



CLAN MOFFAT UK & EIRE

Volume 2: Issue 7

October 2003

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Sam Kennedy-Moffat

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NOTICE BOARD

CLAN MOFFAT

ITEMS FOR SALE

As members have expressed an interest in Major Francis Moffat's Book and items bearing the Moffat Crest, these are available from:

Mrs M Moffat,
Red Acres,
Moffat,
Dumfriesshire DG10 9JT

Book "The Moffats" by Major Francis Moffat	£25.00+ p&p £1.00
Clan Badges	£10.00+ p&p27p
Key Rings	£10.00 + p&p27p
Kilt Pins	£11.00+p&p27p

B O O K

"A Short History of the Family of Moffat of that Ilk"

By Robert Maxwell Moffat

Published 1908 by Labey & Blampied

Stock No.9906K16

Price £39.01 inc. copyright fee & VAT
(unfortunately no special terms for group order)

To make enquiries E.mail: DSC-Lexicon@bl.uk

Or contact:

The British Library,
Document supply Centre,
Boston Spa,
Wetherby,
West Yorkshire, LS23 7BQ
Tel.+44 (0)1937 546599
Fax+44 (0)1937 546210

(See page 5 for further details)

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE DATE 31st March 2004

All material for inclusion in
the Spring Edition of the Newsletter
should reach the Editor,
no later than the 31st March 2004

Items prepared before this date
would be very welcome !

THE SCOTTISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY

Clan Moffat UK & Eire has been elected and enrolled to affiliate membership of the above Society. We will receive two copies of each issue of The Scottish Genealogist Magazine and our members are entitled to attend all meetings of the Society. We cannot however, have any vote at meetings of the Society, nor will we be eligible for election to membership of the Council.

They have an extensive sales catalogue of books, MIs, source guides etc which can be ordered by e.mail on:

sales@scotsgenealogy.com
(or ask our editor for the list).

Monthly meetings are held from September to April in the Royal College of Physicians, 9 Queen Street, Edinburgh, at 7.30pm around the 15th of the month. In the event of the 15th falling on a Saturday or Sunday the meeting is held on the following Monday.

Library & Family History Centre
15 Victoria Terrace,
Edinburgh, EH1 2JL,
Scotland.

Tel & Fax 0131 2203677.

Library Opening Hours :-

Monday 10.30am - 5.30pm
Tuesday 10.30am-5.30pm
Wednesday 10.30am - 8.30pm
Thursday 10.30am - 5.30pm
Friday CLOSED

Saturday 10.00am - 5.00pm

E.mail enquiries: info@scotsgenealogy.com

Webpage: www.scotsgenealogy.com

Sales: sales@scotsgenealogy.com

Subscriptions: subs@scotsgenealogy.com

CLAN CHIEF'S LETTER

Dear Members,

I was sorry not to have been with you at the AGM and the Border Gathering this year but on all accounts from my son Adam, all seemed to have gone very well. Our membership is growing (I was pleased to learn we now have our 200th member) and I would encourage all of you to try and recruit more people to join.. If it is at all possible for you, please try to make it to Moffat next year for our meeting. If you have a keen interest in your clan and would like to help out, even in a small way, we would love to hear from you. One reason for joining any association is for fellowship and over the years I have found it most enjoyable meeting other Moffats from different parts of the country and the world. The year 2005 is approaching fast and it is my intention to have another large gathering with people coming from all over the world. If you cannot make next year, do try to come in 2005.

Another matter I must inform you about is the Clan Moffat Society received a legacy from a John Ward Moffitt of Australia who died in 2000. The money was left to the Society on condition that it had set up a Moffat "centre" in Scotland within five years of his death. As this was neither possible for the UK group or the American Society financially, I had asked my husband Robin, who is a solicitor, to deal with this for me. It took him almost three years to deal with the Public Trustee in Australia who really dragged their heels over winding up the estate, but finally the monies are ready. Robin had to try and persuade the Public Trustee that we already had a somewhat small centre within the museum so that we might receive the legacy. The Museum has also been left some money and we have been trying together to conclude this matter. We had hoped to receive the money earlier than this which would have enabled us to purchase a couple of small shops in front of the Museum, creating a special Moffat "room" which would have been maintained by the Society and the Museum. Unfortunately both shops are not now available.

As Robin is not qualified in either American, Australian or Scottish law and he felt he had taken it as far as he was able, we have handed this over to the Americans because the Public Trustee wants an agreement set up between them and the Museum indemnifying him from all suits or actions as a result of altering the will. I will keep you informed as to the progress.

Hopefully in the future, we will have an interesting Moffat Clan "centre" in Moffat for people to visit. I shall keep you informed on the progress.

With best wishes to you all,

Jean Moffat of that Ilk.

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Intense would be the best way to describe the week before the AGM.

Thank goodness Clan Moffat is now a well-oiled machine and the other committee members make my presence almost superfluous. It was great to meet so

many old friends and make new ones. Unfortunately I didn't have as much time to spend with you as I would have liked as Border Gathering commitments kept me on my toes, I especially feel I missed out on the Saturday night get together. I found what Jim Moffat our new genealogist had to say was fascinating. His own research added to the great foundation work laid down by Kathleen is already yielding results and increasing to our knowledge of how Moffat families link together. This is in addition to the fascinating DNA work being coordinated by Chris Stewart-Moffat, which is already confirming some of the paper traces in Jim's genealogy records and indicating possible new lines of research. The more data we have in both areas of research the more links can be made so please play as big a part as you can, especially in the DNA project.

The AGM went well - we're solvent and have passed the 200 member mark. Our regional coordinator network is expanding to cover more areas. Just a personal word of thanks from me to all the committee members and others who work so hard to make Clan Moffat UK & Eire such a success. The minutes are of course circulated with this newsletter.

As some of you will know I am now on the board of the Border Gathering and in addition I was asked to organise an exhibit of the types of livestock which our ancestors 'reived'. Fortunately we have all but one of the breeds on our farms anyway so that made it easier to comply with all the new bio-security regulations. We had four calves, which for various reasons, we've had to hand rear so it was a relatively quick task (10 days) to train them to walk on a halter. In spite of this I was proud of the way the young cattle dealt with all the strange people, smells, noises etc. The Blackface sheep were a big attraction with the ram's big curly horns impressing many, in fact the livestock tent was never empty. Our shepherd Billy Welsh and his dog did a fantastic job keeping the Blackface 'hoggs' (the ovine equivalent of delinquent teenagers) under control during the sheepdog demonstration. They were airborne as they entered the arena, drawing gasps

Continued on page 4



/Chairman's Letter continued

from the crowd and inward groans from us as we had visions of having to chase all round the countryside to get them back. It was the first time I've organised something like that and now we have a basic idea of what works best it shouldn't be as much work next time.

2004 - Plans are already progressing for the Border Gathering in 2004 so if you have any suggestions for improvements please let me know. The featured name will be Jardine.

2005 - Our Big Year the featured name at the Border Gathering will be *MOFFAT*

Colin Moffat has come up with a great idea of a symposium on subjects related to the clan and he will be calling for papers in the coming year. So volunteers, ideas etc should contact him through Hazel.

Madam Jean has volunteered herself and her sister Margaret to lead two guided tours of the Moffat area and I am happy to lead a tour of the Glencairn area.

How about a golf competition, if there is sufficient interest we could maybe organise a trial run next in 2004.

Any other ideas and suggestions are welcome.

Banner Party/Honour Guard - Sam and I were wearing what I believe is a smart and reasonably priced 'uniform' at the Border Gathering - in addition to the Trews and Brogues, which most of us already have, I propose a white 'frontier shirt' and black 'jacobite' woollen waistcoat (see photo on front page). Additional items would be a sword-belt, dirk and possibly a Glengarry. Pikes could be easily made and stored at Lochmailing. This all depends on how many wish to participate in a banner party and whether you like the outfit as proposed.

Once again it was great to meet so many of you but enough of me, over to you.

Yours aye

DAVID KENNEDY MOFFAT

REPORT FROM THE GENEALOGIST

One of the first tasks I must do as the newly installed Clan Moffat UK & Eire Genealogist is to pay tribute to the outstanding work carried out over many years by Kathleen Moffat, on behalf of Clan Moffat UK & Eire. Kathleen was involved in the formation of Clan Moffat UK & Eire in 2000 and since then has carried out the duties of Genealogist. The membership has now grown to over 200 members and Kathleen has painstakingly entered the information contained on every family tree submitted by members onto a "Family Tree Maker Database".

When I took over the role of Genealogist in July 2003 the "Family Tree Maker Database" contained 9862 individual records and 2826 marriage records! This is a magnificent piece of work by Kathleen Moffat and I personally would like to thank her for all the many hours of painstaking work which she has carried out on behalf of the members. It is such a pleasure to take on the role of Genealogist knowing that someone else has carried out all the necessary hard work to such a high standard. Many, many thanks and well done Kathleen! I hope that you and Les are able to enjoy your well earned 'retirement'.

I have been researching the Moffat families of Southern Scotland for over 25 years and have built up a large collection of information on Moffat families which I am presently adding to the Moffat (FTM) database. As the information is being entered I check to see if it relates to information already supplied by a member and if so I will contact them with this updated information. This is a time consuming process which will take many months to complete, but has already had some successes. I hope that by the end of the process I will have been able to contact many members with new information and potential lines of enquiry.

In addition, the Editor, Hazel Crammond has very kindly passed on to me the Clan Moffat UK & Eire's copy of the book "A Short History of the Family of Moffat of that Ilk" compiled by Robert Maxwell Moffat in 1908. There are very few copies of this book, which gives the genealogies of various Moffat branches, left in existence. The family trees contained within the book are also being added to the Moffat database and will undoubtedly relate to the family trees of some members.

In the meantime, good luck with your research,

James Moffat

The Association web site has been active now for almost two years and although the differences possibly are not very obvious, there have been several changes to the original plot, these include a "Links" page – nothing to do with golf !- but a few short cut buttons taking the viewer to other web sites with an associated interest .

There has been a little trauma during the latter 12 months when the people who supplied the software that counted the number of "viewings" summarily withdrew their service. We couldn't complain too much because the facility had been free to our web site but undoubtedly cost them money to maintain, we now have a new (free !!) counter installed and some statistics should be available in the next 3-4 weeks on the first months operation of the new counter.

Our secretary will be able to comment further on whether we have received any further members from the site – these are undoubtedly a bonus when they appear, but certainly the number of viewings to date are quite impressive – the counter currently has recorded in excess of 4700 viewings in total (including the count from the previous one) which equates to an average of 6 viewings per day, so there obviously is considerable interest in the subject matter.

Plans are underway to improve the content and appearance of the website and again I appeal to members to let me know how they feel about the site and it's information – You are Clan Moffat UK & Eire, the web site should represent as far as possible the activities and views of Clan Moffat UK & Eire members. I am only the vehicle for passing these things onto the Internet.

There are some very obvious gaps in the historical dates/happenings detailed on the web site – anyone who can add to these notes should let me know such information as they have and I will re-search it further and then add it into the notes on the web site.

The site does generate odd volleys of email activity from time to time, those that I can answer directly I do – those that I cannot help with I pass to any Association member that may be able to assist. This is one of the latest from Pam Moffat.

"I am a descendent of David Douglas Moffat born Glencree Scotland 1790. He was the son of John Moffat. Any chance you could guide me on how to research where I might fit into the family?"

Please let me know if you have any connection to this family, or could help Pam, and I will pass it on.

Barry Moffat

Editor/Secretary's Report

I hope you have all had an enjoyable summer. The weather has certainly been good enabling us all to get out and about. We had a super holiday in Scotland when we visited Dunnottar Castle and Lindisfarne amongst many other places.

We had a good AGM and it was nice to meet some of our members who had travelled from all over England and Scotland to be with us.

Adam Gates represented his mother, Madam Jean, and read us her message. The Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary/Editor and Regional Co-ordinators remain the same with the exception of two additional co-ordinators voted onto the committee to cover areas not previously targeted. We met James Moffat our new Genealogist and Erica Seggie who is taking over as Membership Secretary from me in October. I will continue with the secretarial work and produce the Newsletter so do please keep sending the family stories and other items for inclusion. Barry Moffat our webmaster is in the process of moving house and needed a 'babysitter' for the Clan Moffat UK & Eire website. Adam Gates offered to mind this for a temporary period.

In the evening 25 of us met up for an enjoyable meal together at the Moffat House Hotel.

The weather this year for the Border Gathering was beautiful with sunshine all day after a short, sharp shower in the morning. There were displays by the pipe band, vintage cars were on show, a Falconer gave a display and of course there were the Clan tents. David Kennedy-Moffat brought some border cattle which were led round the ring by his son and daughter, Sam and Rhia, and their shepherd gave a demonstration with his sheepdog.

At the AGM I spoke of the project we had discussed last year of recording Moffat family gravestone inscriptions, so that we could one day produce a booklet of these transcriptions. Please see what you can find in your own area, at the library or whilst on holiday. Write down all the details carefully and send to me. You will see the interesting one we found when we visited Lindisfarne included on the page "Gleanings".

During the year I made enquiries about obtaining copies of the book "A Short History of the Family of Moffat of that Ilk" by Robert Maxwell Moffat, published in 1908. It is referred to by members who have an original copy, as the 'red book'. It is rare, only about five still existing, and almost a textbook on the Moffat family. It contains family trees and information on many Moffat families. The British Library agreed to let me have a copy but unfortunately it did not arrive in time to put on show at the AGM.

It is 152 pages long. It wasn't bound and was only printed on one half of A3 sheets so I set about cutting to A4 size and took the pages to be spiral bound. I have passed it on to the Genealogist for the use of Clan Moffat UK & Eire. Details about ordering a copy of the book are on page 2.

Do hope to meet you at next year's AGM at Moffat, in the meantime I hope you have an enjoyable Christmas and All Good Wishes for 2004. *Hazel.*

ARTICLE 1
INTERNATIONAL GENEALOGICAL INDEX
By James Moffat

Many people researching their family tree will at some time or another have used the International Genealogical Index (IGI.) compiled from Old Parish Records by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS). The index is available on microfiche or on the internet at www.familysearch.org

One of the main drawbacks of the LDS website is that when someone who has researched their family tree submits an Ancestry File with the results of their research, then this information is added to the database without any check on the veracity of the information it contains. This means that someone who later carries out searches for their ancestors at the LDS website will have possible matches returned which do not relate to an actual Old Parish Record entry but instead could be the assumption, guesstimate or wishful thinking of a previous submitter to the LDS. In a worst case scenario the details of these fictitious persons become accepted as fact and innocently appear on later family trees.

To overcome this problem members should log onto the following web-site and carry out the following steps : <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~hughwallis/IGIBatchNumbers.htm>

1. Under the heading **British Isles** click on the country you wish to search.
2. When the next web page appears eg. Scotland then click on the County you wish to search eg. Dumfries.
3. When the next web page appears go down list until you find the Parish of interest. Listed for this Parish will be the batch numbers of the information extracted from source material. Clicking on the underlined Hyperlink will take you to a special search page at www.familysearch.org where all you have to do is enter the surname of the person you are searching for. A results page will then be returned showing all persons of that surname who were christened (or married) within that Parish between the years selected.

This is a very powerful search as it allows researchers to obtain a list of all persons with a specific surname who were christened or married within a specific Parish and the event recorded in the Old Parish Records at that time.

Statistical Accounts

The First Statistical Account of Scotland (1791-1799) and the Second Statistical Account of Scotland (1845) are available online at the following web-site : <http://stat-acc-scot.edina.ac.uk/stat-acc-scot/>
The Statistical Accounts give a geographical and social overview of the Parish at the time, with passing references to individual persons.

1851 Census for Dumfriesshire

The 1851 Census for Dumfriesshire is available online at the following website :
http://www.dumgal.gov.uk/services/depts/comres/library/census_search.asp
This is an excellent site with an advanced search facility.

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT			
As at 4/09/2003			
Income	£	Expenditure	£
Opening Balance	1970.07	Stationery	20.82
Subscriptions	428.00	Postage	48.18
Donations	6.00	Photocopying	1.00
Life Membership	300.00	Hall hire-AGM	30.00
Petty cash & stamps	9.84		
		Balance at Bank	2613.91
Total	<u>2713.91</u>	Total	<u>2713.91</u>

**There are now five Life Memberships
included in our Balance at Bank: £600*

*A G Crammond
Treasurer*

GLEANINGS



Berwick's latest Freemen with the Mayor, Councillor Liz Breckons, and Sheriff, Philip Stanbury, after the ceremony at the Guild-hall. Back row, left to right: Dominic Cairns, Dylan Cairns, Robert Howe, Craig Weatherbur. Front: Patrick Lyall, Mr Stanbury, Peter Moffat, Coun. Breckons.

Picture by Joe Payne.
©Berwick Advertiser

Mr Peter Alexander Moffat is seen in the photo above being made one of the Freemen of Berwick-upon-Tweed, in September 2002. Mr Moffat, a retired Consulting Engineer from Gloucester, follows a long line of Freemen in his family, and speaking on behalf of all the new Freemen at the ceremony, said "We welcome the opportunity to tread in the footsteps of our forebears and to play a part in the life of your wonderful town."

The members of Peter Moffat's family who have shared this honour were:

(gt gt grandfather) Alexander Moffat	1785-1847	Made Free 1816
(gt grandfather) Robert Moffat (Collector of Revenue)	1811-1895	Made Free 1838
(grandfather) Hugh Moffat	1862-1912	Made Free 1884
(father) George Moffat	1887-1939	Made Free 1936
Peter Alexander Moffat	1925-	Made Free 2002

MOFFAT (T) FAMILIES IN IRELAND

For those of you who have Irish forebears there is an interesting website containing a great deal of information on the records of Moffat(t) families in Co. Longford. There are maps, newspaper accounts, parish registers, deeds, freeholders' lists etc from 1600 to 1922. The parish registers—Church of Ireland—containing Moffat (t)families are:

Killashee Parish Register 1—Births
Killashee Parish Register 2—Marriages & Burials
'Speculum Gregis' of Killashee Parish
Kilcommock, Moydow, Taghsheenod & Taghlinny Parish Registers
Clongish Parish Register

If you have Moffatt connections with Co. Longford or just want some Longford Research advice contact: tmoffatt@nbnet.nb.ca or look at Co. Longford Moffat families.

American Intimations in the Hawick Advertiser Deaths 1879-1889

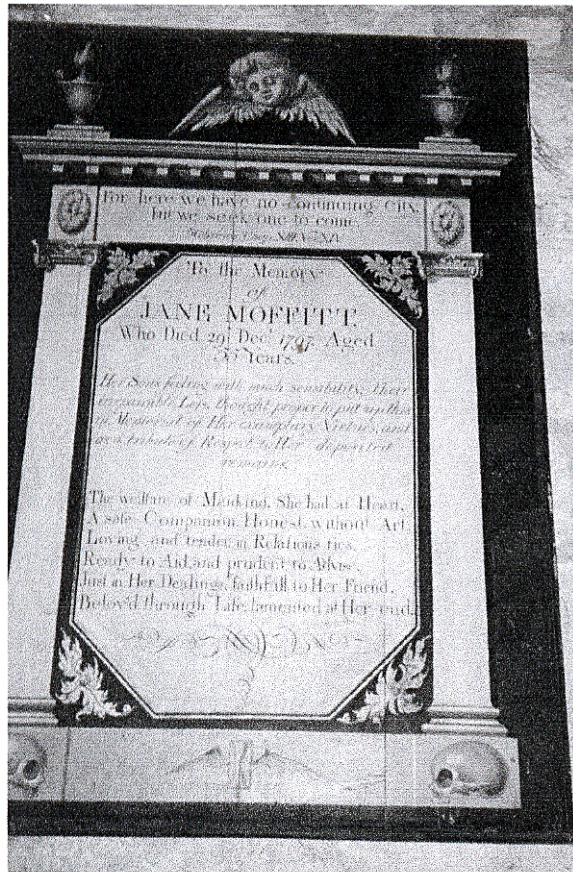
MOFFAT: At Freeland, Saginaw County on 6th April 1888, Alexander Moffat, second son of the late Charles Moffat, Oliver Crescent, Hawick, aged 41.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO IN EDINBURGH (Part 3) by Gordon R Nicoll

Was your ancestor a prominent member of Edinburgh Society a hundred years ago? If so there may be a photograph and a brief biography in "Contemporary Biographies – Edinburgh and the Lothians – at the opening of the Twentieth Century" by A Eddington (Pike's New Century Series No.12 Published by W T Pike, Edinburgh 1904). Copies can be found in the Scottish Genealogy Society Library and a number of other Edinburgh Libraries. The Moffat(t)s from the Index to Contemporary Biographies 1900 are:

MOFFAT, Rev W .D., MA., 16 Forth St, Edinburgh	p.150
MOFFATT, J.F., 13 Mayfield Terrace, Edinburgh	p.316

GLEANINGS



ST MARY THE VIRGIN LINDISFARNE (Holy Island)

When visiting Lindisfarne in June this year whilst on holiday we found this beautifully decorated plaque on the wall inside the Church, towards the back on the right hand side. The inscription read:

For here we have no continuing city
that we seek one to come.
Hebrews 13: v.14

To the memory of
JANE MOFFITT
Who died 29 December 1797
Aged 55 years.

Her sons feeling with much sensibility their irreparable Loss, thought proper to put up this in Memorial of her exemplary Virtues and as a tribute of Respect to Her deposited remains.

The welfare of Mankind, She had a Heart,
A safe Companion, Honest without art
Loving and tender in Relations ties
Ready to Aid and Prudent to Advise
Just in Her Dealings, faithful to her friends
Beloved through Life, lamented at Her end.

KIRKTON OF MENMUIR, ANGUS MEMORIAL INSCRIPTION

In memory of ALEXANDER MOFFAT
Who died at Tigerton on November 20th 1866
And who is here interred, caused this stone to be
erected to the memory of his parents
ALEXANDER MOFFAT
And MARGARET GORDON.
BETSY MOFFAT, his sister
is also interred in the churchyard.

MOFFAT WILLS AT THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON.

Website: PRO-online

PROB-11/2121 5 Oct 1850
Will of Wm Moffat, Proprietor of lands, formerly a
Commander in the Naval Service of the Hon. East
India Co. of Kensington, Middlesex.

PROB 11/2190 22 april 1854
Will of William Moffat of Weymouth and Mel-
combe Regis, Dorset

DOCUMENTS FOR SCOTLAND

Some documents including Sheriff Court and Com-
missary Court records are indexed and may be
bought online from Scottish Documents.com
The areas that they cover at present are Edinburgh,
Glasgow, Dumfries, Ayr, Duns, Lanark, Hamilton,
Jedburgh, Lauder and Kirkcudbright. Other areas
are being added from time to time.

PROB 11/2197 29 Sept 1854
Will of John William Moffatt, Martial Musical In-
strument Manufacturer, Musical String Manufac-
turer and General Importer of Musical Instruments
of No.145 Minories, City of London.

PROB 11/1973 23 January 1843
Will of William Moffat of Wimbledon, Surrey

DUMFRIES HIGH CEMETERY MEMORIAL INSCRIPTION

In loving memory of Mary MacDonald
beloved wife of JAMES MOFFAT
who died at 26 Brook Street,
August 7th 1836 Aged 50 years
JAMES M MOFFAT beloved husband
of Mary Corson

PROB 11/889 13 June 1763
Will of William Moffatt, Mariner, belonging to His
Majesty's Ship "Northumberland" at Plymouth.

DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY STANDARD &
ADVERTISER—11 November 1876
MARRIAGE on 7th instant at Barfil, Urr, Mr
Robert Moffat, draper, Chesterfield to Isabella
Corson, eldest daughter of the late Jas. Corson



OBITUARY

Alexander Irvine Moffat
(22.12.1914 – 30.8.2003)

Alexander Moffat, who has just died aged 88, was a leading figure in the world of large Retail Departmental Stores. He was the right hand man to Lord Fraser, in forming the House of Fraser, and successfully growing it from a local Glasgow firm into Britain's greatest retail chain, with Harrods as its centerpiece.

Born into a Scottish family in Liverpool in 1914, Moffat learnt his trade in the furniture stores in the pre-war city centre, with spells at Waring & Gillows and Jays

& Campbells in Liverpool, where he won awards and bonuses for salesmanship. His breakthrough into management came with his appointment in 1950 as Merchandise Manager at R. H. O. Hills in Blackpool. Whilst there, he noticed that a certain Hugh Fraser was building an empire of stores in Scotland. Having already met Mr. Fraser at a Conference in London, Moffat offered his services. These were accepted, and Moffat moved in 1955 to Aberdeen to manage its premier Department Store, Falconers in Union Street.

Here Moffat introduced innovations into the sleepy world of Retail Store Management. The strategy of buying in special stock for Sales, and a policy of Central Buying were started by him. He was one of the first to introduce escalators into stores, so that Customers could move more easily from floor to floor. He caused a sensation in Aberdeen by disturbing the sanctity of the Sabbath, by displaying goods in the shop windows for public viewing on Sundays. By the time he left Aberdeen some two years later, Falconers, Reid & Pearson, Watt & Grant and Isaac Benzie had been integrated into the House of Fraser methods.

Continued promotions saw him managing in turn Patrick Thompsons in Edinburgh, and Wylie & Lochhead in Glasgow. Both were modernized into the Fraser mould. At this time, Mr. Fraser (by now Sir Hugh Fraser) had made a bridgehead in London and in 1960 appointed Moffat as Managing Director of the John Barker Group, whose flagship stores were John Barkers, Derry & Toms and Pontings in Kensington High Street. These received the Moffat treatment with a major shake-up and a Fraser make-over. Sir Hugh Fraser (by now Lord Fraser) continued on his empire building path, he asked Moffat to consolidate the new acquisitions. As he relinquished John Barkers, Moffat was appointed Chairman of the Army & Navy, Director of Harrods and eventually Property Director of the House of Fraser.

As retirement beckoned, Moffat sought new challenges. He had always been renowned for the utmost integrity in his financial dealings. This probity, allied to his experienced business acumen, were well known to the Corporation of the Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, who recommended his appointment as Magistrate and Income Tax Commissioner. He served in all for 17 years on the bench, adjudicating appeals by taxpayers in dispute with the Inland Revenue. Such was his fairness, that he was held in high esteem by the Inland Revenue, even when he found in favour of the taxpayer. On retirement, he received the thanks of the Lord Chancellor himself.

Moffat bore his final illness with strength and fortitude. As he reached his late eighties, he knew that his physical powers were fading. His sharp mind was well aware that his frail body was giving out. He himself felt that it was time to depart. He is survived by his wife Doris (née Bradley), whom he had married in 1940, and who was his inseparable companion for 63 years. Without her support, his career would not have been possible. Moffat was never truly robust in health, and Doris's tender care was indispensable. He is also survived by three sons, two daughters-in-law, and five grand-daughters.

© Colin I. Moffat, 9.9.2003, Kingston-on-Thames.

WILLIAM MOFFAT OF HARTFELL

By Jean Moffat of that Ilk

There was an articles in the Newsletter of October 2001 about the Covenanters and Claverhouse and "the Killing Times". I shall not go into details about this period but I thought people might like to know about a famous Moffat Covenanter who spent most of his time escaping from "bloody Clavers" and his dragoons.

William Moffat was an eccentric but piously inclined man who zealously fought for the extension of the Covenanters' principles. He lived in the mountainous and inhospitable regions of Hartfell, near Moffat and had long been held in repute, irreproachable in moral character and was considered an invaluable service to the Presbyterian army. He started Conventicles and very soon drew a large crowd of worshippers.

For many months, a part of Hartfell became the sheltered habitation of the Covenanters of Moffatdale. They suffered great privation and misery and were terrified to leave their hiding places lest Claverhouse found them. They only came out at night, searching for food, which they received from the friendly tenants of Bodesbeck. They used to repay these tenants by working for them whilst they slept.

One day William Moffat held a conventicle near where he was staying. Although engrossed in his preaching, William noticed that some lambs which had previously been peacefully grazing, were being driven closer to them but did not know the cause of this. He immediately warned his congregation of the danger. Apparently a party of dragoons had seen the covenanters and were coming towards them. They could neither fight as they had no weapons nor could they flee the dragoons who were on horseback. However a miracle happened in the form of a mist which suddenly came down being a common occurrence in this area, hiding William Moffat and his flock from the dragoons.

On another occasion William was pursued once again by the 'Redcoats', and fled for safety towards Evan Water where, being familiar with all the peat bogs and mosses where horses could only proceed slowly, he outstripped the soldiers and hid under a burn bank. (My father, as a young boy, used to play there, but it no longer exists today.) The soldiers had not seen him escape. Unfortunately the Laird of Raccleuch had spotted him going into the cave and, thinking the danger past, went to congratulate William. But the dragoons had spotted them talking and turned round to chase him once more. He again had to take to the mountains, towards a friend at Elvanfoot and hid in the heather, escaping for the third time.

Sadly after this, the people of Moffat turned against William and considered his services of no further use.

Many Moffats were staunch covenanters at this time, and in spite of their bravery and their hardness in hiding in the hills, many fled Scotland and settled in Ireland. Some of our American cousins today are related to those brave men and women.

References to Moffats from other Chapters of "The History of Dumfries" by William McDowall

1) "Adam the son of Henry, of Dumfries gave Kelso Abbey those lands that he acquired by his lawful emancipation in Dumfries -the lands which Robert the Locksmith, Roger the Shoemaker, Walter the butcher, Ralph the merchant, Alan the son of Emma, Adam Summerswain and Alan of Bodha held of him. Thomas the parson of Troqueer is mentioned in the time of Alan of Galloway, who died in 1235. Roger Grindegret of Dumfries granted Holm Cultram Abbey a toft in 'Dunfres' between the land of Nicholas the butcher and the land of Henry the Locksmith. Robert son of William de Moffat grants a toft and a croft in the 'villa' of Troqueer next the toft of Hugh the son of Norman, as freely as Walter de Burgh did to the same monastery..... Page DUM 9

2) In the year 1662 the fines levied for nonconformity in the county amounted to £164,200 Scots, John Laurie of Maxwellton suffering to the extent of £3600; from James Muirhead, merchant Dumfries, was exacted no less a sum than £1000; Robert Wallace, merchant there, had to pay £600. James Moffat, Merchant there, £300.....Page 430

3) Other capital convictions follow, providing work not simply for the dempster, but for the executioner: ".....and Thomas Moffat in Hightae, who had borrowed without leave four hundred merks from the coffers of Bailie Wilsonne, Lochmaben are all found guilty....."

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ENTRIES FROM THE JOURNAL KEPT BY F.A.D. MOFFATT

2nd MASTER HMS "LIVELY"

Part 2

In the last edition of the Newsletter the entries from the Journal that we reproduced were dated from Sunday December 28th 1823 until Thursday May 13th 1824. The Journal continues.....

Monday May 31st 1824

Arrived at Brest after a most tedious passage, having been greatly retarded by the bad sailing of the Portuguese Frigate which could not, carrying a heavy press of sail, keep away with the 'Lively' under her top-sails.

Tuesday June 1st 1824

Made up a party to go on shore among the Midshipmen, all much pleased with the excursion. The town is remarkably clean. Streets regular and people particularly civil—but civility is the characteristic of a Frenchman, whilst John Bull, altho' not so liberal in his profession, has more sincerity in his heart.

Nothing can be more secure or commodious than the harbour of Brest—it very much resembles a canal, and the men-of war, of which there are several, lie alongside the piers. They have no shear hulk, their shears being fixed on a jetty at the entrance. A strong boom is laid across the mouth of the harbour at sunset and it is also defended by strong forts at the entrance. Having seen the Bills it was the intention of Don Miguel to visit the theatre, and having a curiosity to see the man who has excited such a ferment in Portugal, I went at 6 o'clock and found it thronged with Naval and Military officers. HRH Don Miguel has but little royalty in his countenance—is diminutive and does not appear to exceed 18 or 19 years of age.

Tuesday June 1st 1824

Fired a Royal Salute and manned yards on the Prince Don Miguel disembarking from the Perola for Paris.

Friday June 11th 1824

Sailed from Brest in company with the Perola Portuguese Frigate on our return to Lisbon. Fine steady breeze—crowded all sail and soon lost sight of Signior Portuguese.

Thursday June 19th 1824

His Most Faithful Majesty disembarked from the Windsor Castle on the 11th of May two days after our departure with the Prince for Brest. On leaving the ship His Majesty was complimented with a salute which was returned by all the ships in the harbour—the yards were manned and the crews cheered Captain Dashwood of the Windsor Castle accompanied the King with all his Officers and the

band followed in another boat playing the Portuguese National Airs. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed among the inhabitants of all classes.

The air resounded with acclamations and nothing was heard but cries of "Our King", "Our Father". In the evening the city was splendidly illuminated.

Letter of the Infant Don Miguel:-

"To love and to serve your Majesty has been ever since I had knowledge of myself the principle obligation of my life and the only object of my ambition. If on former occasions I have been enabled to give undoubted proof of my fidelity, the Paternal heart of your Majesty will now accept them as a sufficient excuse for the involuntary Errors I have been led to commit by that want of experience and reflection natural to youth. Fearing that my presence in Portugal may afford pretexts to ill-designing persons to renew the inquietudes and intrigues wholly foreign to the pure sentiments which I can with truth declare to be mine I request your Majesty will deign to permit me to travel for some time in Europe. I request further that your Majesty will receive my assurances that I will unceasingly address the most fervent prayers to Heaven that your reign may be tranquil and prosperous, being ready to shed my Blood in attestation of my fidelity."

The King's Reply:

"Infant Don Miguel, my well beloved son, I, the King address you as one whom I dearly regard and cherish, in reply to the letter you have written to me this day. I have only one thing to tell you which is, that there is no feeling in my Heart towards you which has not its source in my paternal attachment—under the influence I forget your involuntary errors and remember only the Services you have done the Nation. I grant you the permission you ask to travel for some time in Europe, well persuaded that your conduct will be such as to merit my approbation.

Given on board the Windsor Castle in the Tagus this 12th of May

The King.

The Queen is understood to have remained at Queluz, one of the royal Palaces about two leagues from Lisbon on the 15th and to have pleaded illness as an excuse for her delay in obeying the King's order for her retirement to a greater distance from the Capital.

ENTRIES FROM THE JOURNAL KEPT BY F.A.D. MOFFATT
2nd MASTER HMS "LIVELY"
Part 2 (continued)

Tuesday July 6th 1824

All hands during the last week have been employed making preparations for the reception of His Majesty the King of Portugal who has signified his intention of honouring the Ship with his presence.

The Quarter Deck is covered in with awnings, which formed a dome decorated with flags, from the centre of which was suspended a superb chandelier - a large star composed of lamps and placed against the mizzenmast. The Quarter Deck was lit principally by rows of small lanthorns placed close to each other—from the capstan rose a pyramid composed of 100 lamps intermixed with evergreens surmounted by the Portuguese Crown composed of variegated lamps. A canopy covered with crimson velvet erected upon a raised platform and richly adorned with hangings of crimson and gold was placed against the taff rail - for the King and Princesses who sat there and looked at the dancing. The orchestra was erected around the mainmast and covered with laurel - the after part of it which faced the Quarter Deck was tastefully ornamented with a Trophy composed of the Standards of the respective nations represented by the foreign ambassadors who were present at the entertainment. In the centre of the Trophy was placed a handsome portrait of King Don Juan surmounted by the Portuguese Arms supported by the flags of England and Portugal. Small pieces of Cannon, Cutlasses, Halberds, Tomahawks, Muskets with fixed bayonets and a small pile of shot completed the Trophy which was guarded on one side by one of the tallest Marines on the ship and on the other by a sailor armed with a cutlass.

The space between the foremast and the mainmast was covered in the same way as the Quarter Deck. The spars had all been got out, the place decked over and covered with canvas, it then formed an extensive promenade, on each side of which ottomans were placed for the accommodation of the company.

Against the after part of the foremast was a large crown and the letters G.R. formed with variegated lamps. Several handsome chandeliers were suspended from the canopy. On the starboard side a small place was constructed for the purpose of entertaining containing lemonade, liqueurs, etc., and a female (the wife of a petty officer belonging to the ship) attended as bar maid. The company was supplied in profusion with ices, fruits, etc

Quadrilles and Waltzes were kept up with great spirit until two o'clock when the company adjourned to the supper table which was laid out

on the main deck and extended from the Captain's cabin to the fore bitts (bollards) and being screened in with flags a very handsome supper room was constructed ... feet in length at the head of which in the Captain's cabin a table was laid for the King and the Princesses who could command a full view of the supper table and at the same time remain perfectly detached from the company.

The supper was laid out with much elegance and supplied with every delicacy in profusion. At the foot of the table were the Arms of England.

The main deck ports were illuminated with lamps and the deck with lanthorns placed between each gun. His Majesty and the Princesses seemed much gratified and behaved towards the officers with the greatest condescension. At 3 am His Majesty left the ship -on his taking his departure I had the honour of kissing his hand and also those of the three Princesses. A Royal Salute was fired. Rockets and Star Lights discharged in abundance which together with the yards being manned and the men cheering produced a very striking effect, the whole being aided by a still, calm state of the weather.

Wednesday July 14th 1824

This is the twenty-first anniversary of my Birthday - how many changes have taken place in my situation in the interval between this day and July 14th 1823. I have now no home, no mother to welcome on my return from the sea - my paternal dwelling is inhabited by strangers, - my brother is exposed to all the vicissitudes of a seafaring life and the accumulated dangers of an unhealthy climate, whilst my sisters, deprived of a mother's care are necessitated to seek that protection (from strangers) which inexorable death has debarred their receiving in the arms of their parents. The last three anniversaries of my birth were spent, it is true, amidst dangers and hardships separated from England and all my friends by an immeasurable ocean, but I then had the happy prospect of a mother, brother and sisters hailing my return with transport - now I am little more than a wanderer on the Earth, and should it ever be my lot to revisit my native place it will afford a dreary void, uncheered by the presence of relations or friends, and the only spot, the only resting place I can claim, will be the tomb in which are deposited the remains of my parents.

To be continued

THE LOCHMABEN STONE

Extract taken from "History of the Burgh of Dumfries" by William McDowall published in 1867

Reprinted by T C Farries & Co Ltd in association with the Royal Burgh of Dumfries

Octocentenary Committee of Nithsdale District Council in 1986

With a supplementary chapter by Alfred Truckell

The Lochmaben Stone stands on the farm of Old Gretna, in the parish of Gretna. It measures eight feet in height and twenty-one in circumference. It was formerly neigoured by a number of smaller stones, enclosing, in oval form, half an acre of ground – the remains probably of a Druidical temple. The 'Stane', which still remains, is specifically referred to in many old characters and other deeds, and doubtless derived its name from the circumstance that it was situated within the barony of Lochmaben. The following are extracts from Pitcairn's Criminal Trials, vol 1: part 1: page 398 -

"12May, 1557 Roger Kirkpatrick of Closeburn, William Kirkpatrick of Kirkmichael and Thomas Kirkpatrick of Frierkerse, got remission from the Queen for abiding from the army ordained to convene at Lochmaben Stane on February 16 last, to meet the Warden before subrise, to push forwardt with him to the day of trew, for meeting of the Wardone of England."

"May 13 –Alexander Stewart of Garleise, John Dunvar of Mochrame, John Gordoune of Barskeoche, John McCulloch of Torhouse, John Jardine of Apilgerth, Robert Moffet (senior and junior) of Grantoune, Thomas Moffet of Knock, Robert Johnnestoune of Coittis, and John Creychtounne, tutour of Sanchare, found caution to underly the law at the next aire of Dumfries, for abiding from the Queen's army ordained to convene at Lochmaben Stane."

The character of Solway as a Border meeting point is seen to be maintained in the fourteenth century by the record of prisoners being ransomed, and of a kind of market being held there...There are unfortunately no documents on the administration of March law on the western border until 1398, when the first of a long series of allusions is made to the Clochmabenstane, afterwards oftener styled Lochmabenstane, as this specific forum of the west March. From 1398 onward the Lochmabenstane plays a large part in Border litigation and negotiation. The Warden courts were held there, and generally, it may be said, that exactly the functions of that sort assigned to the Sulwath in the end of the thirteenth century have at the end of the fourteenth century come to belong to the Lochmabenstane.....

It is close to the junction of the Sark and Kirtle with the Esk. Geographically, functionally, and historically, it answers at the end of the fourteenth century closely to the characteristics of the 'place called Sulwath, at the marches of the realm, a hundred years before. Hence the belief that this is no chance coincidence, but that in very truth the Lochmabenstane marks the Scottish terminus of the great historic ford.

This conclusion, if well founded, must add a new interest to that old grey stone. Dropped from some iceberg in an earlier geological period, it lay, when the land emerged from the sea, an unheeded block until the barbaric piety of some ancient race installed it as the presiding stone of an oval group –the chief stone of the cluster, as its original Celtic name of Lochmaben possibly means. Or it may mark the grave, or be otherwise associated with Maponus, a heathen deity equalled with Apollo, worshiped in Cumberland and Northumberland during the Roman occupation; or with the memory of Mabon, that vague Arthurian heroic adumbration. Whatever its original connotation, we can see that in after centuries the solemnity inherited from a forgotten purpose clung to it like the mossy verdure around its base, and it became a fit adjunct of the courts of Border justice and the transaction of grave international business. And if the while, besides all this, it pointed out the treat track across the Solway, one must perceive in it a landmark of extraordinary interest, past which, in alternate flux and reflux, like the sea beside it, there swept for centuries successive invasions in 1206 it saw advance the first battallion in the war of Independence. In 1449 it gave its name to the battle Sark, called by contemporaries 'the battell of Lochmaben Stane'. (See "Annals of Solway")



Photo of Mr Alfred J Coulthard standing beside Lochmaben Stone included in his book – "A Coulthard" A History of the Surname

For further reference to Moffats recorded in other chapters in the book "The History of the Burgh of Dumfries" please see page 10

DUNNOTTAR CASTLE

by Hazel Crammond

There was an article in the Newsletter in October 2001, (Volume 1, issue 3, page 5) on Dunnottar Churchyard. This year whilst on holiday and travelling towards Stonehaven we saw a signpost to Dunnottar Castle so we turned into the road leading to it to see more for ourselves.

It was a beautiful day and the mist was just clearing when we arrived. There on an outcrop of rocks perched the castle, with the sea behind it and seagulls wheeling around it.



Having read the guidebook we could understand how secure Sir William Keith, Marichal of Scotland, and one of the King's principal officers, must have felt when he decided to build a castle on that spot in the 14th century. Having walked some way and descended many steps we arrived at the entrance and saw where the portcullis would have been.

The oldest parts: the tower and chapel, date from about 1392 and the gatehouse dates from 1575.

Montrose besieged the castle in 1645, and in July 1650 the young King Charles II arrived in northeast Scotland staying at Dunnottar. The King's arrival in Scotland enraged Oliver Cromwell and he invaded Scotland. Hastily Charles was crowned at Scone but the crown, sword and sceptre could not be returned to Edinburgh Castle. The King ordered George Ogilvy of Barras, Governor of Dunnottar, to transport the 'Honours of Scotland' to Dunnottar. Mrs Drummond, wife of the Minister of Moneydie, took on the task disguised as a peasant woman and rode from Scone with the treasures. The King's private papers were smuggled through enemy lines by Anne Lindsay, a relative of Ogilvy's wife. They were kept at the Castle when a small garrison held out against the might of Cromwell's army for eight months. (One of the soldiers of the garrison was named Jon Moffat).

The 'Honours' were smuggled out secretly in 1652 by Mrs Grainger, wife of the Minister of the Church at Kinneff and then hidden at Kinneff Church where they remained in the custody of Rev

Grainger until the restoration of the monarchy in 1660. The book "The Scots Regalia" contains more details.



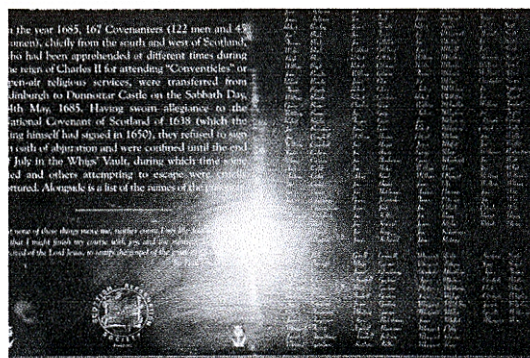
Kinneff Church

In May 1685, 122 men and 45 women prisoners were moved to Dunnottar Castle from Edinburgh, although they probably came from many areas of the country. They had refused to acknowledge the new Prayer Book in particular, and the King's supremacy in spiritual matters. They were kept in a gloomy cellar now known as the "Whig's Vault" and remained there from 24th May 1685 until the end of July. According to the extract from "The Sufferings of the Kirk of Scotland", *"there was only one small window in the room towards the sea and it was ankle deep in mire. They could not sit without leaning on one another and had no access to ease nature, and very little food and water."*

37 finally agreed to take the oath of allegiance and were released, 25 escaped, of which 15 were recaptured and two fell to their deaths from the rock in the attempt. A memorial stone to these two and further five who died, is in Dunnottar Kirkyard. The rest were deported to the West Indies, but it is said that about 70 of the remainder died of fever on the journey or soon afterwards.

On the wall in the Museum Room there is a list of all the imprisoned covenantors, and amongst these were the names of -

James Moffat & Jeane Moffat



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

In answer to the letter in the April 2003 edition of the Newsletter by member Mr Geoffrey Woods, Marion Doidge from Saskatchewan has made some enquiries and this is her reply.

"Perhaps Mr Geoffrey Woods and other readers of the Newsletter will be interested in the following letter that I received from the RCMP Historical Office. The letter is dated June 6, 2003."

"Dear Mrs Doidge,

I am replying to your request for information on George Buchanan Moffat, a member of the North West Mounted Police.

After a search of our indexes, I have discovered that George Buchanan Moffat (regiment number 050) served as Inspector in the NWMP. He initially engaged June 18, 1878, and re-engaged as Inspector September 1883 after he left the force in 1881. He served at Fort Walsh, Prince Albert and Maple Creek (all in what is now Saskatchewan). He was serving at Prince Albert during the 1885 rebellion. He was promoted to Superintendent on 1 November 1890. Unfortunately, the only information I have on his birth is the year 1854. He retired to pension on 28 February 1903, and died 4 July 1950 at the age of 95."

The letter goes on to say that GBM's service file can be checked at the National Archives in Ottawa.

Just before shutting down the computer that night, I entered "George Moffat", NWMP in the search box (Google), and came up with an entry for the Jukes family, Dr. Jukes having been the senior surgeon for the NWMP at one time.

From that I found that George Moffat (1854-1950) married Katherine Jane Jukes (1864-1941) in 1884. In a further entry Moffat is spelled with two "t's", but it is the same George. Apparently he was born in Ontario. He joined the NWMP in 1878, became an Inspector in 1883, and Superintendent in 1890. He retired to pension in 1902 for reasons of poor health.

It seems that some of GBM's documents are in the Glenbow Museum in Calgary. From the list of documents that are in the Glenbow Museum, it looks as if George might have had a son Kenneth G. born 1887. It is hard to tell for sure from the information given, but that is a good guess I would say.

Marion Doidge

Marion's Note

125 years ago today GBM enlisted. Would anyone have guessed that two people miles apart would be sharing this fact via virtually instant communication?

INFORMATION ON ROYAL NAVY SHIPS
Mr Robin Callander has written with information about the ships on which F.A.D. Moffatt served (See Newsletter Vol.1 Issue 6 page 14)

LIVELY - A 5th rate or frigate of 1080 tons builders measurement. Length 150ft beam 40.5ft. 38 guns: 28-18pdrs. 2-12pdrs & 8-9pdrs. Built at Chatham Naval Dockyard 1813. Reduced to harbour service in 1831. Sold on 28.4.1862.

BRITOMART - Brig/sloop of 237 tons builders measurement. Length 90ft beam 25ft. 10 guns: 8-18pdrs, 2-6pdrs. Built at Portsmouth Naval Dockyard 1820. One of the Cherokee class of 115 ships built between 1807 & 1830. Sold at Singapore 1849.

SAILORS & THEIR BURIAL DATES

From the Registers of St Thomas' Parish Church
Stockton-on-Tees, Co. Durham
George MOFFAT, mariner, 52 years died
22/09/1809

SETTLE, NORTH YORKSHIRE

John MOFFAT died 19/6/1841 aged 64
Also Mary his widow died 16/4/1846 aged 61
She was the daughter of Joseph Hall
who was a surgeon in Settle.

INFORMATION REQUESTED

Member No. 185 Tom Moffatt, a Vicar in Berkshire, is soon to take a sabbatical. For a number of reasons he will be visiting South Africa and would like to do some study on Robert Moffat, Missionary. If any members have any information that you think may be of help to him please contact Hazel Crammond who will pass the information on to him.

Many thanks

BORDERS FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

The Border FHS has launched a new website and its address is www.bordersfhs.org.uk. On this they have a Gravestone Index Search which will tell you which parishes they have transcribed that contain a particular surname. When having a look at the site the other evening I found the surname MOFFAT included in the following parishes.

Ayton, Channellkirk & Legerwood, Crailing & Nesbit, Eccles with Birgham & Leitholm, Eckford, Ednam, Fogo, Foulden & Mordington, Gordon/Nenthorn/Westruther, Greenlaw, Hounam & Linton, Kelso, Makerstoun, Maxton, Mertoun, Morebattle, Polwath, Roxburgh, Smailholm, Sprouston & Lempitlaw, St Boswells (Lessudden), Stichill & Hume, Yetholm.

Booklets on many of these parishes may be purchased from: : Borders FHS, Old Gala House, Scott Crescent, Galashiels, TD1 3JS, Scotland.

FREDERICA J. B. MOFFATT (FREDDIE BONES)

By Graham Purves



"Freddie" Moffatt

Frederica Moffatt was born on 27 March 1853 at 7 Chapel Row, Torpoint. She was vaccinated by Dr Chubb in April 1854. She was educated at home by her mother and possibly, her elder sister Annie. She showed some skill in art, particularly engraving and in about 1871 joined Annie at the South Kensington School of Art where she appears to have been a conscientious student. She completed her training in 1877/1878 and took pupils in engraving. Until 1880 she lived in London, taking her summer and Christmas holidays with her family in Downerry. After the death of her father, George Gill Moffatt, in April 1880 she moved back to Downerry and lived there with Annie and, some of the time, with Carrie. In the spring of 1882 she took a job in Dresden but it was poorly paid and by August 1882 she was back in Downerry.

Freddie was probably the prettiest of the four sisters; she wore her hair long, literally to the top of her boots, until she cut it short when she went adventuring in America and eventually to the Klondyke. She was certainly more independent and adventurous, and probably more unconventional, than her sisters. She was also strong-minded and quite often had blazing rows with them, especially Carrie. F.A.G. Tyrell wrote: "At some time family rumour said she was secretly married to an admiral, which was no doubt that

generation's way of saying she was his mistress. It was when Emma was at Southsea (September 1887 to September 1889) and Freddie gave her address as 'Gosport', "that haunt of admirals." Tyrell continued that Freddie "later gets a job as a governess to a family in California.... She was an intrepid traveller and at one time, setting out to walk to the next town—Denver—and finding it further than she thought, wrapped herself in her shawl and slept in a ditch, unperturbed by a group of cowboys who rode up the next morning to see who this solitary, walker on the prairie might be, circled round her and rode off again." In about 1897 or 1898 "with another good-looking young woman she went to the Klondyke. There they staked out a claim with the help of a man, built or took over a hut; but at night the man would peep through the window at them, and soon they became so frightened they just picked up their few belongings and left, leaving him the claim. (However, enquiries in the Yukon have found no claims registered in Freddie's name.)

It was after this that she went to South Africa. In 1899, when the Boer War had broken out, she had been on her way to Johannesburg, thinking of taking up residence there, when she decided to go to Kimberley instead. The idea of a besieged town was too great a temptation to her adventurous spirit. She got to Kimberley "on the last train, so that she could write it up", much to the disapproval of her younger sister, Emma, who considered she made one more unnecessary mouth to feed. While there she wrote a narrative letter to her youngest sister, Carrie, describing the siege, but she did not post it until after the siege was raised on 17 March 1900.

Tyrell concluded: "I only remember seeing Auntie Freddie (great aunt) once, during the First World War: a tall, lean but graceful figure, with a full, wide, grey skirt. She brought us a basket of oranges—treasure in those austere days. She went into an old people's hostel and used her small capital to buy an annuity to cover her keep—and died very soon after. I suppose by then her admiral was dead too.

EXTRACT FROM THE GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE & HISTORICAL CHRONICLE

January to June 1821 pages 184-185

MOFFAT, alias McCoul

Lately. James McCoul alias Moffat also Martin, alias Wilson, alias Moffet. He was a native of Berwickshire, and was bred to the business of a tanner, which he for some time exercised in Scotland. He afterwards came to London, where he connected him self with the most notorious sharpers and subsequently became himself an adept and a leader. He was, like the famous Brodie, celebrated as a cock fighter: and in pugilism, was what would now, in the elegant language of that science, be styled a demi-professional demi-amateur of the *fancy*. The connections of his gang of whom the notorius Huffey White was a prominent member, were, it is said so extensive, that he might with some propriety be called the robber of the world its ramification extended over great parts of the Continent of Europe, himself at times residing in different towns in Holland. He was in Hamburgh when that city fell into the hands of the French where he was of considerable service to the British troops, which subsequently saved him from an ignominious death. About fifteen years ago, as a mask for his real intentions, he commenced a Morocco tanning and dyeing concern in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh, more as it thought with the intent of cloaking his character, and assuming a "visible means of subsistence", than for the purpose of fair gain. About that time he was taken into custody, charged with robbing a gentleman in the Theatre, but he got off from want of evidence. His history from this period is less perfect in his own country than in the records of Bow-street, down to the robbery of the Paisley Bank's branch at Glasgow Soon after that transaction he was taken into custody, and after remaining long in Glasgow gaol, obtained his liberation, by restoring, through the medium of a friend in London, about ten thousand pounds

of the money of which the Bank was robbed; having, as it was well known, still a large sum of the money then lost to the Bank. He made repeated visits to Aberdeen and Dundee, in order to convert the notes into bills on London, in which he succeeded.

At last, with a large sum of money still on his person, he arrived at Leith, and succeeded in converting it also, being, as was proved, the identical notes of which the Bank was robbed, into bills on London, when he was again apprehended, and sent up to the Police-office, Edinburgh; when, after another imprisonment and much discussion, these bills were, by desire of a very active Magistrate of Edinburgh, lodged in the bank of Sir W. Forbes and Co.

In order to recover this money, Moffat, had the audacity to raise various actions in the Court of Session, and unsuccessfully litigated for a period of eight years, during which time he was for the most part to be found about the Courts of Law, or at certain tap-rooms, denouncing City Magistrates, Judges, and Juries. At the final determination of this cause against him in the Jury Court, in May last, the witnesses, it will be recollected, so completely established his being a principal in the robbery, that he was taken into custody, tried before the Court of Justiciary in the month of June, convicted, and sentenced to be executed, which sentence was afterwards commuted to transportation, but his health, from the time of his trial, being in a declining state, and being advanced in years, he was permitted to remain in gaol, where this veteran in villainy, contrary to the expectation of all who ever heard of him, died a natural death, instead of ending his days in a foreign land, or expiating his crimes on a gibbet.

Contributed by Ron Moffat

BORDER TART

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1 x 7 inch pre-baked pastry base | Beat the sugar and butter together |
| 2 oz/50g caster sugar | and then mix in the ground almonds, |
| 2 oz/50g ground almonds | egg and currants. Put the mixture |
| 2 oz/50g butter | into the pastry base, smooth out and |
| 2 oz/50g currants | bake in an oven at Mark 4 or |
| 1 egg | 180C/350F for about twenty minutes, |
| 1tbsp lemon juice | until the filling is well risen and firm. |
| 1 tbsp icing sugar, sieved | Mix the icing sugar with the lemon |
| | juice and brush it gently over the tart |
| | while still hot. |
| | Serve with cream |

Why not pass this form on to a Moffat relative to join the Association?

CLAN MOFFAT UK & EIRE

We are inviting you to join Clan Moffat UK & Eire. The group was formed in June 2000. Our aims are to achieve recognition of the role played by Moffats in the history and culture of Scotland and encourage research into those families bearing the Moffat surname, however it is spelt, through the mutual exchange of information and to give assistance where possible.

The group is open to anyone with Moffat ancestors: not only those bearing the name.

We plan to produce a newsletter twice a year – probably in October and April – which will be circulated to all 'paid-up' members. In this we will keep you informed of events that may be of interest to you so that you may plan them into your diaries for the following six months and perhaps have articles about family histories, places or churches of interest to our members.

Clan Moffat UK & Eire is a non-profit making association and any surplus funds will be used to expand membership, purchase books or records of importance to the family historian and maintain a presence at relevant events.

To join, please complete the Membership/Subscription form and send it together with your subscription fee and a copy of your family details as soon as possible, to our Membership Secretary, Erica Seggie, The Clachan Cottage, Newtonairds, Dumfries, DG2 0JL

Family details – It is very useful to us to cover ALL members of the family in each generation. Ideally we would like dates of birth, baptism, marriage (plus the name of spouse), death, occupations and where the events took place. However very few of us can provide all these facts so please don't delay, send in whatever you do know now!

We look forward to hearing from you.

2003

No.

CLAN MOFFAT UK & EIRE

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name.....Occupation.....

Address.....

.....Postal Code.....

Tel.No..... fax..... e-mail.....

Subscription: UK & Eire – Membership £8.00 per person annually.
- Life Membership (aged over 50 years) £150

Overseas Membership - £12.00 (sterling) per person annually.
- Life Membership (aged over 50 years) £225 sterling

(Cheques in sterling please, should be made payable to 'Clan Moffat UK & Eire')

Signed.....

Date.....

Please return completed form & cheque to :

Erica Seggie, The Clachan Cottage, Newtonairds, Dumfries, DG2 0JL

DATA PROTECTION ACT

We wish to draw the attention of members to their rights under the Data Protection Act in view of the fact that the Society maintains a computerised mailing list for the distribution of correspondence etc. We would also like to assure members that this is the sole purpose of maintaining such a mailing list and that your name and address will not be given to any commercial organisation for any other purpose. Clan Moffat UK & Eire will assume that individual members have no objection to their name and address being used unless otherwise informed. If any member has any objection please inform the Secretary who will arrange for their name and address to be handled manually and not kept on computer file.

Newsletter October 2003.