

HECTOR'S HERALD[®]

April, May, June 2019



NEWS OF CLAN GILLEAN OF LOCHBUIE - FAMILIES MACLEAN & MACLAINE, SEPTS & FOLLOWERS OF HECTOR THE ASTUTE (EACHAINN REAGANACH) SENIOR LINEAGE OF IAIN DUBH MAC GILLEAN

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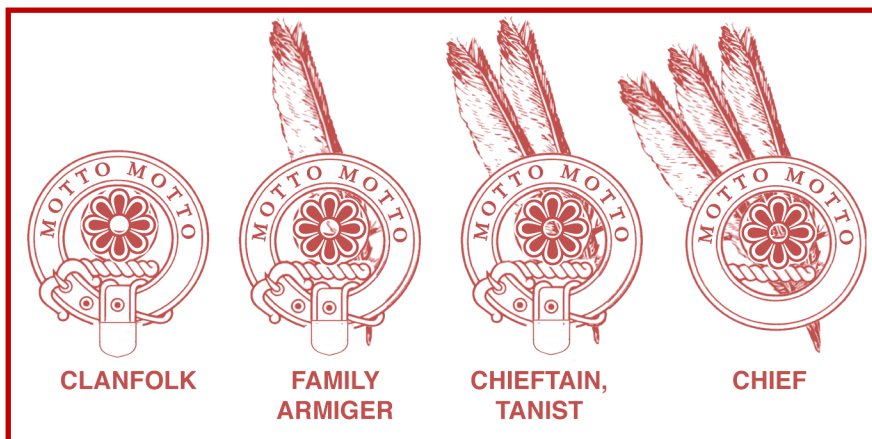
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the Editor of

"Hector's Herald"

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Let Us Look At Facts

Submitted By: Alan Maclean

If you don't have a Coat of Arms, don't display a Coat of Arms

FACT: A Crest is not the same as Arms. The Crest is simply one component of Arms – and is usually depicted above the shield or alone as a Crest Badge.

FACT: There is no such thing as a "Family Coat of Arms" in Scottish law. Arms are the personal, heritable property of one person—and just because you share a surname does not mean you can use these Arms, any more than you could drive away in that person's car. Make no mistake – these matters are regulated by Statute Law in Scotland and there are real penalties, including fines, confiscation and possibly jail.

FACT: A Clan or Family may have a number of Armigers (people legally entitled to bear Arms) but the "undifferenced" Arms will typically be borne by the Chief of that Name.

Unless you personally have been granted Arms by Lord Lyon, do not display Arms. If an ancestor of your surname had Arms, then you can petition to have these re-matriculated in your own name.

Any kinsman/kinswoman of an armigerous Chief of Name and Arms may wear a device bearing the Chief's Crest. This must be displayed within a strap-and-buckle. It may worn as a cap-badge, kilt-pin, plaid brooch etc. or used as a graphic image on literature, merchandise and the like. The Crest still belongs to the Chief (or senior Armiger) but most Chiefs are only too happy to see as many people as possible wearing the Crest Badge.

A Chief wears his crest inside a simple circlet with three feathers; a Tanist, Chieftain, Shennachie or other member of a Chief's household may wear the crest inside a strap-and-buckle with two feathers; a family armiger may wear the crest inside a strap-and-buckle with single feather behind it; clanfolk wear the crest inside the simple strap-and-buckle. If you do not have your own, individual, legally-granted arms, do not wear a feather behind the badge.

Clan? or Family? or Sept?

Not every name in Scotland is attached to a Clan. The Clan is a Highland phenomenon. Names from the Lowlands are considered to be in "Families". Bruce is not a Clan. Douglas is not a Clan. Wallace is not a Clan. Wood is not a Clan. The "Lowlands", by the way, includes some areas quite far north in Scotland. Roughly, draw a line north-east from Dumbarton to Aboyne, then north to about Aberlour, and north-west to Nairn – anything to the left of that is Highlands.

A Clan or Family which has a legally recognised Chief has a "corporate identity". Gillean of Lochbuie's corporate colours are blue and gold and the clan has a corporate marque separate from the chief's crest badge.

A Family or Name group with no recognised chief has no official position in Scots law. Douglas, for instance, having no Chief, can never be a Clan – it is subsumed under Hamilton (Chief, His Grace Alexander, 16th Duke of Hamilton) and the last Chief of Clan Douglas (Archibald, 1st Duke of Douglas) died in 1761.

The ancient clan system was more or less disappearing when the Clans Act and other laws of the immediate post-1745 period were enacted. What we know today was re-created during the 1800s, largely by the enthusiasm of Sir Walter Scott, King George IV's visit to Edinburgh in 1822, and the later popularisation of Scotland by Queen Victoria.

The Lord Lyon does not regulate Clans

When the Lord Lyon grants Arms to a Chief, the Letters Patent may say something like: "Angus McSneckie of McSneckie, Chief of the Name and

Arms of Clan McSneckie". This acknowledges that the Clan exists, not that Lord Lyon has conferred "Clan" status. Lyon exercises no jurisdiction over what is or is not considered a "Clan", but can offer advice on how a Clan or Family can go about appointing or recognising a Chief after a Family Convention. The Lord Lyon does not stipulate, register or control Sept families. The most widely referred-to Sept list is the one from "The Clans, Septs and Regiments of the Scottish Highlands" by Frank Adam.

There are roughly 140 Clans and Names that have Chiefs recognised by the Lord Lyon. Recognised Chiefs can belong to the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs.

Ref: Dr. Bruce Durie, BSc (Hons), PhD, OMLJ, FSAScot, FCollT, FIGRS, FHEA, QG, Genealogist, Author, Broadcaster, Lecturer

Clan Maclaine of Lochbuie An Independent Clan.

by Lorne Maclaine of Lochbuie, 26th of Lochbuie.

With the passing of time, the authentic history of many clans becomes distorted. Whether intentionally or not does not warrant debate. Suffice to say, the onus for preserving the 'true history' of a clan rests with the clan's custodians - the chiefly family and the clan's officers. Nicholas Maclean-Bristol's book, "Warriors and Priests" was, in 1995, the "*first study of the Macleans in over one hundred years*". Sadly this void had become populated with naïve interpretations of the clan's history that were neither helpful nor usefully constructive to the greater body of Macleans and their associated families.

The Macleans are not a unitary clan - there are five independent Maclean clans: Lochbuie, Duart, Coll, Kingairloch and Ardgour. All five clans held their lands by royal charter and all five were independent baronies. That some were aligned in their endeavours is irrelevant. Frequently they acted independently and opposed one another according to their individual inclinations.

With respect to the Maclaines of Lochbuie specifically, I have summarised the key 'facts' that sub-

stantiate and confirm the Lochbuie's status as an independent clan and not beholden or subservient to any other clan or confederation.

- The brothers, Hector Reaganach and Lachlan Labanach were granted separate lands by the Lord of the Isles.
- Both the Lochbuie and Duart chiefs were members of the Lordship's council. As Donald Munroe, Dean of the Isles, wrote in 1548, "*the four greatest nobles callit Lords*" - Maclean of Lochbuie, Maclean of Duart, Macleod of Lewis and Macleod of Dunvegan and Harris – were members of the Council.
- In 1493 Lochbuie submitted to James IV and lands were confirmed to Lochbuie in 1494. The crown recognised the Maclaines of Lochbuie as an independent clan and that Duart was not 'head of kin' in respect of the Lochbuies. Duart only submitted in 1495.
- The period of the early 1500's is marked by continual conflict between the Duart and Lochbuie clans. Hardly the practice of a unitary clan.
- At the battle of Taigh Ghruinnert in August 1598, the Lochbuies sided with MacDonald of Dunnevyveg against the Macleans of Duart. At the subsequent battle of Benvigory, Lochbuie again sided with MacDonald whereas MacLeod of Harris and Cameron of Lochiel now supported Duart.
- Nine chiefs signed the Statutes of Icolmkill in 1609, namely: Maclean of Lochbuy, Maclean of Duart, Maclean of Coll, MacDonald of Dunnivaig, MacDonald of Sleat, Macleod of Harris, MacQuarrie of Ulva, MacKinnon of Strathordail and the Captain of Clanranald.
- In 1616, the Privy Council commanded seven chiefs to present themselves in Edinburgh to hear measures that were to be taken to eliminate repeated insurrections and ensure peace and obedience. The seven chiefs were: Maclean of Lochbuy, Maclean of Duart, Maclean of Coll, Macleod of Harris, MacKinnon of MacKinnon, Donald of Sleat, MacDonald of Clanranald.

- Lochbuie joined James Graham, Marquess of Montrose, in the 1645/46 'civil war' campaigns. Letters from Montrose to Murdoch Maclean of Lochbuy suggest that Montrose considered Lochbuie to be a leader in his own right and not a follower of Duart. Significantly Duart belatedly joined the civil war five months after Montrose's actions against the Protestant forces that had begun at the battle of Tibbermore.

- On the 17 March 1681, a proclamation stating that all landowners and chiefs must give a bond and caution for the security of peace in the Highlands. Individuals listed as chiefs on the first and principal schedule included Lochbuy and Duart. Named on a separate schedule, as heads of 'branch families' were Brolas, Torloisk, Coll, Ardgour, Kingerloch and Drimnin. These two lists are highly significant. Those of the first schedule are clearly the principal chiefs of independent clans, whereas those on the second schedule are heads of branch families. The crown and Privy Council demonstrated that they recognised the Maclaines of Lochbuie as an independent clan.

And perhaps the most significant and confirming fact occurred in 1750 when Sir Hector Maclean of Duart died in Rome. As Sir Hector died without issue, the title of Maclean of Duart devolved upon his distant cousin Allan Maclean of Brolas. As was noted above, Brolas was considered a 'branch family'. As Lochbuie was not a branch family, but an independent clan, there was no way Lochbuie could be offered the Duart chiefship, despite Lochbuie being recognised by all as being significantly senior to Brolas. Similarly, neither the Maclean of Coll, nor Maclean of Ardgour were considered as they too were independent baronies, and despite both Coll and Ardgour being descended from Lachlan Labanach line and considered senior to Brolas.

From the time that Hector and Lachlan had received their land holdings from the Lord of the Isles in the mid 1300's, and through to the late 1600's, the Lochbuies and Duarts had at times acted in concert and at times on opposite sides. It would be fair to

suggest that their actions were dependent on the inclination of the individual chiefs. That the Duart chiefs may have at times been more celebrated or enjoyed greater prominence has nothing to do with the independence of both clans.

The sometimes-peddled notion that the Lochbuies are subservient or a cadet or branch of Duart, is both a complete nonsense, mischievous, and is to the detriment of the greater family itself.

DON'T ASSUME

Neill MacLaine

Contrary to popular and promoted publicity, the spelling of your name with "lean" or "Lean" does not necessarily indicate a Duart connection. Genealogical records demonstrate how scribes over time phonetically interpreted regional dialect.

The oldest recorded spelling so far located is 1296 when Gillemore Makilyn swore fealty to Edward I of England. In 1478, Hector MakGilleon of Loichbowe and Lachlan MakGilleon of Dowart witnessed a charter by the King confirming David Lindsay of Buky as Earl of Crawford. Time passes. In the 1609 bond of the principal Islemen we read McClane of Cole, McClane of Lochbowy & McClane of Dowart.

As to the Lochbuies united with Duart, there is little substantiating evidence. J. Scott Keltie says in "History of the Scottish Highlands", "in 1502, Lachlan Maclean of Dowart and his kinsman, Maclean of Lochbuy, were among the leading men of the Western Isles whom that energetic monarch, James IV, entered into correspondence with..." John Maclean of Lochbuy and other Chiefs submitted to James IV ...their former possessions were confirmed by Royal Charter, and now, they held directly from the Crown and were independent of any overlord.

For much of the information here, we acknowledge the highly respected historian of Hebridean genealogy, Major Nicholas Maclean-Bristol OBE, DL, who wrote...

"They owed allegiance to the Scottish monarch, and nobody else. At no time did any of them (Lochbuie, Kingairloch, Coll) surrender their feudal jurisdiction and property rights to Maclean of Dowart. Hector, 8th of Lochbuie fought, in behalf of the MacDonalds

of Islay, against the Macleans of Duart at the Battle of Benvigory 1598. This is hardly the action of a Duart vassal."

There is absolutely no dispute that Duart has become the numerically larger of the two clans, however much of this can be attributed to Hector, 8th Lochbuie who began experimenting with the "MacLaine" spelling in the 17th century to distinguish his family from the Duarts – but many cadet families retained the "Maclean" spelling. For instance, The Very Reverend Canon Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch is, by direct bloodline, a descendent of Charles, son of MacLaine of Lochbuie, however this cadet family moved north towards Inverness, married into Clan Chattan, and became a sept (follower) of Duart.

During the past 300 years, there has been a collective but ill-informed assumption that "Maclean" meant you MUST belong to the Duart line. NOT SO! Do your own independent ancestral research!

Clan MacLaine's Got Talent

BRENT MACLAINE

Dr. Brent MacLaine [full name, Donald Brenton MacLaine] is a very well-known Canadian author of (predominantly) poems but also books, academic dissertations/ thesis's and journal articles. He has a very large catalogue of published works. His awards for poetry include a League of Canadian Poets' Prize, the Prince Edward Island Book Award, and the Atlantic Poetry Prize.

Until his relatively recent retirement Brent was Professor Emeritus and a 3M Teaching Fellow in the English Department at the University of Prince Edward Island (PEI) where he was adored by his students. Before that he taught at Universities in Canada (Vancouver), China and Singapore.

~Hear Ye, Hear Ye!~

Deadline for submissions for the

September Newsletter.

9-10-2019



Brent's current list of publications or collections of his own poetry compositions are:

'Wind and Root' (2000)

'These Fields Were Rivers' (2004)

'Shades of Green' (2008)

'Athena Becomes A Swallow' (2009)

'Prometheus Reconsiders Fire' (2016)

"Brent MacLaine's poems, like the poet himself, are rooted in the history and landscape of Prince Edward Island. Yet, MacLaine possesses a remarkable ability to graft rural values to contemporary culture, with its urban habits and popular entertainments, its scientific theories and technological mythologies.

MacLaine belongs to the first generation of Islanders not farming the land, and his poems explore his uneasy relationship with the patch of earth where he lives. He follows the island contours in an expansive sweep across the fields and into the woods; he also shares an islander's sense of confine-

ment, bound into a small place by the sea and the red cliffs. The island before human existence, the coming of European settlers, or the stubbled ground tilled by his father are as readily available to his fertile imagination as meteorological patterns, modern art, or The Odyssey.

Using his Maritime home as template for larger universal concerns, MacLaine offers clear-headed insight into the natural world — and into human nature — in an astonishing range of poems shaped by his nimble attention to his quotidian world." - Quotation from Inside and Back covers of 'These Fields were Rivers'

The son of Donald Hector MacLaine (1923-1997) and Elaine Letitia MacNevin (1929-2001), Brent is a native of Rice Point, PEI. He is married to Kay Susan Diviney whom he met at the University of British Columbia whilst they were both undertaking their English PHD's. Until recently, Kay has taught English and Flute at the University of PEI. Together they are the parents of Cameron MacLaine and Julia MacLaine, the latter being the cellist who featured in the January, February, March 2019 edition of Hector's Herald. Again, this means that his ancestry is very well documented right back through the MacLaines of Kilmory (Isle of Scarba), through to Hector MacLaine (8th of Lochbuie), through to Gille-an of The Battleaxe, and right back to Old Dugald of Scone (c.1050-c.1100) and beyond.



Amongst Brent's other talents are that he is an excellent painter, a dedicated golfer and a very good cook (inspired by the flavours of Southeast Asia).

Neill MacLaine, Clan Genealogist

The Strathglass Witches

By Neill MacLaine, Clan Genealogist



A coven of witches

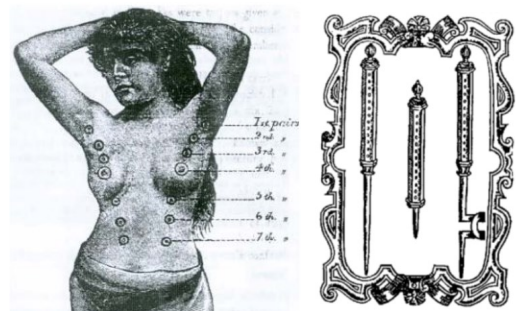
In the middle of the 17th Century superstitious concerns over the potential presence of witches in the community reached fever pitch across Europe and America. In Scotland as in England professional witch-hunters were being employed to locate and bring to justice as many witches and wizards as possible.

In 1662, one unscrupulous Clan Chief, Alexander a.k.a. "An Siosal Og", 19th of Chisholm¹, decided he could turn this to his advantage as he attempted to rid his Clan of some poor tenants on his land on the banks of River Beaully within the Parish of Kilmorack and Kiltarlity in the Strathglass area; some twenty miles West of Inverness. He hatched a plan with his brothers and cousins to accuse Hector and Jonnet Maclean and twelve of their extended family [all descended from the Macleans of Dochgarroch] of being witches and if they were able to extract confessions from the Macleans he could then commission for them to face a public trial with the strong prospect of seeing them all burned or drowned. Two of Hector's brothers, John and Donald, were also to be accused of being wizards but they managed to evade capture by the Chisholms.



Searching for Witches' marks

Determined to stay within the realms of the accepted legal practice of the time for examining accused witches, Alexander Chisholm appointed the most notorious Witch-pricker in the North of Scotland, a man named Paterson², to examine the Macleans. Witch-prickers would look for any distinguishing marks on the skin such as birthmarks or moles and use needles to pierce the flesh of the accused in several places with large brass pins in an effort to determine a "witch's mark"; a position where no pain would be expressed by the subject and no blood appearing from the wound. This was considered conclusive proof despite the fact that the victim may have already passed out and have been incapable of screaming any more. Paterson duly set about torturing the alleged Maclean witches at Chisholm's house whilst Hector was held in the Tollbooth at Inverness. According to eyewitness reports, Paterson *'barbrouslie tortured...waking, hanging them up by the thombes, burning the soles of their feet in the fyre, drawing of others at horse tails and binding of them with widdies [withes] about the neck and feet and carrying them alongst on horseback to prison, wherby and other tortur one of them hath become distracted, another by their cruelty is departed this lyfe, and all of them have confest whatever they were pleasit to demand of them.'*³.



Prime locations for Witch-pricking and the tools of the trade

On 26th June 1662 the Maclean ladies were committed for trial and their plight was brought to the attention of their distant kinsman, Sir Allan Maclean (1647-1674), 3rd Baronet of Morven, 15th of Duart, who immediately interceded on their behalf, despite the distance in their kindred bond, their remote location and it being only his own first year of chiefship of the Duart Clan.

It is not known why the appeal for help did not go first to their Clan Chief of Dochgarroch or indeed to

the (confederation) Clan Chattan. to whom the Dochgarroch Clan belonged or for that matter to Murdoch Mor MacLaine (1612-1662), 10th of Lochbuie, (although the latter clearly died in that same year and may have not been in a position to help) of whom the Dochgarroch Macleans were cadets. However, Sir Allan had full sympathy for his fellow Macleans' distress and petitioned on their behalf to the Privy Council of Scotland highlighting the Chisholms' true motives. On 3rd July 1662 the latter decreed that Alexander Chisholm should neither banish nor put to death the "Strathglass Witchess". Unfortunately according to Rev. James Fraser, the Minister of the Church at Kirkhill where Paterson's examinations took place, many of the accused had died in prison before their reprieve came through.

1. *According to Chisholm ancestral research Alexander was 7th great grandfather of 32nd US President, Franklin Roosevelt (1882-1945).*
2. *According to Gaelic Society research Paterson was later arrested and discovered to be a woman who dressed as a man [witch-pricking being a male only profession]. Under her real name of Christian Caddell, she was later held in Edinburgh, put on trial and transported to Barbados where it was anticipated barbaric hardship and a miserable existence would await her.*
3. *Register of the Privy Council of Scotland; Third Series; Volume I; pp 233-4.*
4. *The Clan Chattan was a confederation of Highland Clans who acted for mutual security and were made up of the following principal Clans: Davidson, Farquharson, MacBean, MacGillivray, MacIntyre of Badenoch, MacKintosh, Maclean of Dochgarroch, MacPhail, MacPherson, MacQueen of Strathearn, MacThomas and Shaw.*

Family Reunion

(First in Twelve Years)

W. L. McCormick - Editor

Taking the dialogue of our Chief to heart. The descendants of the family of Charles O. and Sarah B. McCormick gathered for a family reunion on June 1st and 2nd in Jackson, Ohio USA. The venue was the Jackson home of Carolyn & Wilbur McCormick.



**Sarah B. and Charles O McCormick
on their wedding day (May 23, 1901)**

Saturday evening started with an old fashioned "weenie roast" in the backyard with a real open fire. Sunday was a "pot luck" with rain forcing us to move inside.

Many great grandchildren and great, great grandchildren got to meet each other for the very first time and compare family stories with each other.

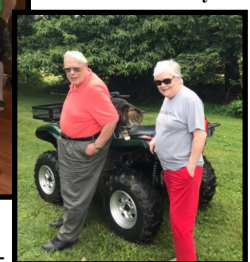
A lot of interest was shown toward our Lochbuie connection. About a dozen emails were added to the list to receive the newsletter and some took information to order the new book, "One Clan or Two".

Several watched the latest video with the Lochbuie's message to the Clan, and even ask to have it played a second time so more could watch. I hope the interest will continue, and lead to some more members here in the USA.

The Sunday ended with a pledge to meet again in 2020, and to make every effort to expand the attendance.



**Above:
Some of the Grand, Great Grand & Great-
Great Gandchildren**



**Below:
Wilbur & Carolyn**

Follow-up on Jean Haden McCormick Story



Just a week or so before her 18th birthday (May 1, 1921), Jean Haden sashayed along Jacksonville Beach's first street, headed for the Sandpiper pool, the only pool in this Florida seaside village. Having been recently elected as the first female to represent the local Duncan U Fletcher High School as May Queen in the Opening of the Beaches Parade, it was important to get roses in her cheeks in order to properly portray the "Goddess of Spring"! As she neared her destination, a driver pulled over and asked if she were going in to the aquatics club. He was a professional photographer, searching for a big splash to advertise the joys of beachside living. Jean dutifully phoned her mother to ask permission to model and the deal was on! She related that she wore her brand new white rubber bathing suit and a red cap; of course the finished photo has those colors reversed, as per the photographer. In the coming weeks Jean graduated and become engaged to marry John T. ("JT") McCormick, son of BB McCormick, a Florida pioneer and self taught millwright who, with his sons and other adventurous "crackers" would become legendary in Florida construction. Imagine Grandmother Haden's shock when she opened her July 27th mail and saw her lovely Jean--in a bathing costume-- on the cover of Saturday Evening Post!! You can imagine also the turmoil that ensued! Apparently, she didn't realize the dress code.... I can just hear it: "But Mother, I didn't know this would happen!....what are we to do?"; GM: "Jean, here's \$10! You comb the Beaches and buy every copy on the news stands from here to Jacksonville! Bring them back and we'll burn them here in the fireplace! BB McCormick will never allow his son(#4 of 5) to marry a "beach hussy"! And so she did marry my father, six weeks later, in a new Methodist chapel's first wedding; BB and his crew had built the stone structure of tabby, a mixture of concrete and beach coquina. It still stands today, a testimony to true love.

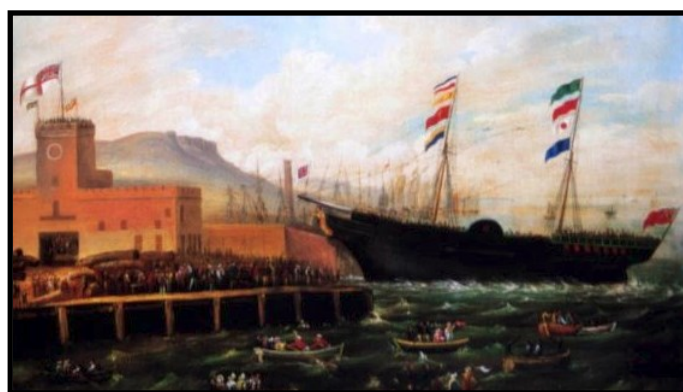
WHO BUILT THE FIRST STEAM SHIP IN BELFAST?

By Neill Maclaine; Clan Genealogist



Harland & Wolff's Belfast Shipyard

Well it wasn't Harland & Wolff who were most famous for building the sister ships, 'Olympic' (1910) and 'Titanic' (1912). It was actually the partnership of Ritchie & Maclaine who launched their vessel 'Aurora' in 1824. The latter was not a steel behemoth like the former mentioned ships but a more modest timber constructed steamer. It was not just the first steam ship built in Belfast it was actually the first in the whole of Ireland. Ritchie & Maclaine had been inspired by the arrival and regular viewing of the steamer 'Rob Roy' in Belfast Harbour as it traded to and fro Glasgow.



Ritchie & Maclaine's 'Aurora' launched in Belfast Harbour, 1824

It was the Ritchie brothers of Saltcoats in Ayrshire who, with shipbuilding in the blood, had been responsible for the transformation of the shipbuilding industry in Belfast. William Ritchie (1755-1834) had

arrived in 1791 and saw the potential. Within a year he was back and building a 300 ton ship at Lime Kiln Dock that he called, 'Hibernian'. William's younger brother, Hugh (1766-1808), started his own shipbuilding company on adjacent land and when he died in 1808 a third and elder brother, John (1751-1828), took over this second business. John Ritchie immediately went into partnership with his son-in-law, Alexander Maclaine (1774-1856), and they went on to have a very successful company building many ships together. When John died in 1828 Alexander changed the name of the company to Maclaine & Sons (with his sons Alexander and John) and the business kept afloat until 1876 when John Maclaine died.

Alexander Maclaine was one of the elder brothers of Donald Maclaine (1787-1843) of Crapaud, Prince Edward Island, who has featured in a previous article in Hector's Herald. Another was Major Lachlan Maclaine (1780-1845). Thus he was another descended from the Cadet family of Lochbuie that was known as the Maclaines of Kilmory (from the Isle of Scarba).

The families of John Ritchie and Alexander Maclaine shared such close ties in life that it was only natural that the same would be true in death. Here is a transcript of the monument of Lot 113 of Clifton Street Cemetery in Belfast:

Lot113 RITCHIE & McLAINE
 Interred here
 John Ritchie, Shipbuilder
 who died 4th April 1828
 Aged 77 years
 Also his Wife Jane Ritchie who died 26th
 January 1837 Aged 81 years
 Likewise four of the children of
 Alexander and Martha Mc Laine namely
 Helen, Lachlan, Robert and Lachlan who
 died in infancy
 And Major Lachlan Mc Laine, First or Royal Reg
 who departed this life 30th November 1845
 Aged 66 years
 The above Alexander Mc Laine
 departed this life 22nd August 1856
 Aged 73 years
 Agnes Ritchie who died 2nd May 1857
 Aged 73 years
 Susanna Mc Laine who died 17th September 1857
 Aged 25 years
 Robert Mc Laine who died 4th January 1864
 Aged 20 years
 The above Martha Mc Laine who died 8th
 August 1864 Aged 69 years
 and Susanna Ritchie who died 14th
 October 1867 Aged 78 years
 Also
 in loving memory of
 Jane Chambers
 Daughter of above John Ritchie
 who died 16th Feb 1840
 Grave purchased by Alexander McLaine, February 1826

News From The Past

"The Gothenburg In Mull "

18 April 1901 The Scotsman:

Submitted by: Barry Hartman

At the Licensing Court for the Mull District of Argyllshire at Tobermory, Maclaine of Lochbuie presided over a large attendance of Justices. Of thirteen applications for renewal, twelve were granted, the remaining one, being that for the hotel in the island of Coll, being refused on the ground that the hotel buildings, which had been recently destroyed, had not been rebuilt....The introduction of the Gothenburg System to the Highlands is certain to be viewed with much interest, and prosperous results are confidently expected." The Gothenburg or Trust Public House movement originated as an attempt to control the consumption of alcohol in the Swedish city of Gothenburg in the early 19th century. In 1855 a law was passed in Sweden making distillation of spirits at home illegal and the authorities in Gothenburg decided to award the retail spirits licenses to a single company run as a trust. This trust aimed to control pubs and off licenses in a way which would not encourage excessive consumption of spirits. 5% of the profit of the trusts went to the shareholders with the remainder being used to benefit the local community. The Gothenburg system quickly spread. In Scotland, the system was adopted mainly in mining communities of Fife and the Lothians.

←→
14 February 1926 - Sunday Post:

Submitted by: Barry Hartman

The Maclaine Chief – On His World Travels As Actor – Rather different this from grouse stalking in the Isle of Mull, remarked Mr. Kenneth Maclaine as he dashed on to take a final curtain call the end of a performance of "The Last of Mrs. Cheyney" at the King's Theatre, Edinburgh.

In private life Mr. Kenneth Maclaine, the actor, is Maclaine of Lochbuie, and although the estate, which had been in the family for over five hundred years, is now the home of strangers, he is still the Chief of the clan.

In his extensive travels as an artiste he has not been allowed to forget the fact, Maclaines turning up at every corner to pay homage to their Chief.

"I have not been to Scotland for nearly four years and I have not been back to Mull since the home passed out of our hands, but my heart is still there."

"It's a terrible feeling, the feeling that one is an exile. I have had lots of invitations to go back and stay with old friends, but I have never been able to bring my mind to do so.

"I have not forgotten the old home, though, and the call at times has been very insistent. Often and often I long to be back among those fine, simple folks around Lochbuie."

"But for my mother" added the actor-chief, "I think I should have gone crazy when the old home passed from the family. She is a wonderful woman, and brave, broadminded and sensible. Although she is seventy-six, she came down to Bournemouth to a matinee a fortnight ago, and everybody in the company just loved her."

"Before we had a Jubilee nurse in Lochbuie there was not a doctor within thirty-five miles, and mother would think nothing of walking over the hill seven miles to a shepherd's cottage, attend to the invalid, and walk back again."

"When I appeared in Glasgow quite a number of the people of Mull came to see me, including several who had never been off the island before, and never even dreamed of being in such a place as a theatre in their lives. Of course, they said it was grand, but I could not help thinking they were saying to themselves at the same time they wished I had been doing something else than being on stage,"

"They live near to nature yet in Mull, and, although education has made a difference, the old beliefs still die hard.

To this day they are convinced that just before a death occurs in the family of Maclaine of Lochbuie, the headless horseman, 'little Johnnie without a head', as they describe him in Gaelic, rides round the house three times, dragging his chains behind him, after which he returns to the ruined castle of Moy, which stands on a rock at the head of Lochbuie.

"The Headless Horseman is supposed to live in the castle, and a lot of the old people even yet would rather do anything than pass the castle after dark.

The Hunger For Home

"Even in Australia I was not allowed to forget that I was a Highlander. I was getting thirteen and fourteen letters a post, many of them from Maclaines or descendants of Maclaines, all recalling memories of Mull.

At Adelaide on Hogmanay night a "digger" came to me at the theatre to tell me that his mother, who was a Maclean, had sent him to take me with him to celebrate the season, and when I got to their house I found a regular gathering of Highlanders waiting to receive me.

There is not doubt about how the heart warms to the tartan, so to speak, out in the Colonies. At Christchurch they piped me from the theatre to the Caledonian Society, where an enormous silver loving-cup was produced. One of the men held up the loving-cup while another opened a bottle of whisky and began to pour the contents into the cup.

When he had nearly half-emptied the bottle he turned to me and said, "Say when." I gasped. "Surely I am not to drink all that", I said, and was told I was the only one who would drink out of the cup. The person who had last done so was Sir James Hamilton.

"I had to take a pretty big draught of the whisky before I was let off, and after that I was expected to judge a contest in Highland reels! I hope the competition were satisfied with the decisions!"

28 April 1927 The Stage

Submitted by: Barry Hartman

Mr. Cecil Warwick, the stage director of "Scarlet Lady" company, was last Saturday evening presented by Miss Dorothy Varick and Mr. Kenneth Maclaine, in behalf of the members of the company, with a god watch as a token of their appreciation of his work for the company during the successful tour just concluded...."