



“Wha daur meddle wi’ me?”

Dear Kinsmen,

Firstly, I wish you all a Happy New Year although it has been unremittingly gloomy news in all areas so far! However, there is one event that should cheer us all up and that is, of course, our Gathering. So far, we have sold a good few tickets and the Hike is proving quite popular. If you are intending to come, please let us help you with your accommodation and any other information you may need. We are looking forward to welcoming you back to your homeland.

This is the first newsletter to go online. We are expecting some problems and drawbacks with this system but, if you would prefer it to be sent to you by mail, we can do that. The list of new members contains incomplete addresses which is a security measure. A complete list of Society members will be updated and sent out this autumn.

I hope you will find this issue interesting. Elliots taking part in the English Civil War, the founding of Hong Kong and derring-do during World War II. There is no shortage of material regarding your kinsmen doing extraordinary things throughout the world and throughout history. It is a pleasure and a privilege to share these stories with you all.

Reading Louise Campey’s book about the emigration to Canada was fascinating and exploded a few myths. Most Scotsmen chose to leave Scotland and were not driven out by the Clearances and I use the word ‘most’ carefully. Many Borderers left because the political situation here in the 17th Century was unusually difficult and they went to Ireland. When Canada opened up in the 18th Century, Elliots left Scotland and Ireland to find new lands and opportunities with great success.

Sincerely yours,

Margaret Elliott of Redheugh

Clan Room: To avoid disappointment, please warn us if you intend to visit Redheugh. Email or telephone us on the following UK number: 013873-75213 or redheugh@btinternet.com

ELLIOT CLAN SOCIETY

Redheugh, Newcastleton
Roxburghshire TD9 0SB
www.elliotclan.com

Chief: Margaret Elliott of Redheugh

Newsletter No. 62 - Spring 2009

*“Here’s to all Elliots and Elliot’ bairns
And them that lie in Elliots arms.”*

Notices & News Items

Leila Hadley Luce \$500 to the Memorial Trust.

Since receiving this kind donation Leila died on 12 February 2009. She was Sir Arthur Elliott’s first cousin and always very supportive of the Clan Society. Indeed, she was proud of her Elliott and Boswell connection. Her life was colourful and full, writing *Give Me the World, Journey with Elsa Cloud, How to Travel with Children in Europe* and *A Garden by the Sea*.

Additionally, she created the World 1st Chair in Modern Tibetan Studies, The Leila Hadley Luce Professorship, Honorary Trustee of the New York Historical Society and co-founder of the Wings WorldQuest.

H.Thomas Elliott III and Susan Baker kindly donated \$25.00 to Memorial Trust.

New President of the Society in Australia. JAMES RODERICK ELLIOTT is taking over this role from PETER ELIOT who has been holding the fort in Australia in exemplary fashion for the last four years despite eye problems and considerable business commitments. Our thanks to Peter for the time and energy he has devoted to the Society in Australia.

James Elliott has had a wide ranging career as a medical scientist, restaurateur and owner of a computer business. He lives south east of Perth on the south coast of Western Australia where he still owns and runs his own company, Ravensthorpe Computers. He and his wife are planning to come to the Gathering this summer.

D.C. Dalgleish Ltd, Elliot tartan supplier now online at www.dcdalgliesh.co.uk

Margaret Elliott of Redheugh has been appointed Deputy Lieutenant of Roxburgh, Ettrick and Lauderdale.

AN UNSTOPPABLE FORCE, THE SCOTTISH EXODUS TO CANADA

by Lucille H. Campey, published by Birlinn.

ISBN 978-1-84158-773-8

From the late eighteenth century, a growing number of Scots sought the better life that Canada offered. They faced great privations and overcame many obstacles. As economic conditions in Scotland deteriorated, emigration surged ahead, becoming unstoppable force.

In this major study of Scottish emigration, Lucille Campey traces the relocation of over 100,000 emigrants to their new homes in Canada. Mythology and truth are laid side by side as their progress unfolds. In considering the factors that drove the exodus, she shatters the widespread misconception that the desire to emigrate was primarily driven by dire events in Scotland.

Campey proves conclusively that, however bad were the conditions in Scotland, Scots were also being attracted to Canada by its many benefits and opportunities. They chose the part of Canada that best suited them and normally paid their own way in reaching their final destinations. And although Highlanders received most of the attention, Lowlanders greatly outnumbered them.

The shipping horror stories that have come to be associated with emigrant sea crossings are also challenged. Far from being offered the worst leaky tubs of their, most Scots actually sailed on top quality ships in the highest state of repair and arrived in a good state of health.

This book is essential reading for anyone wishing to understand why Scots emigrated and the enormity of their colonizing achievements in Canada. They were a founding people whose influence and impact set them apart from other ethnic groups.

ELLIOTS IN THE ENGLISH CIVIL WAR 1642-1651

According to a contemporary document held by the Ashmolean Library in Oxford dated 1663, being 'A List of Officers: Claiming to the Six Thousand Pounds Granted by His Majesty (King Charles II) For The relief Of His Truly-Loyal And Indigent Party' being those soldiers who had served in his father, King Charles I Cavalier Army and were still alive in 1663. The document contains a reference to Captain James Elliot and his brother, Richard Elliot (Lieut.) in Prince Maurice's Regiment of Horse. (*See: Indigent Officers Reference: Column 93*).

Prince Maurice (1621-1652) was the younger brother of Prince Rupert of the Rhine, the famous Cavalry Commander in King Charles I army. His regiment fought in many battles throughout the English Civil War, and were in the front-line during Prince Rupert's charge against Cromwell at the Battle of Naseby.

Following the execution of King Charles I in January 1649, Prince Maurice together with many of the survivors of his regiment, became pirates attacking the Parliamentarian Navy in the Irish Sea. Maurice subsequently drowned when his ship, inappropriately names 'The Honest Seaman', sank in a storm. Two lucky survivors were the Elliot brothers, who lived to receive a small measure of compensation for their loyal service from King Charles II.

The brothers would have had to travel to London from the Scottish Borders.

With thanks for the research by M. Lawson.

FOUNDER OF BRITISH HONG KONG

Hong Kong is now back in Chinese hands but CAPTAIN CHARLES ELLIOT played an important role in the foundation of the British colony in 1842. He was a nephew of the 1st Earl of Minto and son of the diplomat, the Hon. Hugh Elliot, and later became Admiral Sir Charles Elliot KCB.

As senior trade superintendent and naval commander, Charles Elliot represented Britain in both the conduct of the Anglo-Chinese war in 1839 and in the subsequent cession of Hong Kong “as the new, independent, and invulnerable centre of British trade in China”. The primary cause of the war was the conflict of interest between the British, who were anxious to extend their trade with China, and the Chinese Emperor, who regarded all European traders as foreign devils and wished to break of all contact with them.

He began with a brilliant victory over the Chinese fleet. His two frigates made a surprise attack on twenty-nine anchored war junks, sinking four and disabling the rest. His achievement made possible the use of Hong Kong island as a naval base and a considerable expedition of men-of-war and troops was sent out from Britain under REAR-ADMIRAL GEORGE ELLIOT, a cousin of Charles. The British moved up the China coast, seizing the islands at the entrance of the Yangtze and entered the river approach to Peking. With the foreign devil, literally, at his gate, the Emperor agreed to negotiations. Eventually CHARLES ELLIOT, who had succeeded his cousin the Admiral – invalided home – settled on the cession of Hong Kong together with a large indemnity.

As it happened, the Emperor repudiated the agreement and the war broke out again in 1841. Fighting continued until the following year when the Manchu army was destroyed and the Emperor finally accepted a treaty opening the principal Chinese ports to trade. But CHARLES ELLIOT’S original terms were reckoned to have been a bad bargain and he was upbraided – and later replaced – by Lord Palmerston for contenting himself with the ‘absurd’ cession of Hong Kong – “a barren island with hardly a house upon it.”

CAPT. CHARLES ELLIOT’S achievement as the founder of the Colony was only one of the highlights of a notable career in the Navy and the Foreign Service. As a young officer he served on ships engaged in the suppression of piracy and the slave trade in the East Indies and West Africa and in 1830 was given a Colonial Office appointment in South America as “Protector of Slaves to British Guiana.” It was owing to his ability in this difficult post that he was recommended to the Appointment of Trade Superintendent in China where he was directly responsible to the British Government for relations with the Chinese. Charles Elliot’s subsequent career included his appointment as charge d’affaires to the Republic of Texas until its annexation by the United States in 1845 and then, in turn, Governor of Bermuda, Governor of Trinidad and Governor of St. Helena.

He was married in 1828 to Clara Genevieve Windsor and had three sons and two daughters. Admiral Sir Charles Elliot died at Witteycombe, Exeter in 1875.

Biography “Charles Elliot, R.N.” by Clagette Blake, pub 1966.

FROM 1954 – *The following item was given to The Editor without much detail so the newspaper is unknown. A present member of the Executive is the postmaster's grandson. Twizelhope (or Cooslup) is rebuilt and has been lived in for a few generations now by the Laing family who, in addition to farming, keep and manage the renowned pack of Liddesdale Hounds.*

“For many generations an Elliot family lived in the hill farm of Twislehope, Hermitage. Now, one of that family, Mrs. E.H. Thompson of 113 Sylvan Avenue, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada, writes to the Newcastleton postmaster, asking further particulars of the disastrous fire which destroyed her old home in November and about which she had only recently learned.”

“Mrs. Thompson, formerly Sarah J.S. Elliot, now in her 80th year, says all her family were born at “Cooslup” and her mother emigrated from there to Canada, with her nine brothers and sisters, 60 years ago. She says in her letter that only three of the family are left, of which she is the eldest.”

“Mrs. Thompson recalls that when they left their old home, a James Elliot was the postmaster, with Andrew Elliot as rural postman for the Hermitage Water and James Edgar doing duty on the Liddel Water. For many years, Mr. John Byers, Newcastleton, corresponded with one of the elder Elliots in Canada, now dead, and contact with home had been lost.”

MARTIAL DEEDS OF PENNSYLVANIA

by Samuel P. Bates, Philadelphia 1876

CHARLES RIVERS ELLET, Colonel of Volunteers, was born at Philadelphia in 1843, the son of Colonel Charles Ellet jnr., an eminent civil engineer. The son received a thorough education, which was subsequently enriched by foreign travel and a residence in Paris. He studied medicine on his return and, at the outbreak of the rebellion, was appointed Assistant Surgeon.

Preferring to follow the fortunes of his father, when the latter went to construct rams on the Mississippi, he accompanied him. After the destruction of the rebel fleet in the action off Memphis, he was sent to demand the surrender of the city, which was reluctantly accorded, and the stars and stripes were unfurled over the Post Office, in the midst of an angry and threatening crowd.

By order of his uncle, General A.W. Ellet, who had succeeded his brother in chief command, he was sent, with a few daring spirits, to communicate with Admiral Farragut, who was lying with his fleet below Vicksburg.

The party were obliged to wade through almost impenetrable swamps and often lie flat in mud and water to elude the enemy, at every turn suffering great privation. They finally reached the flagship more dead than alive. They were received with kindness by

the good Commodore, recruited and sent back with despatches, thus opening communications with the fleet below and the Union forces above, for the first time.

Upon the organisation of the Marine brigade, for service upon the waters of the Mississippi, he was commissioned as Colonel and given command of the “Queen of the West”. He succeeded in successfully running the rebel batteries at Vicksburg, Port Hudson and other points upon the river and made a reputation for enterprise and daring.

In February 1863 he moved up the Red River capturing rebel craft as he went until he reached a point opposite a rebel fort where his vessel was run aground by a treacherous pilot and the boat disabled, falling into enemy hands. Ellet made his escape by means of a bale of cotton and was picked up by another of his vessels.

At the Siege of Vicksburg, he rendered signal service to General Grant in opening and maintaining untrammelled communications. While engaged in this service, from exhaustion and the miasma of the swamps, he contracted a disease from which he died suddenly at the age of twenty. He was a man of great activity, fertile in resource and died greatly lamented.

With thanks to Simon Elliott of Kendal

LORD ELLIOTT MC

WALTER ARCHIBALD ELLIOTT was born in London on September 6th 1922, the second son of T.R. ELLIOTT DSO, a gifted physician on the staff at University College Hospital and his wife, Martha McCosh. Young Archie grew up in London and at Broughton Place, Peeblesshire.

Archie Elliott MC was commissioned into the Scots Guards in 1942, after Eton and Trinity College Cambridge. He joined the 2nd Battalion, part of 201 guards Brigade in Trioplitania in August 1943 in time to land at Salerno.

On 11th September he led his platoon in a night attack on the tobacco factory near Battipaglia. They overran four Spandau posts. Elliott shot four men with his revolver and they took 14 prisoners. His Guardsmen, having captured their objective, were strutting around proud as peacocks when two German tanks clattered down the road, heading straight for them. More tanks and infantry followed for a major counter-attack.

Elliott and two others crawled along a muddy ditch until it became impassable. They were so exhausted that they dozed off, despite being within 20 yards of an enemy post. Elliott had to wake one of his men because of his snores – but once he was woken the guardsman was seized by a fit of uncontrollable coughing. This led to their capture. On being marched off later to divisional HQ for interrogation under escort of a single diminutive guard, they came under intense long-range naval shelling. Elliott and a comrade escaped in the confusion and took to the Mountains. Some Italian soldiers, at great risk to themselves, sheltered and fed them and, after a week on the run, helped them return to the Allied bridge head. The citation for Elliott's MC (Military Cross) paid tribute to his outstanding bravery and dash.

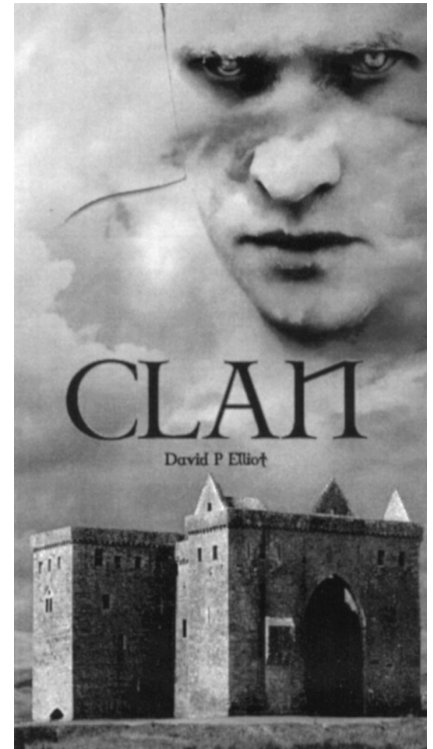
He was back in action again in February 1945 when his Battalion joined the guards Armoured Division near Brussels but was later wounded by shrapnel when leading an attack. After a spell in hospital, he finished the war on the Baltic.

Elliott subsequently studied Law at Edinburgh University and was appointed QC (Queen's Counsel) in 1963. He was a deep thinking intellectual lawyer, but thoroughly down to earth when it came to ensuring that the interests of justice and fairness were served. He became the President of the Lands Tribunal for Scotland from 1971 to 1992, earning him the respect of all concerned. He was an Ensign in the Royal Company of Archers, The Queen's Body Guard for Scotland, and wrote *Esprit de Corps* in 1996, an account of his wartime experiences.

ARCHIE ELLIOTT died on August 9 2008 aged 85. He married in 1954, Susan Mackenzie Ross who survives him with their two sons.

'CLAN'

A Novel
by David Elliot



David Elliot, is 57, frustrated, out of work and has three failed marriages behind him. He goes to the Borders of Scotland hoping that his ancestry will help him find some validation of his life.

Accompanied by his daughter, son-in-law and beloved grandson, Thomas, Elliot finds that his bloodline leads his family into terrifying danger. 700 years of history threaten those he holds dearest as myth and reality of "The Bloodiest Valley in Britain" combine.

www.moorhenpublishing.co.uk
£7.99.

David Elliot will be at the Elliot Gathering in July to sign his book.

We welcome the following new members to the Society

AUSTRALIA

A288 Upton, Mrs. Elizabeth, Tewantin
QLD 4565

CANADA

C1057 Ballachey, Heather Joan, Vancouver
BC V6V 1M5

C1058 Ballachey, Graham Elliot, Ottawa
ON K1R 6T6

C1059 Ballachey, Catherine Mary, Burnaby,
BC V5A 2C6

C1060 Smith, Sharon & Jim, , London,
ON N5W 5P5

C1061 Read, Eleanor & Alan,, Burlington
ON L7N1J1

C1062 Elliott, David & Noreen, Cloyne,
ON K0H 1K0

C1063 Elliott, Bruce & Jennifer., Pickering
ON L1V 3R3

C1064 Elliott, David & Liz, EX Den Haag ,
NETHERLANDS

C1065 Elliott, John & Helena, Frankford
ON K0K 2C0

C1066 Elliott, Arthur & Jean,
AB T7X 2S7

C1067 Elliott, Dennis, Sylvan Lake
AB T4S 1N8

C1068 Elliot, Neil & Faith Bodner, Saskatoon
SK S7H 3B1

C1069 Weaver, Mark, Frankfort
ON K0K 2C0

NEW ZEALAND

N/312 Thomson, Miss Janet B., Newlands, Wellington
06037

N/313 Elliot, Mr & Mrs. William M. Warepa Balclutha
09273

N/314 Elliott Mr. J.H. Hillsborough Christchurch
8022

N/315 Stephens Mrs. Catherine Irwell Canterbury
7683

UNITED KINGDOM

E426 Lawrence, Mr & Mrs. Nigel, Barrow in Furness

E427 Elliot, David Paul, , Abingdon, Oxfordshire

E428 Bidewell & family, Mr & Mrs. Andrew, Maidstone,
Kent

E429 Elliott, Mr & Mrs. Mark Royston, Brockworth

E430 Elliott, Stuart B, Dorchester, Dorset

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

US3313 Edmond,Carol S., Colorado Springs,
CO 80906-7620

US3314 D'Eramo, Michael & Elizabeth., Columbus
OH 43235-7337

US3315 Elliott David & Karen, Ocala
FL 34471-3328

US3316 Elliott, Kerry & Mary Ann Sharpsburg
GA 31277-1701

US3317 Elliott, James Matthew, Alexandria
VA 22310-4318

US3318 Myer, Eva Walker, Pensacola,
FL 32506-6508

US3319 Walts, Mary Grace, , Lowell,
AR 72745-9769

US3220 Elliott, William & Marianne, Frederick
MD 21704-7670

US3321 Thompson, Stephen & Thepnari, Wahiawa
HI 96786-2724

US3322 Elliott, Cynthia Ann, Hays
KS 67601-1411

US3323 Elliott, William Thomas, Kingman,
AZ 86401-3007

US3324 Elliott, James B., Oakland,
CA 94611-1309

US3325, DeZur, Becky Elliott , Naperville,
IL 60565-3497

US3326 Elliott, Mark R., Willow Spring,
NC 27592-8093

US3327 Hollowell, Theresa Elliott, Bozeman,
MT 59715-9631

US3328 Elliott, David, , Calvert City
KY 42029-7733

US3329 Elliott, Tonya., Palmetto
FL 34221

US3330 Elliott, Clayton M Rd., Orlando
FL 32817

US3331 Elliott, Paul,, Port Charlotte,
FL 33953-1027

US3332 Elliott, James, Yakima,
WA 98901-1522

US3333 Elliott, Sherrill E., Blue Grass,
IA 52726-9517

US3334 Elliot, Michael, Santa Ana,
CA 92704

Details of new members received too late for publication will appear in the next newsletter.