pipes? Or just that the mother was malnourished and ill with a temperature? The cause of their delusions is unknown; and why the mother thought that a police constable was her son is also unknown.



Craig Dunain is now being redeveloped for housing. Jim Briscoe CC BY-SA 2.0

## Grandad Tulloch's Story – Part Two

**Peter Cullimore** continues the life of his grandfather Alexander "Alec" Tulloch after he was suddenly sent away from the Highlands to became the personal valet of The First Sea Lord, His Royal Highness Prince Louis of Battenburg



Alec with daughter Joan in 1922

Alec served Prince Louis for about three years. We have little other information on this part of my grandfather's life. Servants tended to be invisible in the entourage of highest ranking nobility, taken for granted and therefore not featuring in their written correspondence or records. However, Alec's duties must surely have included keeping the Sea Lord's uniforms clean and well pressed. My mother told me all she learned from Alec about this period was that he sometimes accompanied the Prince on his travels and spent more than one summer with him at a palace residence in Sweden. The Battenbergs had close personal links with the Swedish royal family.

The start of the First World War in 1914 forced Prince Louis to resign as First Sea Lord because of his German ancestry, despite changing the family name from Battenberg to the more acceptable anglicisation Mountbatten. I inherited an elegant walking stick, which I still have, that my grandfather was gifted on leaving Prince Louis's employment to join up as soon as war was declared. He enlisted in a prestigious Highland regiment, the Black Watch. Like so many other patriotic young men of the time, Alec lied about his age to serve his country, telling the Army recruiters he was nineteen, when in fact he was only seventeen. However, military pension records show he lasted just seven months as a soldier. In April 1915, Private Tulloch was invalided out of the Army with pleurisy, discharged as unfit for active service by his commanding officer in Bedford. The same disease had killed the 4th Duke of Sutherland a couple of years earlier.

It's interesting to note that during his war service, or earlier, Alec must have become estranged from his mother Kate. In the military records his next of kin is given as an aunt in Golspie. The 1921 Census reveals that Kate and husband Dugald were back from remote Assynt in their home town and living in the same street as before, Sybil Road.



The memorial in Golspie to Alec's mother Catherine Fraser & her husband Dugald Watson (bottom section)

Young Alec returned to civilian life and work as a valet or "gentlemen's gentleman" in London houses. There he met my grandmother Minnie Dunlop Martin. She was a publican's daughter from Gravesend in Kent who had moved to London and gone into domestic service. The pair found themselves both employed as servants in the same household. Min, as she was known, was six years older than Alec and already a widow, her first husband probably having been killed in the war. The new couple got married and rented a small one-bedroom flat in a terrace at 21 Worlock Road, Paddington. My mother Joan Tulloch was born there on 20 June 1920. As a small child she had to sleep in the living room because there was no other space for her.

Around this time came another radical shift in my grandfather's life story. Alec found a clerical job in the City, home of the Stock Exchange and international financial markets. He started working for one of the investment banks which financed and underpinned the whole system of trading in stocks and shares. My mother's birth certificate from 1920 gives Alec's profession as "bank messenger, ex-army". One would have thought such a career was out of reach for a largely unschooled Highland lad. Perhaps he educated himself after being given the opportunity to escape from his dysfunctional home environment. Another possibility is that Prince Louis or the Duke of Sutherland arranged extra schooling for him in England.

Alec was determined to provide his daughter with the good education he lacked – and, miraculously, achieved it. Joan's all-female primary school was very progressive, with an inspiring headmistress. The arty curriculum even enabled her girls to study and perform scenes from Shakespeare plays in class. Despite his meagre salary as a clerk, by 1931 Alec and family moved house to an address in Iffley Road, Hammersmith, which was a more prosperous neighbouring district. Joan, now eleven years old, attended a feepaying school just round the corner.

Godolphin & Latymer was an independent day school for girls only, with a reputation of being the best in London. On a clerk's wages, how could Alec possibly have afforded it? It became even more difficult when Joan failed the exam that was necessary for a scholarship to lessen the burden of fees on hard-up parents. There was also rent to find and then, from 1935, mortgage payments on a newly built family house at Stanmore, in the suburbs of North London.



Alexander Tulloch on a weekend day out in the 1920s with his wife Minnie Martin and their daughter Joan

The Tulloch family soon moved out to Stanmore, and from then on Joan travelled to school by underground. Father and daughter were both commuters from 'Metroland' – he into the City and she to Hammersmith. Perhaps he walked with her to the station each morning, no doubt wearing a bowler hat, before they went their separate ways in the rush hour. I know from my mother that she and Alec were very close during her childhood. He would often take her for a day out on a Sunday, just the two them, or with Min; my grandfather suited and booted even at the weekend.

Meanwhile, Alec supplemented his income by taking on extra work in the evenings - as a valet in the home of a local Jewish family, the Jacobsons. They helped out by generously donating some of their children's books to the Tullochs, for Joan to read. However, despite working all hours, Alec seems unlikely to have earned enough to cover the school fees, plus rent or mortgage. Both the 4th Duke of Sutherland and Prince Louis were long departed. But might the 5th Duke, have come to the financial rescue instead? Or even Millicent, the legendary Duchess, who lived on mainly in France until her death in 1955. This is probably taking conjecture too far, and there is no evidence of it. Yet my mother somehow remained a pupil at Godolphin & Latymer and left with the 1930s equivalent of excellent A-Level results. Also, the family had come up in the world far enough to buy their own home. We shall never know quite how they managed it, unless there really was still a benefactor helping the family to make ends meet.

I first knew Grandad much later, when I was a child growing up on our family farm in Gloucestershire during the fifties and sixties. He and Granny still lived in their London suburban house at Stanmore. My parents often visited them with us children, and vice versa. After his retirement from the City, Granny and Grandad moved to the small Gloucestershire town of Dursley to be near their daughter. Granny always called her husband Alec, never Alexander. Her feisty character and strong Kent accent reminded me of a comedy film actress from that period, Irene Handl.

I still treasure memories of the long walks Grandad used to take me on with my sister Julia in the nearby woods. To me, he looked like a fussy civil servant, which I thought he really was - always immaculately turned out even on our rambles. However, I could tell he was a countryman at heart quite unlike Granny, who was a Londoner through and through and never really settled in Gloucestershire. We children would often stay overnight in our grandparents' cosy bungalow at weekends and always enjoyed it – especially Granny's fruit cake. Carefully folded in a drawer lay Alec's original Black Watch tartan kilt that he had worn during his military service.

I remember Grandad as a reserved, buttoned up man who dressed, spoke and behaved like a gentleman's gentleman – a real-life Jeeves. He looked stern but had a dry sense of humour and treated us with a lot of warmth and kindness. My grandfather had deliberately lost all trace of a Highland accent. He sounded English with quite a posh voice – but could switch into broad Scots at the drop of a hat, to make us all smile. His stock catchphrase was: "Tis a braw bricht moonlicht nicht the nicht, ye ken!" from a Harry Lauder song. That should be his epitaph as a proud Highlander. He died from a brain tumour in May 1971 at the age of seventy-three, when I was seventeen.

I know little about Kate's and Dugald's lives after my grandfather left Scotland for London, except what is written on their gravestone in Golspie churchyard. Dugald died on 25 July 1939, aged seventy-five. My greatgrandmother Kate followed on 28 May 1944, aged seventy-one. According to my mother, their son John Watson became a fisherman and married an Orkney girl, Frances, whose maiden name was coincidentally also Fraser. This couple apparently had a daughter called Christine who in 1954 married John Matheson, a local farmer, and become Christine Matheson.

My mother told me that Kate and Dugald's daughter Christina was very beautiful and gave birth to an illegitimate daughter herself at a young age. She is thought to have emigrated to Newfoundland with her child and the well off father. However, it seems she returned home at some later stage. There is a Christina Watson buried in Golspie churchyard, near Kate and Dugald's grave. She died on 22 May 1980, aged about seventy. That gravestone also names Donald Gordon as her husband. He passed away in 1975 and is buried alongside her.



Christmas 1959 at the Cullimore family farm near Dursley, Glos. My grandfather is back right, my grandmother back left. Between them is my mother Joan, the baby on her lap being my younger brother John. I am at front right aged six, my sister Julia aged four is front left, with twin cousins between us. Throughout his life, Grandad felt deeply ashamed of his illegitimate birth and kept it secret, revealing the truth only to Granny. He made her promise not to tell anyone else until after his death. My mother Joan only found out about it from her mother in middle age. She in turn eventually passed on the story to the next generation - me, my sister and brother - in her later years.

My mother had a childhood memory of being taken by her parents in 1932, when she was about twelve, to visit a family at their home in the Golspie area, without being told who they were or the reason for seeing them. Joan recalled a couple (presumably Kate and Dugald Watson) and two children. One of these was an extraordinarily beautiful teenage girl nursing a baby. To my mother, all these people seemed very reticent. They had nothing to say about past goings-on in the upstairs downstairs world of Dunrobin Castle.

I cannot be sure that my grandfather Alexander Tulloch was the illegitimate son of the 4th Duke of Sutherland and his servant Catherine Fraser, but there is plenty of circumstantial evidence. My mother died in 2013, at the age of ninety-two, still convinced about the truth of this astonishing family secret revealed to her by my grandmother, who had heard the full story from Alec himself. They were all honest and reliable people, not given to flights of fancy. Why would any of them make this up? I would love to delve deeper for confirmation of having a partly aristocratic heritage in the Scottish Highlands. Or is it just that I have delusions of grandeur?

Peter Cullimore is now 70 and lives in Bristol having retired as a news journalist for ITV and the BBC.

Peter Cullimore at his grandmother Kate Fraser's grave

Comann Rannsachaidh Eachdraidh na Gaidhealtachd Society of Highland & Island Historical Research One-Day Conference

#### The Sixteenth Century in the Highlands



Friday 5th July 2024 UHI Inverness Campus





#### Looking for ancestors in rent-rolls

Using Scotlands People, you may be able to find out where your ancestors lived in the late 1700s. You can then start looking for other records of them in those places - if you can establish who their lairds were. You may be able to do that using "The Directory of Landownership in Scotland, c. 1770", a download of which can be purchased here: https://tannerritchie.com/srs/.

Lairds' family papers may contain rent rolls, but they can also be found in collections of legal papers. Here is a list of rentals of various lands in the Warrand of Bught papers [GD23] in the NRS [National Records of Scotland].

- GD23/8/1 Rental of James Rose of Clava, 1764.
- GD23/8/2 Rental of Laird of MacLeod in parish of Durinish, Skye, 1784.
- GD23/8/3 Rentals of Chisholm of Chisolm. 1786-96.
- GD23/8/4 Rental of farm of Kinmylies, 1786.
- GD23/8/5 Rentals of Muirtown, 1789-96.
- GD23/8/6 Rentals of land in Fortrose, 1790, 1794, 1798.
- GD23/8/7 Rentals of Redcastle, 1790-1804.
- GD23/8/8 Rental of Drimcudden estate, 1793-94.
- GD23/8/9 Rental of parishes of Daviot and Dunlichity, 1795.
- GD23/8/10 Rental of isles of Rhum, Muck, and Canna, 1797.
- GD23/8/11 Rental of lands of Mrs. Rose of Kilravock, Mr. Forbes of Culloden, and David Davidson of Cantray, 1802.
- GD23/8/12 Rentals of Murdoch MacKenzie's part of Ardross, 1811.
- GD23/8/13 Rental (factor's account) of estate of Tarradale, 1814.
- GD23/8/14 Rental of one third of Easter St Ninian's, 1816.
- GD23/8/15 Rental of estate of Ferintosh, Ross & Cromarty, 1825.
- GD23/8/16 Rental of vassalage of Earl of Moray, 1827.
- GD23/8/17 Rental of Gordon estates in Inverness-shire, 1828.
- GD23/8/18 Rental of barony of Kincardine, 1828.
- GD23/8/19 Rental of Merkinch, Inverness, 1830.
- GD23/8/20 Rental of lordship of Badenoch, 1830.
- GD23/8/21 Rentals of lordship of Lochaber, 1830-35.
- GD23/8/22 Rental (factor's account) of the lordship of Urquhart and the estate of Abriachan, 1830.
- GD23/8/23 Accounts of Arthur Forbes of Culloden with day-labourers and jobbers, 1799-1814.
- GD23/8/24 Bundle of papers relating to rentals, valuations, leases, estate management (inventory made up with bundle), 1761-1875.
- GD23/8/25 The lordship of Petty and barony of Connage: rentals, papers relating to leases and to management of estates, 1805-1830.

Other collections of Inverness legal firms in the NRS that include rentals are the papers of Innes & Mackay (GD296) and the Fraser-Mackintosh Papers (GD128).

## Clann Ualraig Part Three



*Graeme Mackenzie* concludes his account of the Highland Kennedies from his talk given in September 2023

The extent of the Kennedy clan in Upper Speyside is hinted at in the 18th century Huntly rentals and in the OPRs for the relevant parishes (though many of the Kennedies associated with the MacDonells of Keppoch and of Glengarry were Roman Catholics, and therefore do not appear in the OPRs). Their full extent however is best revealed in what we might call the Military Censuses of the 1790s, when the government ordered lists to be drawn up of all males aged 16 to 60 who might be called upon to defend the country in the event of an invasion by Napoleon Bonaparte.

The list for the Lordship of Badenoch in 1794, for instance – which is to be found in the Seafield Muniments in the National Records of Scotland (since the Laird of Grant was the Lord Lieutenant for Inverness-shire) – records 18 Kennedies on the Duke of Gordon's lands in Laggan and one on Cluny's lands there, 27 on Gordon's lands in Kingussie, and 7 on his lands in Alvie.

It's a depressing commentary on the attitude of so many of the Highland lairds at this time that, as soon as the threat of invasion diminished they started warning out many of the men they would have been calling on to fight for their country but a few years before. So, eight years after seven Kennedy men in Alvie were listed as ready to fight, five Kennedy men and one Kennedy woman in the same parish were listed for eviction.

Kennedies elsewhere were involved in the most dramatic example of this process when in 1802 so many of Glengarry's tenants, having been pressured in 1794 to join his fencible regiment, chose to emigrate to Canada following the regiment's disbandment and the prospect of the Glengarry family returning to rack-renting and evictions. Three shiploads of their people went that year to the new Glengarry in what is now Ontario and, though we don't have lists of their passengers, the records in Canada show that the emigrants included many Kennedies. In the same year 13 Kennedy families from Glengarry joined the Lochaber Macmillans in their emigration to Canada.

Amongst the Highland Kennedies that remained in Scotland, two families have proved of particular interest. The first is the family of the Rev. Dr John Kennedy, the Free Church Minister of Dingwall who wrote the "Days of the Fathers in Ross-shire" and "The Apostle of the North".



Rev. Dr John Kennedy, Free Church, Dingwall

He belonged to a dynasty of Presbyterian ministers and physicians descended from Donald Kennedy, a farmer in Kishorn, Lochcarron, who would have been born in about 1745 and – to judge by the names in his family – probably came from the Kennedies of Leanachan. He married two wives called Mary. The first was the daughter of the Rev. Aeneas Sage, the Minister of Lochcarron, whose life is chronicled in the wonderful family history, *Memorabilia Domestica*, produced by his son the Rev. Donald Sage. They were the parents of the Rev. Angus Kennedy, the Minister of Lairg and then Dornoch, who was the father of the Rev. George Rainy Kennedy, who was also the Minister of Dornoch.

Donald Kennedy in Kishorn and the second Mary (a Matheson) were the parents of the Rev. John Kennedy, the Minister of Killearnan, who married Jess Mackenzie. Their children included: The Rev. Donald Kennedy, who succeeded his father in Killearnan; Dr Kenneth Mackenzie Kennedy MD, the Medical Officer for Killearnan; the aforesaid Rev. John Kennedy of Dingwall, and Dr Neil Kennedy, physician in Tain.

The second son of Donald Kennedy and Mary Matheson in Kishorn was the Rev. Neil Kennedy, the Minister of Logie Easter. He married Anne Downie (the daughter of the Rev. John Downie of Urray), and was the father of the Rev. Donald Kennedy, the Minister of Helmsdale and then of Logie-Easter, and the Rev. John Downie Kennedy, the Free Church Minister of Rosehall in Sutherland.

Such religious dynasties were not uncommon in the 18th and 19th century Highlands, and there is a wonderful website (www.ecclegen.com) that chronicles many of them, and which saved me from having to try connecting up all these clerical Kennedies myself.

The second family of Highland Kennedies of particular interest is one here in Inverness that I have had to connect up myself as I came across records of it in various sources in the century after 1759. That was when a Donald Kennedy in Inverness married a Janet McKenzie in Petty.



Donald and Janet had most of their children in Broomtown of Inverness before moving to The Crown in 1786, and then to Ballinloch of Culloden by 1795 – in which year they disposed of some land they had in the Burgh of Inverness to their second son Alexander Kennedy. He was married in 1804 in Nairn to Ann MacLeod, and they lived variously in Auldearn, Ardclach, Nairn, and Croy, and had seven children, at least one of whom – Hugh, the eldest – emigrated to Australia. He's recorded on the passenger list for the ship "Aloe" in 1857 [as shown below] and has a grave in the Wollongong Cemetery in New South Wales.



Donald Kennedy and Janet McKenzie's eldest son William married Jane Fraser in 1794, and William, who was in the militia in 1798, became a farmer in Tomnahurch where he died in 1828. His grave, in the Petty burial ground, says he was then 73, whereas in fact he was born in 1760. Among their children were William, a grocer who married Margaret Macintosh, and Rachel who married Robert Cameron (a man I was already familiar with since he was in fact a Macmillan and distantly related to my own Macmillan forebears in Glenurquhart).

William Kennedy and Jane Fraser's eldest son Donald was an Excise Officer in Glasgow when his father died, and returned to Inverness where he leased the farm of Holm. By 1840 he had acquired Bogbain and become a wood merchant with his business based in Telford Street; but, in 1857, when he is described as "Shipowner, Coal, Lime & Wood Merchant in Inverness and Partner in the Spey Wood Company", he was sequestered; i.e. he went bankrupt. After that he retired to farm at Novar in Kiltearn where he died in 1873. He and his wife Margaret Hutchison are commemorated on his father's gravestone in the Petty burial ground, while his sister Rachel and her husband Robert Cameron are remembered in Inverness Chapel Yard.

Another stone in the Chapel Yard that indicates the burial there of a Kennedy is No. 1025 in this society's book of transcriptions from that burial ground, published in 1999. It reads:

This stone is placed in memory of Kenneth MACKENZIE, son to Gruinart, mercht in Inverness; & Isobel ROSE, his spouse, who dyed 31 May 1731. Mrs Elizabeth SMITH, his second spouse, who died the 21 December 1775, aged 70 years. K McK + I R. Here lies the remains of William KENNEDY, MD, Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, who died 7th February 1823, aet 63.

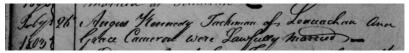
It's not known why William Kennedy was buried alongside a son of Mackenzie of Gruinard, though it may be because his wife, Mary Randoll Scott, had a MacKenzie mother and paternal grandmother.

Dr William Kennedy is also remembered on a wall plaque in the Old High Kirk of Inverness; and again the Society has recorded the transcription, which tells us that three of Dr Kennedy's sons were soldiers, one of whom died at Waterloo carrying the colours of the Royal Scots. Ancestry.com says that Dr William Kennedy was born in 1761 in Ayrshire or Dumfriesshire to a John Kennedy & Jean Henderson, but include no proof of that; and the dispute as to which county he was supposedly born in clearly shows how unreliable this claim is. In fact, it's not difficult to discover – and online – that William Kennedy was from the burgh in which he practised and died, since he too appears in the records of Aberdeen University graduates. Thus far it's not been possible to discover who his parents were, but since he gave his third son, James, the middle name Grant, they very likely belonged to the many Kennedies that lived in Strathspey.



Dr William Kennedy's plaque in the High Kirk

The assumption is of course that the Speyside Kennedies came originally from the Leanachan and Laggan Achadrom families; and there was in fact a later Dr William Kennedy who certainly belonged to the Leanachan family. He was the fourth son of Angus Kennedy and his wife Grace Cameron who were married in 1803.

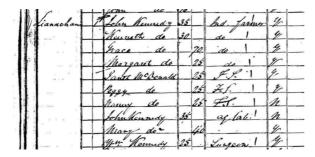


Angus Kennedy of Leanachan died in 1839 and his monument in the Kilmonivaig burial ground commemorates his wife Grace, who died in 1853, along with four of his sons, including Dr William. The latter died in 1851 in Fort William where he was honoured with his own monument in Cameron Square commemorating his work in the town during a typhus outbreak.



Dr Kennedy's monument which was taken down in 1965

Angus Kennedy was succeeded in Leanachan by his eldest son John who can be found living there in 1841 with his mother Grace, and his younger brothers Kenneth, and William the Surgeon.



When John Kennedy of Leanachan died, unmarried, in 1850 he was succeeded by his brother Kenneth. He was also unmarried when he died on the Isle of Bute in 1858, and he was succeeded by the next brother, Donald. He had emigrated in 1837 to Australia – where he was known as Donald Angus Kennedy – and he died in Melbourne in 1864, having become a prosperous farmer who served on the Legislative Council for Victoria.

At this point the story of the Leanachan family intersects with that of my client Peter Kennedy, for his ancestor, who was also called Donald, emigrated to Australia on the same ship – the "Earl of Durham" – as Donald Angus of the Leanachan family. They were almost certainly cousins of some sort, and one clue to that is the inclusion in both families of the given name Kenneth, which is relatively unusual amongst Kennedies.

Peter's ancestor Donald was the son of a Kenneth Kennedy who, according to the family tradition, was a "manager" on Lord Lovat's estate – obviously not a factor (since no such man appears in that office in the Lovat estate papers held here in the Highland Archives), but possibly a ground officer or some other local "manager". Donald himself worked on the Lovat estate as a gamekeeper before he emigrated. The fact that this family were Roman Catholic means we have no baptismal records to confirm Donald's birth – said to have been about 1808 in Beauly – and indeed, in the course of months of searching, I have only found two records of a Kenneth living on Lovat's lands in the right timeframe who could have been Peter's ancestor.

The first is in the militia records in the Inverness Sheriff Court papers, listing a Kenneth in Ardochy of Abertarff as liable for service in 1799. The second is of Kenneth Kennedy, "residenter in Ardachy", witnessing an eviction order for Lovat's factor – and with a signature that suggests he was slightly more than the labourer he is described as in 1799:

Renneth Rennedy residenters at Arbach, Mex mac Kay with John Mac Joral offu

Peter's ancestor Donald also prospered in Australia and having married Mary Cameron – another of the emigrants on the "Earl of Durham" – they had nine children, and many descendants.

Donald Angus Kennedy of Leanachan however, though he had married in Australia, had no children; so the nominal chiefship of Clann Ualraig passed on his death to yet another brother: Duncan Cameron Kennedy, the youngest son of Angus of Leanachan. He died in 1888 in London and is commemorated on the same side of the family monument as Dr William Kennedy.



I leave the last words to the Rev. Archibald Clerk who, on hearing the news of Donald Angus Kennedy's death in Australia wrote of his family:

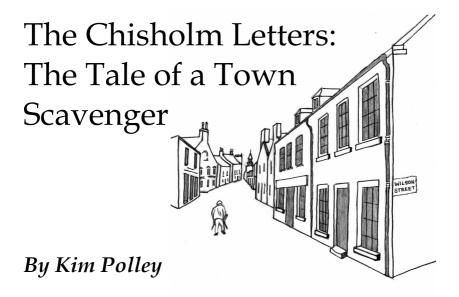
"Five of them I knew – John, Donald, Kenneth, Duncan, and William – William, the Doctor, one of my most intimate friends, one of the best Surgeons and best men in Scotland. They are all dead except Duncan and have left no issue except one son left by the daughter who was married in 1849 to Dr Cameron, Drimnasaile, and three rather weakly girls of Duncan. They certainly so wither like the 'Ferns'."

His last comment refers to a Gaelic saying about the Kennedies that he quoted earlier in his diary:

'Cinnidh iad mar an Luachair 'S crionaidh iad mar an raineach 'Nuair is gain' iad 'S ann is pailte 'Nuair is pailte 's is gainne.'

This was translated by Somerled MacMillan, in "Bygone Lochaber", as:

They'll grow like the rushes And they'll wither like the brackens; When most scarce, they appear most numerous; When most numerous, they appear most scarce!

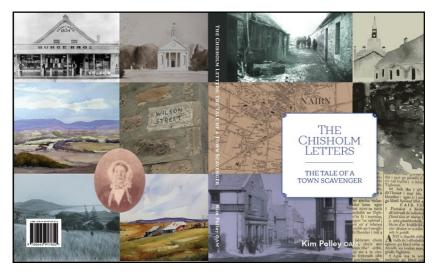


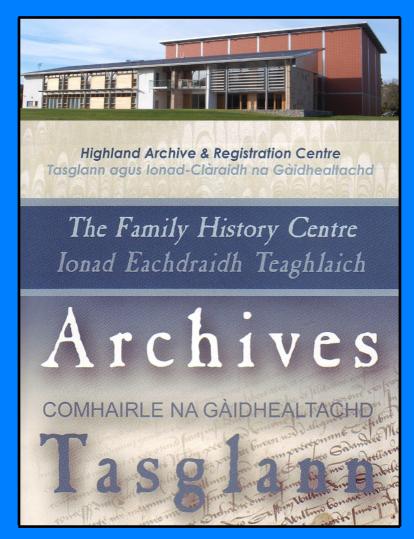
Writing family histories can be an exhausting task. I know this for a fact, having many years ago undertaken this very process as I traced the history of my Chisholm family from their roots on Scottish farms and villages to the vast openness and emptiness of Australia. It can also be a frustrating enterprise, trying to inject life into the narrative while being held captive to the inevitable litany of births, marriages and deaths that by necessity shape any family history.

Last year, in writing The Chisholm Letters: The Tale of a Town Scavenger, I was determined to break that mould, to delve more deeply, to walk alongside them as they went about their lives, to become a living spectator, to sense their emotional highs and feel their grief as they went about their days both in Scotland and the colony of Australia. Fortunately, and in part by chance, I discovered an on-line repository of old Scottish newspapers, which opened a whole new world of information reaching beyond the old parish records and statutory registers. Suddenly, I was able to put my ancestors into the world as it existed for them, I could hear their voices, and I could see and smell and taste their lives, almost as if I was sitting in the corner by the hearth, or riding in the back of the wagon in New England. But what could I do with the treasure trove of information that I found? How could I use it in an authentic manner, and yet draw the threads of family across the oceans? By creating a narrative through the concept of letters between Colin Chisholm and his siblings, I found that I could be both true to the history of the times whilst injecting the story of the Chisholm family – a personal saga within the (and their) real world. The second part of the book, Notes, follows the lives of Colin's children and his brother and sisters after he died in 1868, as they navigate life in Dingwall, Nairn and other places in Scotland, England, Canada and Australia up until the early 1900s.

The Chisholm Letters has been meticulously annotated throughout and contains 292 pages, hundreds of current and historical photographs, diagrams, maps, and original drawings. Since its publication, the book has become widely acknowledged as a social history and a family saga.

I am offering a discount on the black and white copies of my book. They will be £22 UK (book only). I hope to have them available in the UK shortly. This will avoid the cost of postage from Australia but will require postage (and packing costs) within the UK. If you are interested in purchasing a copy, please contact me at info@polleybooksaustralia.com.au. More details and reviews of the book can be found at https://polleybooksaustralia.com.au





Highland Family History Society c/o Highland Archive Centre Bught Road, Inverness, IV3 5SS.

www.highlandfhs.org



ISSN 0262-6659