



# Dabh Ghhlase

The Newsletter of the Clan Douglas Society of North America

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BACK COVER – List of the  
Sept & Allied Family Names  
Recognized by CDSNA



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CDSNA is seeking members willing to serve as Regents & Co-Regents in provinces and states currently un-represented or under-represented by CDSNA. IF YOU ARE A MEMBER of CDSNA willing to share your enthusiasm about Clan Douglas and available to serve as a representative in any of the following states and provinces, contact CDSNA VP Tim Tyler, CDSNA Asst VP Harold Edington, CDSNA Asst VP Mark Peterson, or your current Regent.

 **In the USA**

ALABAMA – Co-Regent  
ALASKA - Regent  
ILLINOIS – Co-Regent for Chicago area  
IOWA - Regent for Quad City area  
KANSAS – Regent for Wichita area  
KENTUCKY - Co-Regent(s)  
LOUISIANA – Regent or Co-Regents  
MISSISSIPPI – Regent or Co-Regent  
NORTH CAROLINA – Co-Regent for  
Raleigh area  
OREGON (South) – Co-Regent  
PENNSYLVANIA – Regent or Co-Regents  
SOUTH CAROLINA – Co-Regents for  
events in Myrtle Beach, Charleston,  
or Greenville  
TEXAS (SOUTH) – Regent/Co-Regents  
UTAH - Regent  
WASHINGTON – Multiple Co-Regents  
WEST VIRGINIA – Regent  
\*NEW ENGLAND AREA – Critical Need\*  
for Regents & Co-Regents. Available as  
a region or as individual states ...  
CONNECTICUT - Regent  
MAINE - Regent  
MASSACHUSETTS - Regent  
NEW HAMPSHIRE - Regent  
RHODE ISLAND - Regent  
VERMONT – Regent

 **In CANADA**

BRITISH COLUMBIA – Regent  
NOVA SCOTIA – Regent  
ONTARIO – Regent



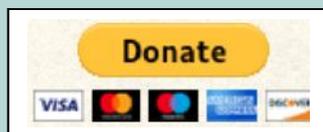
**HELP CDSNA MOVE  
FORWARD!  
BECOME A REGENT  
Or Co-REGENT**

**How can I renew my membership to CDSNA,  
if I missed my local festival?**



If you need to update your **CDSNA** Membership,  
you can use **PayPal** to pay your member dues.

Simply go to our Clan Douglas website  
and click on the **JOIN CDSNA** tab.



Scroll down the page to the **DONATE**  
button and press the button to open the  
**PayPal** page.

**When your transaction is completed,  
email Secretary Jim Morton for confirmation:  
DouglasSecretary@comcast.net**

# PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

## Greetings fellow clan members,

Greetings Clan members,

Interesting times we are living in. If you would have said this would be the new normal 6 months ago, no one would have believed you. But here we are -- facemasks, gloves, and social distancing. It's hard to be social at a distance. Three members of my family are nurses, so I haven't seen them in weeks. Thank god for video calls. So far no one in my family has gotten this virus.

Times can be scary. A lot of people have lost their jobs, and face an uncertain future. Is it safe to go to the store, get a haircut, go to work, etc. We all worry about our family and friends, our jobs, and our communities. What is tomorrow going to look like. When are we going to get back to normal? There is a lot of anxiety out there, and not a lot of answers.

I'm generally an optimistic person so here's what I think. Things are going to get better; we are going to find a solution to this problem. Life will get back to something like it was before, and we can move on with our lives. We just have to see the big picture. Everyone in the medical industry around the world is working on finding a cure/vaccine for this. That makes for a very large brain trust. And because of that we'll find the answers. It's just going to take some time.

Here are some thoughts to help get through this.

Stay positive. Find something in your day to look forward to. Going to work, staying home from work, at least you're not in traffic.

- ) Focus on something new.
- ) Learn a new skill.
- ) Take an online class for fun.
- ) Start your garden.
- ) Read a book in a new genre.
- ) Exercise.
- ) Find a way to keep moving.
- ) Stay active. It helps to fight depression.

Above all stay connected. Keep in touch with your family, and friends. Our interactions with each other are what make us human. Don't forget to reach out and help where you can.

I don't pretend to have the answers, but I know that we are in this together. And together we will get through this.

Thanks for listening,  
**Chuck Mirabile**  
 President



# Clan Douglas Secretary Position Opening

Jim Morton, our current Clan Douglas Secretary, is retiring next year and a new Secretary will be elected at our General Members Meeting at Portland Highland Games, June 2021.

## *The duties of the Secretary includes:*

Take minutes at board meetings;

- ) Accepts, processes and approves membership applications;
- ) Prepares and makes deposits of membership and store receipts;
- ) Communicates with Treasurer on deposits;
- ) Communicates with Newsletter Editor as needed;
- ) Maintains an accurate current roster of membership;
- ) Answers correspondence from members and other societies;
- ) Sends newsletter to members via Constant Contact;
- ) Prepares agenda for General Members Meeting, if requested



Jim estimates that he spends approximately 20 hours per month on clan business. If you are interested in this position or want additional information, please feel free to contact Jim at [douglassecretary@comcast.net](mailto:douglassecretary@comcast.net).



## From the Editor...

# REMINDER...

## THIS EDITION of Dubh Ghlase

will be the final issue that will appear in printed (B&W) format. The September 2020 issue of Dubh Ghlase and all subsequent issues will come to members in digital (email) format only.

If you have been receiving printed copies of the newsletter, please contact the Clan Secretary with your email address to ensure the arrival of future editions of the digital only newsletters.

# Stand-off at Tantallon Castle: Margaret Stewart & the Birth of the Red Douglases, 1389

by Dr. Callum Watson

On January 20, 1389 a deal was reached between Robert Stewart, earl of Fife, and Margaret Stewart, countess of Angus, at Tantallon Castle in East Lothian. Countess Margaret agreed to give Fife access to Tantallon Castle, which was his property after all, and in return Fife recognised her right to live in the castle for the remainder of her life. Around the same time, Fife appears to have agreed to use his recently-acquired powers as guardian of the realm to have Margaret's son formally recognised as the earl of Angus. On the face of it, this may seem like a fairly minor bit of political wrangling. However, this agreement was a significant moment in an on-going crisis that had gripped Scotland since the previous summer, and the result of the negotiations of early 1389 would have far-reaching consequences for the history of fifteenth-century Scotland. This article will examine the context of this deal, what we know about its terms, and what impact it had.

## A very good year (for a crisis): 1388 in Context

Early 1388 must have been a time of considerable excitement in Scotland. As of February, it was the eighteenth year in the reign of the old and experienced King Robert II, but effective control over the royal government lay with the king's eldest son and heir John Stewart, earl of Carrick. Carrick had been able to secure his appointment as guardian of the realm at a general council held at Holyrood in November 1384. The justification for Carrick's authority was based on a general feeling among the community that the execution of law and justice had lapsed, particularly in the north of the kingdom, in recent years. However, Carrick's ability to maintain his position rested on a close relationship with his brother-in-law James, 2nd earl of Douglas, and the vast political networks Douglas maintained in southern Scotland. Ever since the rise of Earl James's great-uncle and namesake 'the Good' Sir James in the service of King Robert I at the beginning of the fourteenth-century, Douglas power had relied on their ability to practice vigorous and successful military lordship in the marches. Regular border warfare provided the earls of Douglas with a justification for their leadership of the armed communities of southern Scotland, and enriched both them and their followings from booty, ransom and blackmail. Thus, while little was accomplished between 1384 and 1388 in addressing concerns over law and order in the north, the period did see a marked intensification of conflict with England.



**Tantallon Castle, with Bass Rock in the background and a sixteenth-century dovecot in the foreground. Tantallon was constructed by William, 1st earl of Douglas, probably sometime after 1365. His mistress Margaret Stewart, countess of Angus, lived here from at least 1381, possibly earlier, and for five months from August 1388 until January 1389 she fiercely resisted attempts by Robert Stewart, earl of Fife, to extricate her from the castle.**

Image source: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Tantallon\\_Castle\\_and\\_Bass\\_Rock.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Tantallon_Castle_and_Bass_Rock.jpg)



**Jedburgh Abbey in the Scottish Borders. The Continental chronicler Jean Froissart claims that Douglas and March mustered their forces near Jedburgh ready for their assault on north-east England. According to Froissart, an English squire came to spy on the Scottish preparations only for his horse to be stolen before he could return to England. When he was found trying to walk home in riding boots, the Scottish authorities arrested him and interrogated him for information on the state of the English defences.**

Image source: <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/visit-a-place/places/jedburgh-abbey/>



A contemporary portrait of King Richard II of England, the earliest contemporary portrait of an English monarch. His directionless foreign policy, coupled with domestic tensions that had first arisen during the later years of his grandfather's reign, allowed the Scots to maintain a sustained period of military ascendancy over the English in the marches for much of the late 1370s and early 1380s.

Image Source:  
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Richard\\_II\\_King\\_of\\_England.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Richard_II_King_of_England.jpg)

Unusually for the Scots, renewed war with England had proven to be a roaring success. The Treaty of Berwick in 1357 had ceded large areas of southern Scotland - including most of Berwickshire and Roxburghshire as well as Annandale in the west - but from around 1369 the Scots had begun to gradually chip away at the English administrations in these areas and slowly reoccupy this territory. The Scots were aided in this effort firstly by the increasing ineffectiveness of King Edward III in his old age and the domestic turmoil this produced in England. Following Edward's death in 1377, the Scots again benefited from the resurgence of French resistance to English gains on the Continent coupled with the rather aimless foreign policy of King Richard II's government, which preferred to appease the Scots in the hopes that this would allow them to concentrate on dealing with the renewed French threat. During the 1370s and early 1380s, King Robert was thus able to excuse Scottish aggression on the borders as being the work of 'overmighty magnates' over whom he had limited control, despite the work of Dr. Alastair Macdonald of the University of Aberdeen demonstrating that the Scottish crown endorsed and even coordinated attacks on English targets in southern Scotland during this period. By 1384 this excuse was starting to wear increasingly thin, and when Carrick assumed control of the Scottish royal administration all pretense was finally dropped. The resumption of open war led to punitive English campaigns into southern Scotland in 1384 and 1385, the second of these personally led by King Richard himself, but these had little material effect and certainly did not deter the Scots from launching further devastating raids into northern England in these years. The prospect of peace

negotiations between England and France - and the threat of further English invasions - led to a lessening of Scottish attacks in 1386 and 1387, but as 1388 began the Scots were busy making plans for perhaps their most ambitious assault on northern England since the reign of Robert Bruce.

### 'For alswelle ellis may be slane/A mychty man, as may a swayne': The 'Otterburn War'

The hostilities of 1388 kicked off with a highly successful and destructive raid on the coast of Ireland, led by Sir William Douglas of Nithsdale - the illegitimate son of Archibald 'the Grim', Lord of Galloway and yet another of Carrick's brothers-in-law. Douglas of Nithsdale and his men landed near Dundalk, defeated a hastily-assembled militia force sent to confront them, and then proceeded to devastate the town of Carlingford. On their way back to Scotland, Sir William and co. briefly stopped off to terrorise the English administration on the Isle of Man before returning to Loch Ryan in Galloway and joined up with a sizeable force mustering nearby under the auspices of Carrick's younger brother Robert Stewart, earl of Fife, and Archibald 'the Grim'. In the meantime, a second, smaller force was being mustered - possibly at Jedburgh - under the command of James, earl of Douglas, and George Dunbar, earl of March. These two armies were to descend into north-west and north-east England respectively, cause as much damage and disruption as possible, and then return to Scotland (possibly reuniting before crossing the border) in a powerful demonstration of Scottish military confidence. However, there was one noticeable absence from all of this - Carrick himself. At some point in early 1388 Carrick was injured by a kick from a horse and, while the precise nature of his injuries are unclear, the extent of them appears to have been severe. The seriousness of Carrick's injuries may not have been immediately apparent, but they resulted in his absence from the campaigning of 1388, and as we will see the earl would be physically incapacitated for the rest of his life. However, there is no indication that this diminished Scottish morale, and as the two armies marched on northern England spirits and expectations seem to have still been high.



The arms of James, 2nd earl of Douglas, as depicted in the late fourteenth-century Armorial of Gelre. Earl James inherited these arms from his father, who inherited the title earl of Mar - the arms of which are represented in the upper right and lower left quadrants of the escutcheon - through Earl James's mother Margaret. These arms provide a visual illustration of how wide-ranging Douglas's interests were, stretching from the border lordships first acquired by 'the Good' Sir James in the early fourteenth-century to the north-eastern earldom of Mar.

Image Source: <http://www.scottishclans.ru/heraldry/43-armorials/380-gelre-armorial>

In the west, Fife and Archibald 'the Grim' carved a swathe of destruction through the most fertile parts of Cumberland and Westmorland, reaching as far south as Brough before returning northwards laden with booty and prisoners. In the east, things also started well for the Scots. Douglas and March harassed the community of County Durham, many of whom we know were forced to flee with their cattle south of the Tees, and even threatened Newcastle. Here a confrontation took place between the Scots and a force led by Sir Henry 'Hotspur' Percy, son and heir of the earl of Northumberland. Hotspur had acquired his dashing by-name for the vigour and energy with which he regularly led the defence of the English marches from the Scots, but at Newcastle he and his men seem to have had the worst of the encounter. According to the contemporary chronicler Jean Froissart - whose account drew on four participants (two of them Scottish) in the subsequent Battle of Otterburn - during this engagement outside Newcastle Douglas personally captured Hotspur's pennon - the triangular flag that would normally hang from the tip of Hotspur's lance. This was an embarrassing affront to Hotspur's martial honour, and Froissart gives the impression that this humiliation motivated Hotspur to pursue the Scots as they withdrew northwards towards the border. There is little indication that the Scots anticipated - let alone feared - a pursuit. They advanced at a leisurely pace, seizing Ponteland Castle and even briefly besieging Otterburn Tower. Meanwhile, Hotspur hastily-assembled a militia force and raced north to catch the Scots before they could reach safety. Late on 5th August (some English sources claim 19th, but official Scottish sources disprove this



A late fifteenth-century illustration of the Battle of Otterburn, from a manuscript of Froissart's *Croniques*. Froissart celebrated Otterburn for being 'as well fought as any battle could be' but largely ignores the political context, touching only briefly on the crisis provoked by the earl of Douglas's death.

Image source: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Otterburn\\_Battle.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Otterburn_Battle.jpg)

they could reach safety. Late on 5th August (some English sources claim 19th, but official Scottish sources disprove this



A detail from the processional frieze at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery in Edinburgh, showing some of the key players in the crisis of 1388. 'Albany' is Fife, presented as a severe figure in line with subsequent interpretations of his character as a wily and scheming individual. Carrick is 'Robert III', the regnal title he assumed on his father's death in 1390. 'Douglas' is apparently supposed to be Archibald 'the Grim', although he is wearing a coat of arms associated with Archibald's eldest son.

Image source: <http://www.rampantscotland.com/famous/blfamfrieze.htm>



A reconstruction of Bothwell Castle as it may have looked around 1420. Archibald Douglas 'the Grim' acquired Bothwell through marriage in 1362 and afterwards treated it as his favourite residence. He conducted considerable repairs to the ruined castle to make it suitable for habitation again, although this image gives an impression of the building work undertaken by Archibald's son - also Archibald - after 1400 to reflect the family's status as earls of Douglas.

Image source: <https://blog.historicenvironment.scot/2019/11/the-black-douglasses/>

dating) Hotspur and his men fell in amongst the Scottish camp near Otterburn, and a frantic and confused battle ensued in which Douglas was killed but from which the Scots emerged victorious. On the one hand, this was a dramatic vindication of Scottish military policy. The defences of north-east England had proven woefully unprepared for them, even the standard English strategy of trying to force the Scots into open battle had failed miserably, and they had unexpectedly managed to secure as prisoners a significant portion of the northern nobility - including Hotspur and his younger brother Ralph. However, the 'death in victory' of the earl of Douglas was about to spark a domestic crisis that would drag on well into the following year.

### **All the King's Earl's Men: The Aftermath of Otterburn**

The late earl of Douglas had been an enormously influential figure within the Scottish political community, but this influence had rested largely on the force of his own personality. He was relatively young - probably around thirty at the time of his death - and while he had produced two illegitimate sons during his lifetime he had no direct heir to succeed him. This was a significant problem for the wider Douglas affinity in itself, but the seriousness of this situation was compounded by the fact that the late earl's vast political network was absolutely critical for the maintenance of the earl of Carrick's grip on the royal government. It was therefore absolutely essential for Carrick to ensure the swift transfer of authority over the earldom of Douglas - and the wide-ranging socio-political relationships associated with it - to a new candidate who could hold the Douglas affinity together and thus shore up Carrick's position. Ostensibly, the strongest candidate to succeed to the earldom was obviously Sir Malcolm Drummond of Strathord, who was married to Isabella Douglas, the late earl's sister and closest living relative by blood. As the Douglas's brother-in-law, Drummond had enjoyed a prominent position within the late earl's affinity, providing him with vital personal ties among the chivalry of southern Scotland that might be used to hold it together in the wake of the earl's death. Furthermore, he had developed a respectable martial reputation in service to the earl - he had regularly participated in border warfare alongside his brother-in-law and had fought at Otterburn with him - and, perhaps most importantly of all, Drummond's sister Annabella was married to Carrick, making him the guardian's brother-in-law as well. Hoping for a smooth and speedy transition, Carrick lent his support to Drummond's claim.

Drummond's was not the only claim to the earldom however. On his return from the *chevauchée* into north-west England, Archibald 'the Grim' produced an (apparently hitherto obscure) tailzie produced at the behest of William Douglas, the 'Knight of Liddesdale', in 1342. In its original context, this document had been designed to strengthen Douglas of Liddesdale's flimsy claims to the Douglas patrimony, but in essence it entailed the Douglas estates and titles in the male line. In other words, it made Drummond's claim to inherit through his wife weaker than Archibald's claim as Earl James's nearest *male* - albeit illegitimate - relative. Archibald quickly proved himself willing to pursue his rights not only through legal channels but also by force. In the weeks and months after Otterburn Archibald set about physically occupying as many of the disputed estates as he



**Kildrummy Castle, the caput (administrative centre) of the earldom of Mar. This was retained by Margaret Stewart, widow of Thomas, earl of Mar, following his death in 1377 and was an important part of the deal cut between Margaret and William, 1st earl of Douglas, in 1381.**

Image source: <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/visit-a-place/places/kildrummy-castle/>

could, backed by his own powerful regional following and his long-standing ally Sir James Douglas of Dalkeith, a descendant of Douglas of Liddesdale who also stood to gain substantially from the entail. In doing so, Archibald was forcefully inviting the late Earl James's following to make a decision over who they felt was a more fitting successor to their deceased lord - Archibald or Drummond. For many, this would be a tricky choice. Whatever their thoughts about the strength of Archibald's legal claim or the personal ties they had established with Drummond in service to Earl James, Archibald had a more formidable martial reputation than Drummond, and importantly bore the surname 'Douglas' that carried such weight among the fighting men of southern Scotland. This was precisely the situation that the ailing Carrick needed to avoid - the fracturing of his southern power base as the late earl's followers were forced to align themselves either with the crown-backed Drummond or the bellicose Archibald.

There was another element complicating the crisis of 1388. As the situation grew increasingly fraught, Carrick's younger, ambitious brother the earl of Fife sensed an opportunity to promote his own interests at the heart of the royal government. He had already been appointed as lord chamberlain - chief financial officer in the royal administration - as early as 1382 and continued in that office throughout his brother's guardianship. As we have seen, he also enjoyed a significant military role under the guardianship, leading the main thrust of the Scottish offensive in 1388 (possibly in place of his elder brother, who may have planned to lead this force before suffering his debilitating injuries). With his brother's political support fragmenting, as well as Carrick apparently being in uncertain health, Fife was able to have himself appointed guardian of the kingdom at a parliament held in Edinburgh in December 1388. Fife's remit as guardian was explicitly 'for putting into effect justice and keeping the law internally, and for the defence of the kingdom with the king's force' - i.e. addressing ongoing concerns over lawlessness in the north and building on the momentum generated by victory at Otterburn. To accomplish the latter, Fife would need to settle the dispute over the earldom of Douglas. The most serious obstacle to Fife's efforts to achieve this was that his landed interests were primarily focused in central and northern Scotland, and he was thus physically removed from where the crisis was playing out in the south of the kingdom. If he was to effectively manage the situation to his advantage, and gain effective control over war policy, he would need a base in the south of the kingdom from which to operate. Luckily for him, as earl of Fife he was also the feudal superior of the barony of North Berwick,

which Earl James had held from him. Thus Fife had a right to claim the imposing castle the late earl's father had built for himself at Tantallon. From this coastal fortress Fife would be well-placed to intervene in events in the south and guide them to a satisfactory conclusion. This however was complicated by yet another factor in the crisis of 1388 - the fierce resistance of the tenacious Margaret Stewart, countess of Angus.

### **'The impediment': Margaret Stewart and the Crisis of 1388**

Margaret was the eldest of two daughters of Thomas Stewart, earl of Angus, whose death in 1362 made her heiress to the lion's share of his earldom. Around 1360, when Margaret can have been no more than six or seven years old, she had been married to another Thomas, earl of Mar, a man some twenty years her senior. In 1377 Mar too died, having been frequently absent from Scotland during their marriage, which had produced no children. Margaret now found herself, still in her twenties, as a woman of independent means with rights to most of the earldom of Angus and a third of the earldom of Mar (her widow's *terce*). In 1381 Margaret

cut a deal with William, 1st earl of Douglas, (Earl James's father) whereby she rented her portion of the earldom of Mar for a whopping £200 annually as well as the right to live in his recently-constructed castle at Tantallon. This appealed to Douglas because it allowed him to reunite the estates of the earldom of Mar, the bulk of which he had inherited through his wife, the late Earl Thomas's sister (and thus Margaret's sister-in-law). For Margaret on the other hand residence at Tantallon provided proximity to her kinsmen the Sinclairs of Herdmanston, the offspring from her mother's first marriage with whom she seems to have been very close. There was perhaps a more personal motivation behind this arrangement however, as Margaret and William began an affair, possibly as early as 1379 or even before, and at some point over the next three years Margaret gave birth to an illegitimate son - George.

Margaret continued to reside at Tantallon even after Earl William's death in 1384 and was still living there at the time of the Battle of Otterburn. However, with the second earl's unexpected death Margaret's future suddenly looked uncertain. The payments for her portion of the earldom of Mar would now surely cease, and even her right to live at Tantallon was in jeopardy. Yet Margaret was not willing to simply let events sweep her along. She did at least have the advantage of physical possession of Tantallon Castle, where she gathered a number of the late Earl James's former adherents including Alan Lauder of the Bass, constable of Tantallon, Sir William Borthwick, William Lindsay of the Byres, Richard Hangangside, and her kinsmen the Sinclairs of Herdmanston, who according to Froissart had been with the earl when he died and had carried the earl's banner forwards in order to boost the morale of the embattled Scots. Margaret's plan was apparently to hold out at Tantallon, exploiting Fife's need to recover the castle to force him into negotiating with her. In essence, Margaret was using the same strategy as Archibald, seizing the property she was interested in and then seeking to broker legal recognition after the fact. As early as 18th August Fife complained to a general council being held in Linlithgow that his rights as feudal superior of North Berwick were being denied, and so the council produced a letter addressed to the freeholders of the barony, the constable of Tantallon (Lauder), and - crucially - 'the others living and dwelling in the same castle'



**Tantallon Castle seen from the landward side. It would have been this sight - minus the later, slightly greenish stonework in the middle of the image - that met the representatives of the royal administration who were repeatedly dispatched to Tantallon between August 1388 and January 1389 in a fruitless attempt to convince Margaret to surrender the castle to the earl of Fife.**

Image source: Yours truly.

instructing them to surrender the castle 'immediately without any excuse or raising any difficulty...under every penalty which can occur by that cause'. This missive clearly failed to have the intended effect, because the council at which Fife was appointed guardian in December heard a request from Fife 'that the impediment which was thrown before him concerning obtaining the said castle might be removed'. Despite the fact that the council once again sided with Fife, yet more royal letters had to be sent on 7th January 1389 insisting that the castle be surrendered.

Despite all of this intimidating correspondence, it is not until 20th January (more than five months after the second earl's death) that we find Fife at Tantallon, not simply to assume his rights to the barony but rather to clarify the terms on which he could gain access to the castle. Crucially, Fife acknowledged Margaret's right to abode at the castle indefinitely and agreed to 'manteyn hir, hir men, hir landys and al hir possessions agayns ony that wald wrang thaim'. Margaret's gamble had paid off spectacularly. It seems that Fife, faced with the prospect of a long and frustrating resistance from Margaret and her supporters, rather than seeking to bluntly enforce her will had decided instead to integrate her into his own political network. Certainly, her leadership of the late earl's adherents in the wake of his death was proof of her substantial influence in East Lothian. This was an area into which Fife would need to extend his own authority if he was going to take control of the war effort. On 29th January Fife was still at Tantallon, where he issued letters in favour of Alan Lauder, demonstrating that not only Margaret but also 'hir men' were already reaping the benefits of Margaret's newfound alliance with Fife. These letters were witnessed by Drummond, who it seems had attached himself to Fife in the hopes of securing his rights to the earldom of Douglas. However, the incorporation of Margaret and her supporters into Fife's wider affinity spelled the beginning of the end for Drummond's hopes. The very fact that so many noteworthy members of the Douglas affinity turned to Margaret for leadership, rather than falling in line with Drummond or switching their allegiance to Archibald, is already a striking illustration of the weakness of Drummond's position. As Margaret grew closer politically to Fife, she brought these men with her, draining potential support from Drummond. However, as will become clear, Margaret would extract more than just the right to live at Tantallon in return for her continued support of Fife's ambitions, negotiations for which were almost certainly conducted at the castle in January.

### Dynasty Building: The Birth of the Red Douglases



The ruined nave at Holyrood Abbey. Several councils were held at the abbey during the crisis months of 1388 and 1389. In April, at a parliament held here the crisis was finally resolved by the recognition of Archibald 'the Grim' as earl of Douglas and the creation of Margaret's illegitimate son George as earl of Angus.

Image source: Yours truly.

In early April 1389 a parliament met at Holyrood Abbey, the continuation of an assembly first convened at Scone on 29th March. On 2nd, Drummond was stripped of the lordship of Selkirk Forest (a key Douglas possession dating back to the time of 'the Good' Sir James) and the sheriffship of Roxburgh in absentia. His attorneys complained that Drummond feared for his own safety should he personally appear at parliament, a claim that it is hard not to conclude was a pointed reference to Archibald the Grim's seizure of the contested Douglas estates. Assurances were made for Drummond's safety but it appears that Drummond's difficulties had been going on for some time because 'the guardian [i.e. Fife] himself explained, expressly in his own voice, in the same place, that he had granted this same thing to him previously *on various occasions*' (my italics). Wisely, Drummond had apparently still not shown up when on 7th parliament

inspected Archibald's entail of 1342 and confirmed Archibald in the possession of the estates of his father as well as the title 'earl of Douglas'. Parliament's recognition of Archibald's rights was not simply an acknowledgement of the legality of the 1342 document, it was also given 'so the dissensions of the magnates and the harms to the community may be avoided'. Again, this suggests that the hope was that acquiescing to Archibald's demands might finally pacify him and secure his support for Fife's guardianship. Three days later, it was time for Margaret to receive her reward for helping to smooth over Fife's assumption of authority over the community in southern Scotland.

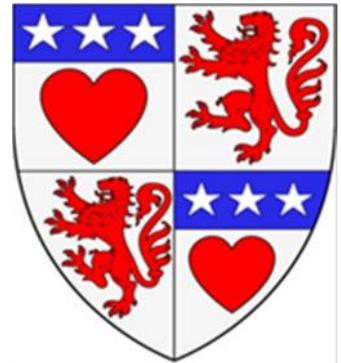


Fig. 6.—Seal of William Douglas, 2nd Earl of Angus (1402-1437).

The arms of Margaret's grandson William Douglas, 2nd earl of Angus. Margaret managed the earldom both for her son and her grandson, as both became earl while they were still minors. William's closeness to his uncle King James I of Scotland (thanks to a marriage arranged by Margaret herself), coupled with the impressive martial reputation he developed in the years after Margaret's death, provided a firm basis on which Red Douglas fortunes would prosper throughout the fifteenth-century.

Image source: <http://www.douglashistory.co.uk/history/heraldry/seals.htm> #.XiTxVGj7RPa

On 9th April, Margaret resigned the earldom of Angus in parliament 'of her own pure and spontaneous desire'. The following day, a charter was issued granting the earldom and various associated estates to her illegitimate son George. The document was issued in the name of the king, and was witnessed by (among others) Fife and Archibald 'the Grim'. This was Margaret's crowning achievement. She was no longer using the estates she had accrued from her father and her marriage to provide herself with a comfortable living, which had been the position she had carved out for herself since 1381. Now she had secured her son's elevation to the upper ranks of the aristocracy, giving him the prospect of establishing a lasting magnate dynasty in south-east Scotland. Margaret would spend the rest of her life defending these gains. Ever the pragmatist, she was willing to cross factional lines in order to accomplish this. In 1397 she arranged her son's marriage to Mary, daughter of Carrick (now Robert III). This union tied her family's fortune into those of the crown, which at the time was staging something of a comeback against Fife (now the duke of Albany). Margaret's primary focus remained those of her offspring however. When leading figures in the royal administration sought to use military means to take possession of her infant grandson William, 2nd earl of Angus, in 1406, Margaret allied herself with a younger son of Archibald 'the Grim' - James 'the Gross' - to violently (and successfully) resist this. She died sometime between 1416 and 1418, well into her sixties and by this time living on the Sinclair manor of Begbie on the banks of the River Tyne south-west of Haddington, her grandson now old enough to manage his



own affairs. 1388-9 had been the defining moment of Margaret's career and serves as a striking demonstration of what a remarkably forceful personality she must have had. Fortune had bestowed her with considerable landed wealth, which she initially used to allow her to live the pleasant and semi-independent lifestyle. In 1388 Margaret used her not inconsiderable political skill and quite extraordinary confidence to turn this into a lasting legacy for her son and future offspring. It is both her audacity and her success that make Margaret Stewart, countess of Angus, one of the most fascinating women in medieval Scotland.

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A number of his historical blogposts can be viewed @<https://drcallumwatson.blogspot.com/>  
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Seal of Margaret Stewart, Countess of Angus

Margaret Stewart, Countess of Angus and Mar (died 1417) was Countess of Angus and Lady of Abernethy in her own right. Her father was Thomas Stewart, 2nd Earl of Angus.

She was the widow of Thomas, Earl of Mar.

By an illicit affair with William Douglas, 1st Earl of Douglas, husband of the Earl of Mar's sister, she became the mother of George Douglas, 1st Earl of Angus (c. 1380-1403), and secured a charter of her estates for her son, to whom in 1389 the title was granted by King Robert II.

[http://www.douglashistory.co.uk/history/heraldry/seal\\_countess\\_of\\_angus.htm](http://www.douglashistory.co.uk/history/heraldry/seal_countess_of_angus.htm)

# Tantallon Castle

by Ian Douglas

## Owners:

**Douglas (Black Douglas to 1389, and then Red Douglas).** Douglas from the castle's construction around 1360 until the estate and by then ruined castle was bought by Sir Hew Dalrymple in 1699, with several short interludes when it was forfeited by the crown or taken by Oliver Cromwell's troops.

**Dalrymple then Hamilton-Dalrymple:** 1699 until it was passed into state care in 1924.

## Introduction

Tantallon stands on a spectacular and dramatic site, on a promontory into the North Sea in East Lothian, about 31 miles east of Edinburgh and 3 miles east of North Berwick. As Historic Environment Scotland notes "Tantallon Castle has to be among the most impressively sited medieval castles in the British Isles, a 'must' for photographers and artists alike".

Tantallon appeared in Sir Walter Scott's epic poem "Marmion". Just as today the "Outlander" effect has popularized castles such as Doune and Blackness, Marmion resulted in Tantallon becoming a major Victorian tourist site. Queen Victoria visited in 1878, and her visit is commemorated in a plaque in the mid tower.

Whilst the massive front wall still stands, albeit in a battered state, as you can see from the photo much of the other three walls have gone. They were weakened by Oliver Cromwell's artillery in 1651 during Tantallon's last great siege and destroyed by coastal erosion. But why is this castle, with only one wall left standing, considered one of the most magnificent castles in Scotland? It is because what remains is magnificent, and the location is stunning.

The owners for much of the castle's history were the Douglas earls of Angus, who were one of the most powerful families in Scotland. They were involved in a host of intrigues and politicking, sometimes siding with the English due to their deep rivalry and mistrust of Scotland's Stewart monarchs. Often they were the king's rivals rather than subjects.

Tantallon is a 14th century curtain wall castle, the last of the great curtain wall castles to be built in Scotland. It was built around 1360 by Sir William Douglas, probably to celebrate his increased status when he was made the 1st earl of Douglas. Sir William was the nephew of Sir James Douglas. Sir James was also known as the Black Douglas or the Good Sir James, and was Robert the Bruce's key lieutenant.

In its heyday in the author's view Tantallon would have been one of the three greatest castles in Scotland, along with Edinburgh and Stirling. Its owner the 1st earl of Douglas, had spent much of his youth in France, and Tantallon, at its peak, displayed the influence of French architecture.

In his article in this edition, *Stand-off at Tantallon Castle*, Dr. Callum Watson describes the emergence of the Red Douglas branch of the clan at Tantallon. This article goes on from the stand-off that Dr. Watson describes and focuses on Tantallon, chronicling the three major sieges Tantallon endured, and describing the dramatic castle.

## Tantallon's Great Sieges

Tantallon Castle endured three major sieges. In 1491 it was besieged by James IV, in 1528 by his son James V and in 1651 by General Monck, one of Oliver Cromwell's generals.

**In 1491** the Douglasses were becoming very close to Henry VII of England. Therefore, the Scottish king, James IV, felt they were a threat, particularly as Tantallon Castle stood very close to the east coast invasion route from England. James IV was concerned that the Douglasses in Tantallon could support, rather than try to block, an English invasion. The records are scant, but it seems the siege was unsuccessful. However, the Douglas earl was to soon back in the king's favor, and his two sons were to die fighting with the king at the battle of Flodden in 1513.

Because of the death of the 5th earl's two sons he was succeeded by his grandson, Archibald, as 6th earl. Archibald was a superficially attractive young man and something of a character, although possibly not a particularly nice one. In 1514 he married James IV's widow, who was also Henry VIII of England's elder sister. Her first husband James IV had died at the Battle of Flodden only a year before. The marriage made Archibald the stepfather of James V, who was only two at the time. In due course it was agreed that James would spend part of his boyhood with a range of nobles, but when the young king was fourteen and it was time for



<https://dimg.visitscotland.com/wsimgs/tan.1-000007.jpg>

Archibald to give him up he refused to do so. Archibald held the young king under house arrest in Edinburgh Castle for two years and in practice ruled in the king's name. But when he was sixteen the young king escaped, and set out to get his revenge.

James V's revenge was to involve another siege of Tantallon. Archibald had withdrawn to what he hoped would be safety at Tantallon, and strengthened the defenses. However by the 1500s cannon were a real threat to medieval castles. Therefore Archibald had had the defenses improved, and had a gun tower constructed to defend the approach to the castle and the gate to the outer enclosure. As well as protecting the outer enclosure, this would keep the attacker's cannon at some distance from the major inner walls.

**In 1528** James laid siege to the castle for three weeks, having borrowed cannon from the French. As his forces approached the castle they chanted "Ding Doon Tantalloun". However Tantallon was too strong, and James had to give up. It is likely that the gun tower prevented the king's cannon from getting close enough to the castle to do real damage to the inner wall. One observer reported that the castle "was not one hair the worse". To the king's further embarrassment when his forces retired Archibald attacked and captured the cannon.

In the end though, Archibald decided that discretion was the better part of valor, and went into exile in England. Tantallon became the king's property, and the king set about strengthening a castle that presumably in spite of the earlier comment had been knocked about a bit. The repairs or extensions were in green basalt rock obtained by deepening the ditch in front of the curtain wall, rather than the red sandstone of the castle. This is obvious in the forward gun tower repairs, and in the fore tower that has been added to the main gate in green basalt.

Archibald returned to Scotland in 1543, the year after James V's death, when the infant Mary Queen of Scots was in theory at least the reigning monarch. Archibald was pro-English. He was a Protestant and much of the Scottish ruling class were Catholic. For a time Tantallon was the refuge of the English ambassador, who felt at risk in Edinburgh as relations between Scotland and England deteriorated.



For a number of years from 1544 an English army raided and pillaged through southern Scotland as part of what is referred to as the "rough wooing". Henry VIII's plan was to terrorize the Scots into allowing the young Mary Queen of Scots to marry his son Edward. This would have put Scotland under Henry's control.

Although Archibald had been pro-English, when English troops destroyed Douglas family tombs at Melrose Abbey he changed sides. He won a victory for Scotland in February 1545 at Ancrum Moor in the Scottish Borders, when a Scottish raiding party attacked the English army's camp. The Scottish force were beaten off and pursued by the English army, but when the English army crested a hill they found the main Scottish army under Archibald waiting for them in full battle order, and the trap was sprung.



**In 1651** the castle was to suffer its last, and its most devastating siege.

In 1650 Oliver Cromwell invaded Scotland. A force of moss-troopers, that is disbanded Scottish troops operating as guerrillas or simply as bandits, based themselves at Tantallon and harried Cromwell's supply lines as he moved further into Scotland. The moss-troopers could fight by land and sea, as they could operate from Tantallon's very small port and attack Cromwell's supply vessels. So Cromwell ordered General Monck to take the castle.

The moss-troopers, totaling 91 defenders in all, held off a force of up to 3000 roundhead troops and their advanced artillery for several weeks, until they eventually had to surrender. By the 1650s artillery had become very powerful and General Monck was an expert in its use. Once attackers managed to get mortars close enough to fortifications to fire over the protective walls and medieval castle was doomed. The roundhead artillery

did a great deal of damage to the castle. But this once great castle had held out for 20 days against General Monck. Not bad, as Stirling Castle only held out for a day and a half. Now though, much of the castle is gone, but the great front curtain wall is left to admire, and the castle's position on cliffs on the entrance to the Firth (estuary) of Forth.

In 1699 the barony and by then ruined castle was sold by the Douglasses to Sir Hew Dalrymple, the Lord President of the Court of Session, and therefore Scotland's most senior judge. In 1924 the then Hamilton-Dalrymple family passed the ruined castle into state care.

### The Layout of the Castle

As you approach the castle along the footpath from the car park, you can make out on your left the remains of the ravelin built in the 1600s to strengthen the defenses. By the 1600s artillery had developed to the level that cannon could make the high walls of medieval stone-wall castles come tumbling down. A ravelin is a forward triangular defense, low and usually largely earthen so that it could absorb cannon fire. It forced attackers to place their cannon further from the castle's main walls. It was also designed to break up an attack and allow defenders in the ravelin to fire on any attacking force before they reached the fortification's main defenses. The triangular shape of the defense also allowed defenders in the castle to provide supporting fire, targeting any attackers who got close to the walls of the ravelin. The ravelin was expendable; the wall on the castle side would be much lower than the fortification, so that if the ravelin was overwhelmed defenders in the main castle could fire down on it.

As you follow along the path you will see the remains of the gun tower at the gate to the outer close. This was introduced before the 1528 siege to protect the gate and fire on any attacker who had reached the ditch.

The ditch and a bank, which would have been topped by a wall, protect the castle's outer close. This was part of the original castle defenses, and is likely to date from the 1300s. Only scant remains of the outer wall on top of the bank still exist. Most of the wall would have been of wood, and have been destroyed during the Cromwellian assault of 1651, and subsequently been robbed of any dressed stone.

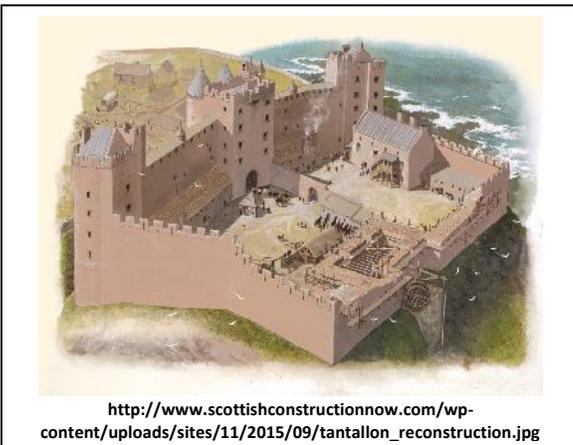
The outer close is now a grass field with the castle dovecot in the middle. The dovecot may be late 17th century, as any earlier building in the outer close would probably have been destroyed in General Monck's siege of 1651. The dovecot held almost one thousand pigeons; there are 480 nesting boxes inside, each one for a pair of pigeons. The pigeons were not kept as pets - their meat and eggs provided food.

In its heyday the close would have been the service area for the castle, with a host of support buildings such as workshops and stables. The size of the outer close gives an indication of the amount of support services a major castle like Tantallon would need.

Beyond the outer close is a deep ditch crossed by a wooden bridge separating the main castle from the outer close. Originally the bridge would have been a drawbridge.



<http://www.scottishconstructionnow.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/11/2015/09/Tantallon-Castle.jpg>



[http://www.scottishconstructionnow.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/11/2015/09/tantallon\\_reconstruction.jpg](http://www.scottishconstructionnow.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/11/2015/09/tantallon_reconstruction.jpg)

The massive red sandstone curtain wall is 13 feet (4 meters) thick, and about 65 feet (20 meters) high. In curtain wall castles the primary castle defense is a large wall surrounding and protecting the interior of the castle, in which the key castle buildings stand. After Tantallon was built the curtain wall castle design was largely replaced in Scotland by the tower house design. In fact, around 1370, only a few years after Sir William Douglas had Tantallon built his cousin Archibald Douglas, the Archibald the Grim mentioned in Dr Callum Watson's article, was having Threave Castle built. Threave is a great tower house castle, built in the western borders of Scotland. Tower houses, albeit few as large as Threave, were to be the dominant design in Scottish castles for several centuries.

In Tantallon, the massive red sandstone wall separating the castle from the promontory has three major towers. All the towers would have had conical roofs in their prime. The Douglas tower in the north provided accommodation for the earl and his family. It is now very ruined but in its heyday a massive 7 storey (that is about 100 feet or 30 meters) tower. This is where the Douglas earl of Angus would have had his private accommodation. In the bottom of the tower is a dungeon, providing much less attractive accommodation for guests who didn't want to be guests!

Straight in front of you, across the narrow bridge over the ditch is the mid tower. This contains the castle gatehouse and entrance. The building would have accommodated the castle's officials including the constable. This has been much altered over the years.

On the far right of the curtain wall is the east tower, which was originally five storeys high. The east tower contained accommodation for the earl's staff and guests, and on occasions for very high-ranking prisoners.

The castle's walls are so thick that they contain a rabbit warren like maze of internal passages and some rooms for accommodation, storage or to provide firing positions. Please follow the stairway up to the walkway on the top of the battlements and mid tower, but be very careful. The walls are over 60 feet high and the winds can be very strong. From the battlements you can enjoy the view of the Bass Rock and the surrounding East Lothian countryside.

When you come down from the battlements you can explore the inner close. On your left, behind the Douglas tower are the remains of the great hall block. This was extended and changed over time, and in time the Douglas owners moved from the medieval tower to the pleasanter accommodation of the hall.

Apart from the great hall, there is little left of the walls that enclosed three sides of the castle. General Monck's cannon and mortar fire, and then coastal erosion, have destroyed the flanking walls. These would have been much weaker than the curtain wall, since the sea and 65 feet (20 meters) cliffs on three sides would have made assault from attackers very difficult.

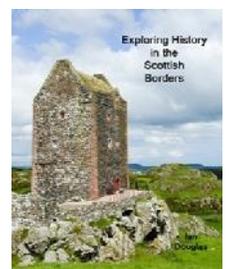
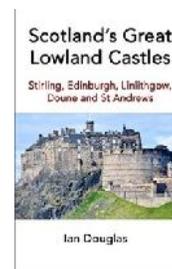
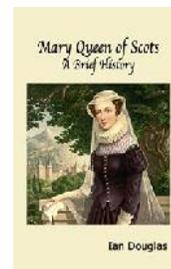
The inner close would have held a range of buildings, many of wood and leaning against the walls. A recent archeological investigation found the foundations of a wall which divided the inner close in two. It seems likely that the north section with the hall was the high status Douglas part of the castle, and the other section would have had some support services and accommodation for retainers. There is also a well in the close, about 100 feet (32 meters) deep, providing a fresh water supply.

### Tantallon Now

Although much has now gone, what remains is still awe-inspiring. It is one of Scotland's most spectacular ruined castles in a beautiful and dramatic location. It is under the care of Historic Environment Scotland, and open to visitors.



*Ian Douglas has published a number of books on Scottish History available on Amazon, including "Mary Queen of Scots - a Brief History", "Scotland's Great Lowland Castles" and "Exploring History in the Scottish Borders".*



# Scotland and the Confederate States of America

by Colin MacDonald

The American Civil War is not a conflict that figures prominently in the consciousness of Europeans. Few people in Scotland would be able to tell you much about the major figures of the war, why it happened or what the defining events of it were. Given Scotland's long established connections to North America, this should actually come as a surprise. Scots played a prominent role in the war, for both sides, and the 'War Between the States' greatly affected the economic and political conditions that were prevalent in Scotland during the 1860s and beyond.

Our current ignorance is in stark contrast to the Scots of the time, who were well informed and who often had sophisticated understandings of the arguments on both sides of the conflict. Indeed, abolitionists such as William Lloyd Garrison and Frederick Douglass had visited Scotland as early as 1846 and given the reliance of the Scottish cotton industry on cotton from the American South, it is hardly surprising that Scots viewed these events as something directly relevant to them, and not as an abstract foreign dispute.

It is said that while history doesn't repeat itself, it certainly rhymes. As Scotland grapples with its own understanding of its future, whether that be independence or union, the Scots of the mid-19th century were similarly divided on the issue of independence or union for the American South.

So for the benefit of the people on both sides of the Atlantic, here is a look at some of the more interesting connections that existed between Scotland and the Confederate States of America.

## William Watson and the SS Rob Roy

William Watson was born in Skelmorlie, North Ayrshire in 1826. He was the son of an Englishman, Henry Watson who had moved to Skelmorlie to work as a landscape gardener at the Ash Craig estate. Henry remained the gardener of Ash Craig for 40 years, building a cottage named Halketburn, where he raised his 8 children. Not content to follow in his father's footsteps, William Watson emigrated from Scotland to Bermuda in 1845 before moving to Louisiana around 1850. Although opposed to secession he enlisted with the Confederate Army for a one year term because he felt his personal honor, and that of Scotland, would be at risk if he did not follow the army. He fought at the Battle of Wilson's Creek but refused to accept a commission as an officer as it would require him to renounce his allegiance to Queen Victoria.

Watson was discharged in 1862 and he soon discovered that the entire business district of Baton Rouge, including all of his property, had been destroyed by Union forces to provide clear fields of fire for their gunboats. When he returned to his old regiment, the 3rd Louisiana Infantry, he became caught up in the Second Battle of Corinth, where he was wounded and captured as the Confederates retreated. With the assistance of a Scottish member of General Rosecrans's staff, Watson was paroled by the US Army and upon returning to the Confederate Army, he was discharged due to injury. Watson then hired a ship, which he named the SS Rob Roy, and became a blockade runner, ferrying much needed supplies into Texas. He returned to Scotland in 1865 and when he married Helen Milligan in 1871, his address was given as 127 Argyle Street, Glasgow. He wrote two books, 'Life in the Confederate Army', published in 1887 and 'The Adventures of a Blockade Runner', published in 1892. He died at Beechgrove House, Skelmorlie in 1906.

## The Clyde Shipyards

The shipbuilders of the Clyde were largely sympathetic to the Confederate cause during the Civil War. As the Confederacy was strangled by the Union blockade, the Clyde shipyards were commissioned to build 'blockade runners'. These transports were built lightly to outrun Federal ships and bring desperately needed supplies to Confederate cities. Although Britain was technically neutral in the conflict, the government did not intervene as long as the correct paperwork was provided for the construction of the ship.



The PS Iona was built in Govan in 1855. It was later recommissioned as a Confederate blockade runner but was involved in a collision and sank about 500m from Greenock esplanade, where it remains today.



Watson fought at the Second Battle of Corinth, depicted here by the printmaking firm Currier and Ives.

By 1864, a total of 27 shipyards and 25,000 men on the Clyde were working around the clock to build ships for the Confederacy. Around 3,000 Scots worked on-board these ships in direct violation of British neutrality in the conflict. Around a third of all Confederate Blockade runners were built at Scottish shipyards situated all along the Clyde from Govan to Greenock. Such examples include the CSS Robert E Lee and SS Fingal, which were constructed in Glasgow, in addition to the Greenock built SS Tristram Shandy and CSS Advance. Recent research suggests that Confederate agents were based in Bridge of Allan in Stirlingshire, where they could avoid Yankee counter agents and meet with shipping magnates. A furious US Government later called for compensation from the British Government for prolonging the Confederate war effort, maintaining that British shipyards could be liable for a staggering £8 billion in damages. After the US Government threatened to seize Canada and the West Indies as compensation, Britain eventually agreed to pay a mere £7.4 million in 1877.

## King Cotton

In 1860 Southern plantations supplied 75% of the world's cotton and the highly industrialised cotton industries of Scotland were almost entirely reliant on the cotton imported from the Southern states. The Southerners used the slogan 'King Cotton' to refer to the economic strength of the resource and the perceived political leverage that it gave over cotton dependent economies such as those in Britain and France. The importance of cotton to the Scottish economy is demonstrated in the 1851 census, which shows almost a tenth of Glasgow's 370,000 people engaged in some form of employment connected with cotton manufacturing.

The Confederates believed that if they could starve the European nations of cotton and damage their economies, Britain and France would be compelled to recognise Southern Independence. As the union blockaded Southern ports, cotton imports dried up in Europe, marking a period of 'cotton famine' in Scotland. As reserve stocks dwindled, the cotton industry in Scotland faced an immediate crisis which led to a rapid decrease in production and mass unemployment. The American Civil War caused irreversible economic damage that led to the permanent decline of the cotton industry in Scotland. It also changed Scotland's economic priorities away from the cotton trade, just as cotton had been a diversification from the tobacco trade. Yet some 150 years later there seems to be little recognition that many industrialists in the West of Scotland made considerable profits as a direct result of slavery in the American South.

TO BE SOLD,  
**A BLACK NEGROE BOY,**  
About 5 Foot 8 Inches high, and 17 Years old.  
Enquire at the Publisher of this Paper.

---

Upon Friday the 7th of November.  
**T**HERE will be a public Roup at Neillon-Kirk, for feuing off the several Farms after-mentioned, being Parts and Portions of the Estate of GLANDERSTON, belonging to William Mare of Calawell, Esq;

		Rental.	
1. Inches and Linmouth	£.	11	9 11 1-3
2. Bank		9	12 8 2-3
3. Spierston		9	4 6

**Scotland had a prominent role in perpetuating slavery. This advertisement in the 'Glasgow Courant' of the 28th of August, 1758 shows a black slave for sale.**



**This monument underneath Edinburgh Castle is dedicated to William Alexander Aitchison. He was born in Edinburgh in 1834 and fought for the Confederacy and the 59th Virginia Infantry.**

## Scottish Soldiers

The Confederacy had no shortage of soldiers who were either Scottish or had Scottish ancestry. This is reflected in the number of Scottish 'Regiments' that were formed by volunteers determined to rally their men around a distinctive ethnic or cultural background. In reality these 'regiments' were usually company strength and were amalgamated into regiments when the Confederate Army increasingly standardised its units as the war progressed. Some of these Scottish units included the 'Scotch Guards' from Alabama, the 'Scotch Tigers' of North Carolina and the 'Montgomery Highlanders' of Virginia. There are many notable individual examples of Scottish soldiers serving in Confederate forces, including Lt-Colonel Peter J Sinclair of the 5th North Carolina Volunteers, who was born on Tiree in 1834 and the Edinburgh born Colonel Robert Alexander Smith of the 10th Mississippi Infantry, who was also the personal bodyguard of President Jefferson Davis.

The Civil War caused not only political divisions, but conflict within families. Two Scottish born brothers, James and Alexander Campbell, became a personification of that division. Emigrating to America in the 1850s, James Campbell eventually settled in South Carolina, while Alexander Campbell settled in New York. James ultimately became a member of the Charleston Battalion, while Alexander was a member of the Union 79th New York Highlanders. They faced each other at the Battle of Secessionville and James Campbell later defended Fort Wagner against the 54th Massachusetts, as depicted in the 1989 film, *Glory*.

## Kate Cumming

Kate Cumming was born in Edinburgh between 1828 and 1835. In the 1840's, her family emigrated to Canada and then Alabama. Her mother and two sisters left for England at the beginning of the war in 1861 but Kate stayed in Alabama as her father and

brother enlisted in the Confederate Army. She was later inspired to help the Southern cause by becoming a volunteer nurse. Together with 40 other women she joined the Confederate Army in Corinth, Mississippi to help nurse some of the 23,000 Confederate and Union soldiers who were wounded at the Battle of Shiloh.

While many considered female nursing inappropriate for a woman of Cumming's social class, she was of the firm belief that every patriotic Southern woman should help the cause. The work undertaken by female nurses like Cummings led to the re-organisation of Confederate field hospitals and a reduction in the death rates amongst wounded soldiers. Following the end of the war she became a staunch proponent of the Lost Cause ideology and her diaries are considered an important source of information on Civil War nursing. An active member of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, she died in 1909.



## Rednecks

It is well known that the derogatory term of 'redneck' has long been used to belittle and demonise the people of the Southern States. What is less known, however, is that the term itself originated in Scotland as an insult against radical Presbyterians. In the late 1630s, Scottish Covenanters vehemently opposed the imposition of the Church of England on Scotland and to demonstrate their commitment to the new Presbyterian religion they often signed their manifestos with their own blood. Some of the Covenanters who rebelled against Charles I wore a red cloth around their neck as a mark of identity, this was seized upon by the Scottish ruling elite who then used the pejorative term of 'red neck' to describe radical Presbyterians.

The earliest known use of the term in the United States dates from 1830 and was used to describe Presbyterians of Fayetteville, North Carolina. While the origins of the modern understanding of 'redneck' are disputed, it is more likely that it originates from a description of poor farmers, who had sun burnt red necks from working long hours in the field. A similar term of 'red legs' exists in West Indian vernacular to describe white slaves whose ancestors had been sent to the Caribbean by Oliver Cromwell.

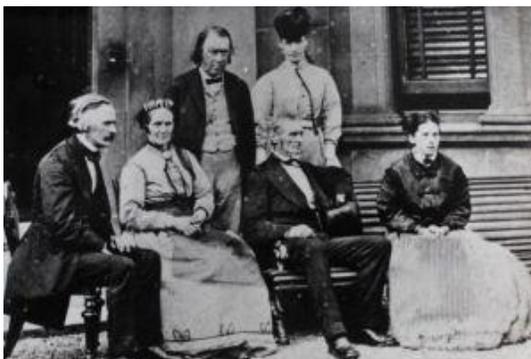
### Sir Walter Scott

Through James MacPherson's historical epic *Ossian* and Robert Burns's poetry, Scottish literature of the early 19th century had already established itself as influential in an international context. In the American South, the works of Sir Walter Scott and other expressions of romanticised Scottish culture had become very popular and enormously influential on Southern views towards chivalry, honor and romantic nationalism. Scott's tales of Jacobites and medieval knights resonated with Americans and between 1814 and 1823, more than a million copies of his novels and poems were sold in the United States. Mark Twain was the most vocal critic of the influence of Scott, claiming that "Sir Walter had so large a hand in making Southern character, as it existed before the war, that he is in great measure responsible for the war." Lachlan Munro argues that the development of the idea of a 'Southern Aristocracy' as it existed in the pre-war period was a result of Scott's enormous influence on the upper class planters of the deep South.

As tensions developed between the North and South in the 1850s, Scott's literature provided many appealing analogies for Southerners. Scott depicted Scotland as a small yet noble nation, an underdog determined to protect its heritage and identity in the face of a hostile larger neighbour. The parallels between this view of Scotland and the Confederacy were unmistakable for Southerners and figures such as Robert E Lee fit comfortably into that thinking as an Arthurian figure and a chivalric knight. The morale of the South was sustained by these concepts, which gave the Confederacy a historical pedigree to the warrior society of the romanticised Scottish Highlands. Even in defeat Scott's influence on Southern thinking was unshakable, Lost Cause ideology developed as the most modern incarnation of the forlorn Jacobite cause – noble, heroic and ultimately untainted by defeat.



Southerners could relate to Sir Walter Scott's romantic depictions of the Jacobite uprisings. This illustration by John Pettie was included in a 1892 edition of *Waverley*.



Jefferson Davis at Benvue House, Glasgow in 1869.

### Jefferson Davis

President of the Confederate States of America, Jefferson Davis, was himself primarily of Welsh heritage, his ancestors having emigrated from Snowdonia in Wales. However, like many other prominent figures of the Civil War era he visited Scotland as part of a European tour, visiting three times between the late 1860s and early 1870s. On one of these trips Davis met with James Smith at his home of Benvue House in Glasgow. Smith had become acquainted with Davis when he emigrated from Scotland and founded an iron works in Mississippi. James Smith's younger brother Robert had also been a bodyguard to Davis and was killed at the Battle of Munfordville.

Through letters and diary extracts, we have a good idea of where Jefferson Davis traveled when he visited Europe and it is clear that Davis and the Confederacy had considerable support in Scotland. On one such trip he left the Broomielaw in Glasgow, where a large group of people had assembled to cheer for

him. Upon reaching Greenock he was greeted in a similar manner. Davis also wrote that he was aware that a "very large proportion of the inhabitants of Edinburgh appreciate and sympathise" with the Southern people in their "struggle for freedom and self-government". On travelling north, he visited Oban, Mull, Fingal's Cave, Inverness and the Culloden Battlefield. He was given a tour of the battlefield by the editor of the *Inverness Courier*, Robert Curruthers. When walking the field, they met a local shepherd and Mr Curruthers asked if he was impressed to be in the presence of Jefferson Davis and if he had ever heard of the Southern Confederacy. The confused shepherd replied that he had never heard of the Southern Confederacy and asked if it was some kind of company in England. Jefferson Davis took it in good humor and whispered to Robert Curruthers that his shepherd friend "obviously does not read the *Inverness Courier*."

### The Rebel Yell

The blood curling Rebel Yell was the distinctive battle cry of the Confederate soldier during the Civil War. No contemporary recordings of the yell exist, and debate continues about how exactly it sounded and the nature of its origins. Historian Shelby Foote described it as "a foxhunt yip mixed up with sort of a banshee squall" while a Union soldier said that "if you claim you heard it and weren't scared that means you never heard it". The closest we will ever get to it is a fascinating recording released by the Smithsonian Museum which shows 90 year old Confederate Veterans doing the Rebel Yell at a Civil War reunion of the 1930s

(view here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s6jSqt39vFM>).



The Rebel Yell is still a hotly debated topic, particularly amongst Civil War reenactors. One theory put forward by the historian Grady McWhiney suggests that the Rebel Yell was in fact the battle cry of the Scottish Highlanders, transplanted to America and passed down the generations by Scottish emigres. On the surface this theory seems plausible, and there are undeniable similarities between the Rebel Yell and the distinctive howl and whooping battle cry that Scottish Highlanders were known to have used during battles such as Killiecrankie. However while it makes for an interesting anecdote, it probably doesn't stand up to scrutiny. It is much more likely that the Rebel Yell originates from Native American war cries, possibly heard by soldiers that fought the Native Americans in the series of wars that took place before the Civil War. Indeed William Howard Russell, war correspondent for The Times noted that the yell had "a touch of the Indian war-whoop in it". So while there might not be a shared origin for the Scottish and Confederate war cry, there is an undeniable similarity in their descriptions – eerie, haunting, high pitched and very effective at unnerving the enemy.

### Useful Sources

William Watson-

American Civil War Scots – William Watson

Dead Confederates – A Civil War Era Blog

Clyde shipyards-

The Herald Scotland – How the Clyde Boomed from a Confederacy of Civil War Greed

The Scotsman – Scots and the American Civil War

Wessex Archaeology Online – The PS Iona

The Independent – Bridge of Allan, the Home of Confederate Agents in Scotland

Kate Cumming-

Encyclopedia of Alabama – Kate Cumming

King Cotton-

Electric Scotland – The Industries of Scotland

Glasgow Punter Blog – Glasgow and the Slave Trade

Scottish Soldiers-

American Civil War Scots – Biographies

Sue Sinclair's Genealogy – Lt Col Peter Sinclair

Teaching American History in South Carolina- Letters between James and Alexander Campbell

The Civil War Trust – Brother Against Brother

Walter Scott-

The Herald Scotland – Scotland and Lincoln

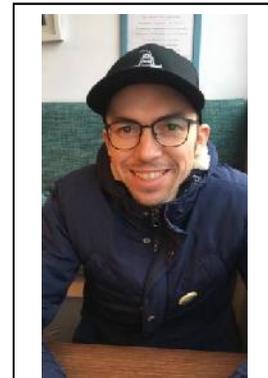
Maxims of Robert E Lee

The New York Times – Author of the Civil War

Lachlan Munro – Sir Walter Scott and the Civil War

Jefferson Davis-

American Civil War Scots – Jefferson Davis



Colin MacDonald is a history blogger based in Greenock in the West of Scotland.

Colin also tackles articles on Culture, Politics, and Genealogy.

Visit his blog @ <https://sonofskye.wordpress.com/> to see more of his work.



## For more stories about Scottish and American connections during the American Civil War, try these articles online ...

**Scotland in the American Civil War (Guest Blog by Gettysburg National Military Park, PA) BBC Civilisations Festival**

<https://cullodenbattlefield.wordpress.com/2018/03/07/scotland-in-the-american-civil-warguest-blog-by-gettysburg-national-military-park-pa-bbc-civilisations-festival/>

**Scots and the American Civil War: So whose side were we on?**

<https://www.scotsman.com/arts-and-culture/scots-and-american-civil-war-so-whose-side-were-we-1679768>

**Scots who fought in America's civil war**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-highlands-islands-20544216>

**Scots who fought in American Civil War remembered**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-highlands-islands-21085002>

**How Glasgow found itself at the centre of American Civil War**

<https://www.scotsman.com/whats-on/arts-and-entertainment/how-glasgow-found-itself-centre-american-civil-war-1436290>



## The CDSNA Septs & Allied Families Project

Septs/Allied Families Coordinator Harold Edington

In 2009 as a new CDSNA Regent, I took on the task of documenting why each name on our Douglas septs and Allied Families list was there. For CDSNA Regents manning the Douglas tents at festivals all over North America at that time, one of the most commonly asked questions by festival goers was "Why is THAT name a Douglas name?" After nearly three years of Douglas and Scottish research, I was able to supply justification for almost all of the names then on our Douglas list -- and also able to discover and document several more names with a historical connection to Clan Douglas. In 2012, those other names were approved by the CDSNA Board and by our CDSNA membership to be added to our list of Douglas Septs and Allied Families. In the intervening time between then and now, two other names were added to the list -- in 2015 and 2018

It was decided that these surname articles would make for good reading in our newsletter. The June 2012 issue of **Dabh Ghlase** featured the first Septs and Allied Families article. Since that issue, almost every issue of **Dabh Ghlase** featured one or more names from the list. With the publication of this June 2020 issue of **Dabh Ghlase**, the last of those surname articles has been published.

The wonderful thing about our clan is its rich history and great influence on the Scottish Borders and on Scottish History. As a result, there are a multitude of books describing the many branches of the Douglas family, their vast land holdings, and their many vassals and other supporters. The search to find other names connected to Douglas has been ongoing and the research has not disappointed. It is my pleasure to say I will be sharing research with the CDSNA board before the 2021 GGM in Portland, Oregon pertaining to five (5) more surnames with the potential to be added to our Septs and Allied Families List. If approved by membership, these names will be spotlighted after the 2021 GMM.



*Harkness* was accepted as a sept/allied family by CDSNA sometime between 1995 and 1999. More research for this surname and its connection to Douglas is recommended. It is possible information on why this surname was selected may be found in a CDSNA newsletter published sometime between 1995 and 1999.

According to the *Surname Database*,

Recorded in several spelling forms including: Harkness, Hakkness, Hearnness, and Harkess, this most interesting surname is Anglo-Scottish. It is a locational name from an unidentified place but possibly the remote village of Hackness in Yorkshire. The translation of this name is 'Hook shaped headland', or the possibly as the village is well inland "the (pagan) shrine on the hook shaped hill", the second element of "naess", having varied meaning according to the specific location. As this is a locational name, that is to say a name given to people after they left their original homes and moved elsewhere, perhaps it is not surprising that in the churchyard of Dalgarnock, near Thornhill, in Scotland, are several tombstones of people of this name, who were mostly tenants of the farms of Locherben and Mitchellslacks, in the parish of Closeburn. The first recording of the surname appears relatively late, in the early 17th Century (see below), while James Hearnness married Jane Wawby at the church of St. Mary, Carlisle, Cumberland, on April 30th 1678. One James Harkness of Locherben was leader of the band of Covenanters who rescued some Covenanters from Royal troops in the Pass of Enterkin, while they were being conveyed to Edinburgh for trial, in 1684. His brother Thomas was executed in the Grassmarket of Edinburgh in 1685 for his part in the affair. A branch of the family emigrated from Dumfriesshire to Ulster in the 17th Century, and settled finally in Co. Limerick, Ireland, where the family of Harkness of Garryfine still possess lands.

Apparently supporters of the Closeburn Kirkpatricks (per Black in *Surnames of Scotland*), members of this family may have moved to Ulster at the same time many of the Closeburn Kirkpatricks relocated there. Proximity to the power base of the Douglasses may explain why this family would also be supporters of the Douglasses.

Sources:

**Surname Database:** Harkness. <http://www.surnamedb.com/Surname/Harkness>

Black, George F. *The Surnames of Scotland: Their Origin, Meaning, and History*. Edinburgh: Birlinn, 1993. Print.



# Douglas Septs & Allied Families



# Inglis



Agnew	Carruthers	Dixon	Hume	Maxwell	Soule
Bell	Cavan	Drysdale	Is	McKittrick	Sterrett
Blackadder	Cavers	Forest	Kilpatrick	Moffat	Syme
Blackett	Clendon	Forrester	Kirkland	Morton	Symington
Blacklock	Clelland	Foster	Kirkpatrick	Pringle	Troup
Blackstock	Crockett	Gilpatrick	Kilpatrick	Rowell	Turnbull
Blackwood	Dalyell	Gilpatrick	Kilpatrick	Rowle	Weir
Blaylock	Dalyell	Gilpatrick	Kilpatrick	Rule	Young
Breckinridge	Deal	Hamilton	Lockery	Rutherford	Younger
Brown	Dick	Harkness	Lockhart	Sandilands	
Brownlee	Dickey	Harkness	MacGuffey	Sandlin	
Carmichael	Dickson	Home	MacGuffock	Simms	

Inglis was accepted as a sept of Douglas by CDSNA at its organization in 1975 based on the original list from the book *Scots Kith and Kin*.

The strong connection between Douglas and Inglis is found in *Early Inglis History, St. Bride's Church*.

"The roofless south transept, which is invariably known as the Inglis' Aisle, is worth close examination. The traditional story behind the name is as follows: In the early years of the fourteenth century, when Douglasdale was repeatedly overrun and often held by the English, the Inglis family tenanted the farm of Weston. Once Inglis managed to overhear the English plans for taking the castle, and at very great risk conveyed a warning to the Douglas. For this and perhaps other services he was asked to name his reward and he replied that his greatest wish was to be buried under the same roof as his master. Accordingly, the south transept was set apart as the burial place of Inglis and his descendants for all time. So goes the tale, and until comparatively recent years, descendants of the Douglas Inglises have been buried there. There are several memorial tablets on the walls, some bearing the Inglis coat of arms and the family motto, "Recte faciendo securus". A fragment of a local rhyme survives in the couplet:



Unnamed Inglis arms

**It was gi'en to Inglis and Inglis bairns  
And a' that lie in Inglis's airms.**

Further evidence for Inglis is found in Nisbet's *Heraldry*, vol i. 83:

John Inglis of Manor obtains a charter of confirmation of his lands of Manor, to himself, and his son and heir Thomas Inglis, from his superior, Archibald Duke of Touraine, Earl of Douglas; and the three stars in chief, carried by the name of Inglis, I take to be arms of patronage, and carried by that name, upon the account that they were vassals to the Douglasses. Thomas Inglis of Manor made an excambion of his lands of Brankesholm, Branshaugh, Goldylands, CMahitelaw, Quhitrig, Todshaw-hills, and Todshaw-wood, which he held of the Douglasses, with Sir Walter Scot of Murthouston, for the lands of Murthouston and Heartwood, lying in the barony of Bothwell in the shire of Lanark; as by the charter of excambion, dated at Edinburgh the 23d of July 1446, in which he is designed, Nobilis vir Thomas Inglis de Manners; and afterwards he and his family in other writs were designed, Domini de Murtboustoun, or Murdistoun.

Sources:

*Early Inglis History, St. Bride's Church*. <http://www.inglis.uk.com/page4.html>

Nisbet, Alexander, and Robert Fleming. *A System of Heraldry Speculative and Practical: With the True Art of Blazon, According to the Most Approved Heralds in Europe: Illustrated with Suitable Examples of Armorial Figures, and Achievements of the Most Considerable Surnames and Families in Scotland, &c....* by Alexander Nisbet. Edinburgh: Printed for J. MackEuen. Anno Dom, 1722. Print.





# DOUGLAS

with recognized Septs  
& Allied Families

Do you see a name  
from your family's history?



Agnew	Brownlee	Deal	Gilpatric	Kilpatrick	Moffat	Soule
Bell	Carmichael	Dick	Glendenning	Kirkpatrick	Morton	Sterrett
Blackadder	Carruthers	Dickey	Glenn	Kirkland	Pringle	Syme
Blackett	Cavan	Dickson	Hamilton	Lockerby	Rowell	Symington
Blacklock	Cavers	Dixon	Harkness	Lockery	Rowle	Troup
Blackstock	Clelland	Drysdale	Home	Lockhart	Rule	Turnbull
Blackwood	Clendon	Forest	Hume	MacGuffey	Rutherford	Weir
Blaylock	Crockett	Forrester	Inglis	MacGuffock	Sandilands	Young
Breckinridge	Dalyell	Foster	Kirkconnell	Maxwell	Sandlin	Younger
Brown	Dalzell	Galbraith	Kilgore	McKittrick	Simms	



*Kilgore* was accepted by CDSNA as a sept in July 1985. Also listed as a sept of clan MacDuff.

John Kilgo posted on his website a *Genealogy of the Kilgore Family* and quotes a section of *From Kilgo Cousins and Kin* by Darrell Brock:

According to information contributed by Barbara Conway in *The Kilgore Family Tree*, "one of the first to bear the name Kilgour and to propagate the line was a foundling that was left on the steps of the St. Thomas church in Falkland Palace. The child was raised by the kirk of the church and assumed his name. The child was left just after a great battle in which the clan of Douglas had almost been wiped out. Legend has it that the child was a Douglas and was left at the church to save its life as the Douglas clan had fallen out of standing with the present King and was outlawed by the crown. The Douglas family has a long and deep history in the pages of Scottish history. The present royal family of England trace their ancestors to the Douglas family."

This story relating the Douglas family to the Kilgore family through an anonymous foundling has been retold for so long it is often regarded as fact. It may be based, in part, on the "lost" descendants of the Earl of Ormand, one of the five Douglas lords killed in 1455 at Arkinholm. Sources claim Ormand had a child but no records exist documenting the child's history. But on *Rootsweb*, part of the ancestry.com community, is found the following post from Vickie Miller indicating again, that the foundling story is anything but veritable.

From: "Vickie Miller" <vickie7293@msn.com>

Subject: [KILGORE] Kilgore-Douglas

Date: Mon, 8 Sep 2008 10:26:06 -0500

Recently the Douglas question has been raised again regarding the Kilgore family. To refresh the memories of those who may not be acquainted with this question, early Kilgore researchers made the assertion published in 1935 in the book "Charles Kilgore of King's Mountain" by Hugh Addington that the Kilgore name had originally been Douglas. If you look up the name in the Scottish registry of names you'll find this info: The earliest written record of the Kilgore name is this entry: John Kilgour's wife, Janet December 14, 1690, had a child baptized named Mar---Witnesses: Tom Pierce, George Tasker & etal From (Baptisms of November-December 1690 for the earliest Coupar Angus Parish Register. Reproduced by courtesy of the Church of Scotland) also included in the book Thomas Kilgore 1712-1822 and his Descendants" by Evelyn Yates Carpenter. The entry also states that the first known use of the name Kilgore was in connection to a child found on a doorstep of a church and given the NAME of the Church and that local tradition claimed that the child was a junior member of the local powerful Douglas family who'd been recently outlawed and that the child (presumably male) was left behind to protect it as 'such things were known to happen.' NOTE: the Historical society makes no claim as to the validity of local tradition-merely includes it in their info.

This is the same information that Judge G. W. Kilgore received when he also wrote the Scottish Historical Society inquiring about the origin of the Kilgore name. Since there might have been validity to the local tradition, Jerry Penley (who is now sadly deceased and who was the founder of the Kilgore list on Rootsweb) made a point of pursuing this matter. Jerry Penley was an outstanding and thorough researcher as any of those who ever had the privilege of working with him can attest. He made contact with Douglas researchers whose research he found to be sound. The response was that all members of the Douglas family were accounted for and their lines can be traced which means that our little foundling was NOT a legitimate member of the Douglas family and also explains why our new member Bob Shaw has been unable to make a connection to the Douglas family-it doesn't exist. It's entirely possible that the child was born out of wedlock to a member of the Douglas family and left on the doorstep; but he was not a legitimate scion of the family. Jerry's findings can be found by searching the Kilgore list archives at: <http://boards.rootsweb.com/surname.aspx>. Type in the name Kilgore and it should take you to the list. The entries should be found around 1995-1996. Sorry, I'm not more specific than that-but I'm still on pokey old dial-up because of our location and am just not inclined to search through the Archives. If anyone wishes to find them-type in the word Douglas and sooner or later, Jerry's info he obtained from the Douglas researchers should be found. As to the assertions by early Kilgore researchers, it seems they took "local tradition" one step further and made it fact. Jerry Penley later took that "fact" and made it an unproven assertion. It should be noted that there is absolutely no proof that the foundling child was in fact the ancestor of the Kilgore of America. Note: that the Historical society included only the first known instance of the name-it doesn't list any possible subsequent findings of the name (nor did it give a location of the church). Considering that Kilgore wasn't a preminent name in

Scotland –such as Stuart, Hamilton etc; it may be that researchers simply didn't look all that hard into the origin of the name Kilgore.

While we're on the subject of early assertions made by Kilgore researchers, we might as well tackle the "Kill" and "Gore" question. Judge G. W. Kilgore claimed that the name Kilgore was derived from the habit of the "Black Douglas" to scream the words Kill and Gore at his enemies in the heat of battle. Note that the historical society claimed that the child (if indeed he was our ancestor) was given the name of the church. Note too-that the Black Douglas would almost certainly have been screaming his war cry in Scottish Gaelic-not the King's English. So I wouldn't place much faith in this origin story either.

Many Kilgores who have visited Scotland return saying the story of the lost Douglas foundling is accepted as fact in Scotland. To date (March 2020) however, no y-dna evidence has been discovered showing a Douglas-Kilgore connection. In theory, this name should be removed from the sept list since there appears to be no demonstrative proof for Kilgore but the result would be disenfranchisement of an untold number of current Clan Douglas members. The question then becomes one of whether we remain true to our commitment to *preserve and promote the customs, traditions and heritage of Clan Douglas and its Septs* – and Kilgore as a sept of Douglas is certainly part of that tradition – or do we remove this name from our list of septs because it lacks *proof of valid and historical connection with Douglas Clan*. The Bylaws clearly state **other names will be added...** [emphasis mine] and no procedure exists in the Bylaws for removal of a name from our sept list. The decision is left to a future CDSNA executive Board. It may be, in Time, a more authentic connection will be found.

Sources:

Kilgore, John. *Genealogy of the Kilgore Family*. <http://www.jkilgo.com/Origin.htm>

Miller, Vickie. *Ancestry.com* post. [http://listsearches.rootsweb.com/th/read/KILGORE/2008\\_09/1220887566](http://listsearches.rootsweb.com/th/read/KILGORE/2008_09/1220887566)



## NEWS FROM ALL OVER

### Brooke Kenney (James Brooke Kenney MacDonald Douglas) Newly appointed Clan Douglas Regent for Southern Minnesota

Brooke's last name is his adopted father's surname. But after years of searching and testing (DNA) he received confirmation of his Douglas surname in 2018 (although he knew it from the beginning).

After the untimely passing of CDSNA Regent, Shaun Hengel in 2015, then the unfortunate destruction of the Clan Douglas tent during a storm at the Minnesota Scottish Fair and Highland Games in 2016, the clan has fallen into dormancy. It is Brooke's intent to re-invigorate the membership and bring the clan back into prominence.

What Brooke brings to every endeavor is his passion and skills as an award-winning communicator, having had a professional career in advertising and design. Plus, he's a proven leader, having served three terms as president of the Art Directors/Copywriters Club of Minnesota, is the current four-term president of the Twin Cities Scottish Club and has served as vice president, president and secretary of the Minnesota Art Pottery Association.

Brooke and his wife Diane, have been to Scotland six times since 2009, first as part of a contingent of Clan Douglas of North America members at the "Homecoming" in Edinburgh. In subsequent years they've visited Inverness, Aberdeen, Speyside, Isle of Skye, Loch Fyne, Glasgow and the Borders.

In 2009, Brooke became an avid supporter of Scottish independence and participated in the Yes movement leading up to the referendum in 2014. He created three characters (Wee Willie, Robbie and Jaggy) and designed hundreds of items promoting the Yes campaign. He is still committed to that just cause.

In 2017, he and Diane took their son Brian to Scotland, London and Paris and we all hope to return to Scotland in 2021 for investiture into the Scottish Knights Templars.

Brooke has been an off and on member of CDSNA since the 90's.

The couple live in Minneapolis, Minnesota and have two cats – Buster and Tosh.



# NEWS FROM ALL OVER

## NORTHEAST FLORIDA SCOTTISH GAMES



The 25th Annual Northeast Florida Scottish Games were again held at the Clay County Fairgrounds, on February 29, 2020. The weather was cold and windy. Morning temps were 38 degrees making it difficult to set up everything. It never did warm up and caused reduced attendance.

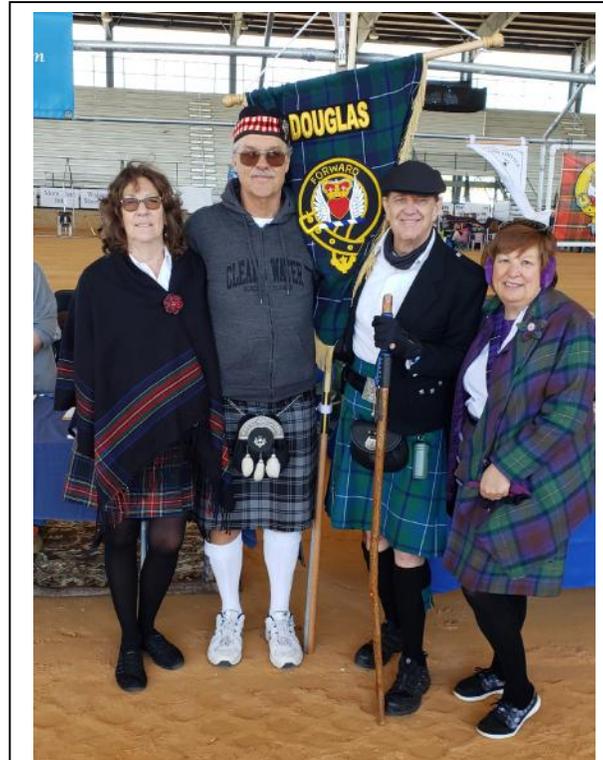
We were honored again in having Past National Douglas Clan President Mark Douglas and his wife Nancy join us. Mark has had a recent bout of medical problems and surgeries, so his attendance was a valiant effort for the clan. Mark & Nancy have detailed knowledge of our clan which supersedes almost all of us. They shared their knowledge and were busy most of the day. Also missing was our esteemed Georgia Regent, Randy Bartle. He too had undergone surgery just two days before this event.

Life member Dennis Conrad, his daughter Sarah, and wife Debbie are always helpful, engaged, and a big part of the success we have at these games. Dennis and family brought food, drinks, and even the use of carpeting for the floor of our booth. Dennis also made and restocked us with the very professional brochures highlighting the history and activities of Clan Douglas. We owe a large debt of thanks and appreciation to this fine man and his family. Dennis is truly a leader in our clan.

Life Clan members Jeff Sparks and Mark Hill and their significant wives, Mona & Sally, were present and always helpful in our tent. Clan members Allison Morton Painter, Margaret Donnelly, and Ed Young drove all the way from Orlando to be part of our clan festivities. Their involvement is always enjoyed, helpful, and appreciated. Clan members Jeff Bossard and Lee Doyle did not need to drive as far but were very present in our booth, in the Parade of Clans, and throughout the day. Clan members Dennis and Tatiana Stone also joined us in our march.

Clan member Jill Ross was there all day, but spent very little time in our Douglas booth. Instead, she was over in the livestock exhibit with two of her unique Scottish animals. Bonnie, her Belted Galloway cow (which originated in the Galloway and Dumfries districts of Scotland) was a big attraction for the crowds. Jill also had her Scots Dumpy Chicken, named Douglas. This poultry breed is purely Scottish and has existed for over 700 years. We must also thank Jill for her home-made cock-a-leeky soup. It was delicious. Jill assured us it was not made using her Dumpy Chickens.

This year we were led in the noon Parade of the Clans, by clan members Allison Morton Painter, Mona Sparks, and Sally Hill. Mark & Nancy Douglas had just presented us with a new massive Douglas banner. The aforementioned ladies marched with it as our lead and the clan members followed. Allison also led our rousing cheer of "A Douglas, A Douglas" as we enter the arena and then again as we past the reviewing stand. Clan Douglas was well represented.



L-R: Sally & Mark Hill, Jeff & Mona Sparks



New members Marcus D Douglas III and Sharon Douglas at the Douglas Clan booth

# NEWS FROM ALL OVER

We want to welcome our newest clan members - Jim Douglas and Marcus Douglas. We hope you join us at all the upcoming Scot Games. You now have a clan home.

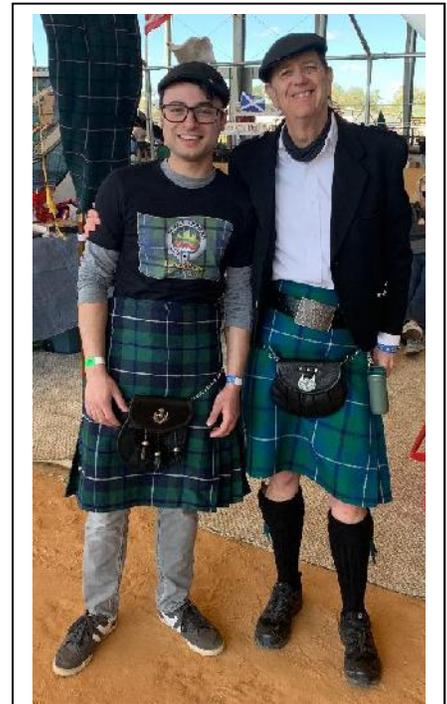
We had frequent visitors through our booth. Some, who have clan affiliation (Douglas or Sept) now have our member application and should be joining us soon.

Come join us next year, on the last weekend of February, at the Clay County Fairgrounds.

Marc Hitchins  
North Florida Regent



"Bonnie Lass" on exhibit at the North East Florida Scot Games. Bonnie is a rare Belted Galloway Cow from Scotland owned by our clan member Jill Ross



Jeff Sparks welcoming new member Marcus Douglas IV



## **CDSNA is looking for members living in the NEW ENGLAND AREA willing to serve as Clan Douglas Regents or Co-Regents.**

**This part of the country has been without a Douglas representative for several years.**

**The main requirement for being a Regent is an active Clan Douglas Society membership.**

If YOU are someone living in the NEW ENGLAND AREA, CDSNA has Regent/Co-Regent openings in the following states – or you can choose to represent CDSNA throughout the region:

**CONNECTICUT – Regent Wanted**  
**MAINE – Regent Wanted**  
**MASSACHUSETTS - Regent Wanted**  
**NEW HAMPSHIRE - Regent Wanted**  
**RHODE ISLAND – Regent Wanted**  
**VERMONT – Regent Wanted**

If interested in being a CDSNA Regent in the New ENGLAND AREA, contact CDSNA VP Tim Tyler or CDSNA VP (East) Harold Edington. Contact info for both can be found on page 2 of this newsletter.



# NEWS FROM ALL OVER

## SOUTHEAST FLORIDA SCOTTISH FESTIVAL AND HIGHLAND GAMES

### Plantation, Florida -- March 7



L-R: Bill Simonitsch, Heavy Athletics Masters Division with Cheryl Gowing, president Scottish American Society of South Florida

37TH ANNUAL Well, another successful and fun Scottish festival and highland Games has come and gone. This year we were lucky to even have an event because of the global pandemic Covid-19. The event took place just one week before all public events were cancelled. A very sad time indeed! But, as usual it was a very successful event in spite of the virus; upwards of 5,100 people attended. The weather was absolutely perfect! -- in the mid 60s in the AM and about 73 degrees in the afternoon.

At the tent, we had the usual crew-Russ Douglass, his wife Lydia, Crisi Aasen, honorary Douglass, and we even had a couple of special guests this year; our very own sister Joni Douglass who came down from Virginia just to attend the festival! And we were honored to have our cousin, Scotland's own Mary Queen of Scots and her retinue, grace us with their presence! We were so busy at the Clan Douglas tent that we had little time to go out to venture around. Stories about our own Sir James, the Black Douglas, also known as The Good, and his brother, Archibald The Guardian of Scotland were told; even the attendees had stories of their own to share! On display were the Douglas Trilogy

books about William Le Hardi Douglas, His sons Sir James, the Black Douglas, and Sir Archibald Douglas The Guardian of Scotland as well as Janet Douglas Lady Glamis, by our very own Deborah Foulkes - Very good reading and highly recommended!

I was able only briefly to get out as I was asked to judge the Clan tents on appearance and presentation. This year Clan Campbell won. Clan Douglas will be sure to win next year!

As is the custom, Stuart and Lucy with Craigmalloch Farms did an outstanding job with their border collie sheep herding demonstrations, which of course, drew enthusiastic crowds!

This year Clan Douglas was proud to sponsor the award for the Heavy Athletics Masters Division-Congratulations to Bill Simonitsch who was the Division leader!

We look forward to another very successful and fun Scottish Highland Games!



Queen Mary's retinue stops by the Douglas tent to visit with Regent Russel and Regent Elizabeth



Lydia & Russell Douglass and Elizabeth Douglass



CDSNA member Stuart Ballantyne of Craigmalloch Farms brings his love of the Border Collie and traditional sheep herding to audiences all over Florida.

Until next year, Slainte mhath!



Joni, Russell, and Elizabeth



# NEWS FROM ALL OVER

## Tim Kirkpatrick named Illinois Regent

Greetings!

For those of you who don't know me please allow me to introduce myself. I am Tim Kirkpatrick and I was recently named Regent for the State of Illinois. I live in the southern part of the state and we are still looking for a Regent for the northern Chicago area portion, so if any of you know anybody who would be a good fit, please send them along.

My quick Bio: I was born and raised in Granite City, Illinois (right outside St. Louis), went to college for a few years, ran off and joined the Marines and then moved to Washington State. It was there I really started looking into my Scottish heritage and went to my first Highland Games. That is where I met Washington State Regent Frances Crews and her partner Gary Cosgro. They were always delightful company and Frances was looking for someone to take over for her -- which I would have been glad to do except that I had the feeling I wouldn't be in Washington State much longer. Sadly we lost Fran a couple of years ago, but Washington State is well being taken care of so far as the CDSNA is concerned. Meanwhile I moved back to Illinois to help care for my aging parents and as it turns out Illinois was also in need of a State Regent. So here I am.

As I am writing this we were supposed to be gathering for the Springfield Area Highland Games. Unfortunately that event has been postponed due to the present pandemic situation. But on the bright side it was postponed, not cancelled.

I am sure most of us are looking forward to the time where we can gather in public and meet each other again. And that time is surely coming. And when it does, we will observe any and all safety measures that have been put in place. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure as they say. Or a stitch in time saves nine. Or don't mix your metaphors before they are hatched. Where was I going with this?



Oh yes. The Peoria Irish Fest is on for the weekend of August 28-30 at the Peoria Riverfront. There will be Highland Games, Food and Drink, Music, Dancing and Entertainment! We will not have a Clan Douglas tent but I will try to be there. If you can make it come by and say hi and wear your Douglas Tartan.

<https://peoirishfest.com/>

The Springfield Area Highland Games has been rescheduled for Saturday, September 26 at the Sangamon County Fairgrounds in New Berlin, Illinois. Myself and Harold Edington plan on being there and we will have a clan tent. As far as I know this will be the first Highland Games that will be held in several months, and the only one in the southern Illinois area. So if you happen to be in or near the region, mark your calendars and come on by!

<https://www.centralillinoiscelts.com/highland-games--celtic-festival.html>

That's all I have for now. I look forward to meeting you in person in the near future.

Tim Kirkpatrick  
Illinois Regent, CDSNA



# NEWS FROM ALL OVER

## A Visit with Jim Fleming in the Village of Douglas

Last September 2019, Liz, my travel companion and I made a self-planned and self-guided trip through Scotland and England. We used all types of transport; plane, train, auto, and a ferry.

Among our most memorable, enjoyable, and educational visits was with Jim Fleming in the Village of Douglas. As many of you know, Jim is the Chairman of the Douglas Heritage Museum Society. Before his retirement, Jim had been the Director/Property Manager of the Douglas-Home Estates. This has included over 30,000 acres of land in the Scottish Border and Upland Plateau area. Jim is a very polite, intelligent, and dignified individual. He is a Scottish Gentleman in every sense of the word. Jim is probably the most knowledgeable person alive relating to all things Douglas.

I have had the pleasure to be in Jim's presence on two or three prior occasions, both here in the USA and in Scotland. However, on this visit, we had his undivided attention. And, it was a treasure. Jim has the keys and knowledge to access all the important landmarks in the village, which is the heart of Clan Douglas. We are blest in having such a noble man be the keeper of our clan's keys and archives.

Our touring began in the 900 year old Ancient St. Bride's Church where we visited the burial crypts for the Good Sir James Douglas and many of those notable Lords and Ladies who played such a large part in forming Scotland's early history. Within the sanctuary, we saw the stained glass windows, now more than 700 years old, depicting biblical scenes and some of mighty Douglases. We toured the church yard and read the gravestones which occupy most of this land. We saw the steeple clock, the oldest working clock in Scotland (1565), which Mary Queen of Scots gave to the village while visiting during her brief reign. Thru her marriage to Lord Darnley, Mary Queen of Scots had a close affiliation to Douglas Village. Lord Darnley's mother was Margaret Douglas who lived in Douglas Castle, just outside the village.



We drove along Douglas Waters - the stream from which our clan's Celtic name is derived - *Dabh Ghlase* = Dark Water. We drove past the memorial site (the cairn) where, in 1684, the Duke of Angus raised and commissioned what would become the famous Cameronian Scottish Regiment. Thereafter, for almost 300 years this regiment fought in conflicts around the world. It was on this same spot, in 1968, where the regiment folded its colors and disbanded. Their flags are now in the Scottish Military Museum at Edinburgh Castle or in the Douglas Museum in Douglas Village. Their regimental drums remain in the village and are in the newer St. Bride's Church, built in 1781.

We drove up the hill to the remaining turret of Douglas Castle, renown in Sir Walter Scott's novel as "Castle Dangerous". Beginning with Sir James Douglas, over the centuries, this was the home to many Douglases and had been besieged in many of the conflicts with the English. Sir James Douglas

was a very close ally and lieutenant of Robert the Bruce. Both were principal leaders in gaining Scotland's independence from England.

Returning to Douglas Village, Jim took us to the New St. Bride's Parish Church. This church was built in 1781 and is still in regular use today. This is the church the Fleming's attend and in which they are very active. Jim provided enlightening and historical comments as we toured the sanctuary and facility. It was a revered and humbling experience.

Thereafter, Jim took us down to the Douglas Heritage Museum. Over the course of its long life, this building has been; the Dower House of Castle Douglas, the Parish School and Schoolhouse, the Poor House, St. Sophia's Chapel, and, since 1993, the Douglas Heritage Museum.



# NEWS FROM ALL OVER

The interior retains much of its chapel qualities including stained glass windows from Douglas Castle chapel. The museum is filled with the ancient and modern history of the clan, the regiment, the village and the history which was made there. It is a very unique, educational, and engaging place.

Following the tour, we shared tea and scones with Jim and his lovely wife, Jeanette. It was a true delight learning more about each other and getting travel suggestions. Jim and Jeanette are a very gracious and charming couple.

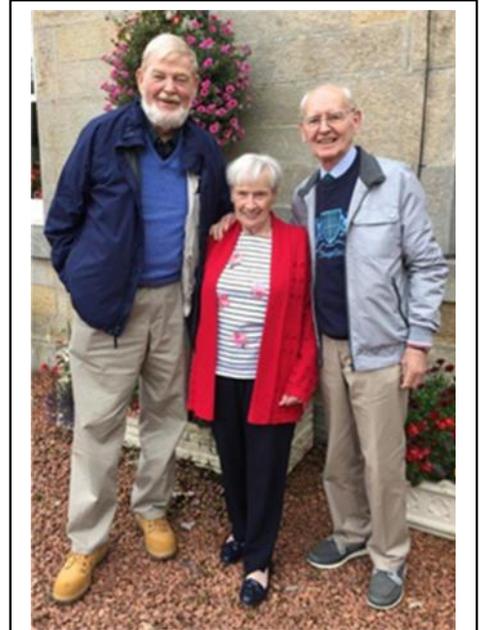
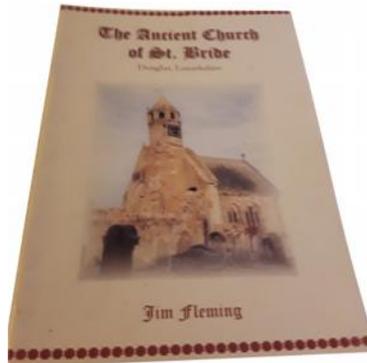


We had planned to take them to dinner as a thank you for their time and tour. They chose the Inn on the Loch, in Lanark. The food was good and the restaurant quaint and comfortable. Following dinner, we parted as respectful and appreciative clan members with the hope that we shall return to Douglas Village and enjoy more of the Fleming's kind friendship.

With ample advance notice and an accommodating schedule, Jim is always pleased to greet Clan Douglas members and

tour them around the village. It's an adventure you will probably never forget.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Marc Hitchins  
North Florida Regent



Marc Hitchins with Jeanette & Jim Fleming



## ~~~ REMINDER ~~~

As our newsletter transitions from printed to Digital Only ...

Those members currently receiving the print version of the newsletter will need to contact our Clan Secretary and confirm an email address to ensure receipt of future digital editions of **Dabh Ghlase**.

[douglassecretary@comcast.net](mailto:douglassecretary@comcast.net)

# NEWS FROM ALL OVER



## SAVE THE DATE!

### CLAN DOUGLAS SOCIETY OF N.A.

[www.clandouglassociety.org](http://www.clandouglassociety.org)

Please join us for the

### 2021 CDSNA General Members Meeting

in conjunction with the

### 2021 Portland Highland Games

[www.phga.org](http://www.phga.org)

Mt.Hood Community College, 26000 SE Stark St.,Gresham, OR

**July 16 & 17, 2021 (Fri & Sat)**

**CDSNA GMM is at the HOLIDAY INN**

477 NW Phoenix Dr, Troutdale, OR 97060, 503.669.6500

### Event Schedule

**Friday - 7/16/2021 - 12 - 5 PM - PHGA Pre-Games**

**6 PM - Meet & Greet, No Host Dinner**

Geno's Grill, 3035 NE Kane Dr., Gresham, OR

**Saturday - 7/17/2021 - 9 AM-6 PM - PHGA Game Day**

**11:30 AM - Clan Parade (Meet down on the track)**

**1 PM - CDSNA Tent Lunch & Clan Picture**

**7:00 PM - 10 PM - General Members Meeting,**

Dinner & Entertainment

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**CLAN DOUGLAS SOCIETY OF  
NORTH AMERICA, LTD.**

Visit our Website: <http://www.clandouglassociety.org>

*National Office – CDSNA  
626 Mountain Lake Cr  
Blue Ridge, GA 30513*

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED:

**Beginning in SEPTEMBER 2020,  
Dabh Ghlase will be available in  
DIGITAL FORMAT ONLY.**

**Please make sure your email address is on file with our Clan Secretary  
to continue receiving the newsletter**

***The List of Septs & Allied Families recognized by The Clan Douglas Society of North America:***

Agnew, Bell, Blackadder, Blackett, Blacklock, Blackstock, Blackwood, Blaylock, Breckinridge, Brown, Brownlee, Carmichael, Carruthers, Cavan, Cavers, Cleland, Clendenon, Crockett, Dalzell, Deal, Dick, Dickey, Dickson, Dixon, Drysdale, Forest, Forrester, Foster, Galbraith, Gilpatric, Glendenning, Glenn, Hamilton, Harkness, Home, Hume, Inglis, Kirkconnell, Kilgore, Kirkland, Kilpatrick, Kirkpatrick, Lockerby, Lockery, Lockhart, MacGuffey, MacGuffock, Maxwell, McKittrick, Moffat, Morton, Pringle, Rowell, Rowle, Rule, Rutherford, Sandilands, Sandlin, Simms, Soule, Sterrett, Syme, Symington, Troup, Turnbull, Weir, Young, Younger --- variations of these names are also recognized.

***Dabh Ghlase* Newsletter**

**Is published four times annually:**

**March, June,  
September, & December**

**Submission Dates**

Newsletter submissions are accepted until  
the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month preceding  
the publication month.

**[Example: September 2020 submissions  
must be received by August 15, 2020]**

Items received after the Submission Date  
may be saved for the next newsletter.

Please send your articles for submission to

**[clan.douglas@yahoo.com](mailto:clan.douglas@yahoo.com)**

or contact your Regional Asst VP  
or the CDSNA Vice President.

Anyone is welcome to submit articles, games reports, and  
general information.

**We do request that any article submitted be related to  
CDSNA or of general Celtic interest.**

Newsletter Editor will make all final decisions as to the content  
of the Newsletter.



**CLAN DOUGLAS SOCIETY OF NORTH  
AMERICA**

**Founded 1975**



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