



“Wha daur meddle wi’ me?”

Dear Kinsmen,

The New Year seems to have come round again with alarming speed and I hope you all had an excellent Christmas and New Year. I think all our thoughts were with our Australian cousins who were living through unprecedented floods. Redheugh, was having a very cold December and our small snowplough was a godsend, keeping us attached to the wider world.

I am looking forward in July to my trip to Halifax, Nova Scotia organised by Barry Buckman, the chapter chairman He has promised me some whale watching! Of course, Elliots will be top priority but the whales are a close second.

Tullie House Museum in Carlisle have redesigned their Border Reiver exhibit and I am going to be at their opening on the 1st April. This local museum is excellent and I can thoroughly recommend that visitors coming to Redheugh should put it on their route. Although Liddesdale is a remote and isolated valley in the Scottish Borders, there is a great deal to see round about. Hadrians Wall is a World Heritage Site and must be seen and walked along. Castles, abbeys, endless cycling opportunities and, on a good day, outstanding scenery.

Newcastleton did extremely well in entering Scotland in Bloom 2010 and was awarded Gold, as well as Best Village in Scotland and nominated to enter the Britain in Bloom 2011 representing Scotland. The Business Forum is also busy updating the VisitNewcastleton.com website for you to have a look at.

Bad news for our UK members who have enjoyed the same membership fees now for ten years. They will be going up this autumn from £12 to £15 per annum. Despite this, I hope our loyal members will stick with us.

This issue includes a snippet from the Memoirs of Lieutenant Elliot – an extraordinary record of Cook’s Second Voyage, a sonnet by a dearly beloved young man and an unusual account of hunting in South Carolina. Also, a rough definition of the clan as it existed in the 15th Century.

I hope you enjoy it.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Elliott of Redheugh

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

ELLIOT CLAN SOCIETY

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

Chief: Margaret Elliott of Redheugh

Newsletter No. 66 – Spring 2011

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

Notices and News Items

Library: *‘Strongholds of The Border Reivers – Fortifications of the Anglo-Scottish Border 1296-1603’* by Keith Durham. Illustrated by Graham Turner pub. Osprey Publishing ISBN 978-1-84603-197-7.

In the year 1296, Edward I of England launched a series of vicious raids across the anglo-Scottish Border in his attempt to annexe Scotland. The Scots retaliated and the two countries were plunged into 300 years of intermittent warfare in which the borderland became the front line and raiding, or ‘reiving’, encouraged by both sides, became a way of life. This book examines the Border fortresses, ranging from small, well-defended castles to imposing tower houses or ‘peles’, and a variety of rugged, fortified farmhouses known as ‘bastles’. It also investigates the many churches that were strengthened against attack and in times of trouble served as sanctuaries for their congregations.

Ontario West Elliot Cookbook:

The Chief was extremely pleased to receive a copy of a collection of favourite recipes gathered from members since 2002. This was part of the Chapter’s 20th Anniversary.

*“Some had meat and canna eat,
And some wad eat that want it,
But we hae meat and we can eat,
And sae the Lord be thankit.”*

Chris Elliott is carrying out research for a book entitled ‘75 Years of the Night Ferry,’ the famous overnight sleeper train from London to Paris and Brussels. It was Wagons Lits sleeping cars carried across the Channel on specially built boat ferries. The passengers did not have to leave their berth apart from going to the Restaurant cars. The book is part of the project being mounted by the International Railway Preservation Society based on the Nene Valley Railway. If any Members of The Clan Society travelled on or by chance have photographs, reminiscences or brochures from this train Chris would be more than delighted to hear from them.

Email: christopher.elliott@club-internet.fr
Tel: (France) 00 33 467 36 66 18.

More news items overleaf.

Gannets are on the Menu

A restaurant in Aberdeen may be the subject of a test case after becoming the first to serve gugas – young gannets. The hunting of the seabirds on the island of Sula Sgheir, 24 miles north of Lewis in the Outer Hebrides, takes place under licence each year but animal welfare groups say the practice is inhumane. The Scottish Government has asked police to investigate. However, Jimmy Elliot, the manager of the restaurant Musa, which is giving the dish away free, said: “Not everyone can get to Lewis to try it so we are delighted to be able to legally source some and offer it to our customers.”

For Sale:

A PORTRAIT OF GEORGE AUGUSTUS ELIOTT,
LORD HEATHFIELD AS A BOY

by Thomas Hudson. Size 33.5” x 44.3”

Price: \$60,000.00.

Contact: Anthony Brown
email t2000brown@usa.net.



An Elliot Dream Home

Wolfelee House: A converted five bedroom coach house with a two bedroom cottage in the grounds. The grounds are full of beautiful trees such as beech and monkey puzzle and there are formal gardens and extensive lawns but you will have to be prepared to put in the work, as the house needs updating.

Price £595,000 from Savills.

0131 247 3700 or [http:](http://residentialsearch.savills.co.uk/property-detail/254439)

[//residentialsearch.savills.co.uk/property-detail/254439](http://residentialsearch.savills.co.uk/property-detail/254439)

ED: This is the coach house and stable block belonging to the original Edwardian Wolfelee House which burned down in the 1980s. My father spent his childhood here and it was an Elliot house originally lived in by Sir Walter Elliot who featured in the last issue. My grandparents sold it in the 1940s to an hotelier.

Dorothy Marshall Medal for Walter Elliot

Our Honorary Member, Borders Historian, WALTER ELLIOT is the recipient of one of the most prestigious awards for Scottish archaeologists. He has been awarded a medal by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

It is the Dorothy Marshall Medal, named after the prominent amateur archaeologist, and is awarded every three years for outstanding contribution, in a voluntary capacity, to Scottish archaeology or related work.

Tony Elliott, 64

founded the Time Out Group, the London listings magazine in 1968. It was a shoestring operation which has grown into a worldwide brand, but last year he sold half his share to a private equity company, having spent up to £3 million of his own money in an effort to remain independent. He is very confident about the group's future and stays on as chairman. He married his second wife, Jane, in 1989 and they have three sons, including twins.

1st Boswell Book Festival

This will be held at Auchinleck 21/22 May 2011.

Tullie House Museum, Carlisle

The new Reivers Exhibition will be launched by Chief Margaret Elliott on 1st April 2011

Eleanor Thomas Elliot

1926-2006 – was an advocate for women's rights who successfully fought Columbia University's attempt to take over Barnard College in the early 1970s. She was a board member of the National Organization for Women's Legal Defense and Education Fund. During the Reagan administration, she served on the National Advisory Council on Women's Educational Programs. “She was a bridge for feminism into many traditional places,” said her friend, the feminist Gloria Steinem. Born in Manhattan on April 26, 1926. She graduated from Barnard in 1948 and became a writer and editor at Vogue magazine. Her husband of 48 years was John Elliott Jr., known as Jock, a former chairman of Ogilvy & Mather, the advertising firm. She died in 2006 from injuries sustained in a car accident.

Sonnet

By Alexander Elliot 1963-1985

You know that matches burn in different ways;
Some pause and flare, some linger on and die.
Your Breath will either kill or feed the flame,
We live the tricky choices you and I,
The Comic import of these trivial days;
What seems disjunctive's more and more the same,
And fails in its deception, or to raise
The questions that could make me say 'You lie!'
Or you to make a corresponding claim,
You horoscope the world, you search the sky
For signs with words that stagger and amaze.
But I'm immune from your reducing frame,
I watch the cigarette on which I drink
Grow bright, and static light in evening sink.

CAPTAIN COOK'S SECOND VOYAGE

A Memoir by Lieutenant John Elliott

Lieutenant John Elliott wrote his memoirs for the private amusement of his wife and children, covering his childhood and his career as a naval officer. His Memoirs are bound in two parts, both now belonging to the British Museum. Part I is considerably larger than Part II and includes three plans of the Battle of Waterloo, in which Elliott's second son, Henry, took part. It includes the Cook voyage and continues until his injury in the Battle of the Saints in 1782. This manuscript was presented to the British Museum in 1932 by Mrs. R.G. Ashmore, whose husband was a descendant of Henry Elliott.



Title: View of the ice islands as seen in Cook's second voyage on January 9th 1773.

Author: Engraved by B.T. Pouncy after a drawing by William Hodges.

John Elliott was born at Hemsley near York on 11th January 1759 which puts him at the age of 13 at the start of the voyage. He died in September 1834, remembered in his inscription in Ripon Minster as a Yorkshireman admired for his strict integrity and respectability; and distinguished by fate because he circumnavigated the globe with Captain Cook.

November 1772: Having made all the observations on the Cape (Cape Town) that I think necessary at present, I shall leave it with both Ships (the Adventure and the Resolution) on the 22nd November, steering due to South to look for land said to have been seen by a Frenchman. We found what we supposed he had seen, for we proceeded through immense quantities of loose ice, until in danger of fixing the Ship, at the same time observing field ice extending as far as we could see, and

high mountains with dark tops at a distance within. This might deceive any ordinary observer, but we had no soundings, therefore notwithstanding its appearance, we presumed it was only ice, but to ascertain the fact, as far as was in our power, we ran completely round it, enclosing a space of three hundred square miles, without being able to fix the point, until our return, three years after. Then we ran directly over the centre of the space without being able to see the least vestige of either ice or land, proving that it was an immense moving body of ice for we were certain of our crossing the spot, both by our time pieces and lunar observations. And this body of ice may keep moving about for ever, and be the loss of many ships in course of time.

January 1773: From hence we proceeded South Eastwards [they were the first ship ever to cross the ➤

► Antarctic Circle on January 17, 1773] until we got into a sea covered at times with Islands of Ice of all sizes and heights, from half a mile, to three miles long, and twice or three times as high as the ships' mastheads. And the frost and cold so intense as to cover the rigging with ice, like complete crystal ropes, from one end of her to the other, and even to stiffen our outer coats on our backs, yet Capt. Cook would not allow any fire in the galley, or anywhere else but at proper times in the day. At this point we were stopped by field ice and up to the North again to look for land but without success.

February 1773: Here in a thick fog we parted from our companion the Adventure and proceeded on to New Zealand alone, having been at sea and completely out of sight of land four months – a circumstance that could not have taken place had we not hit upon a method of supplying ourselves with Water, never before thought of. And that was by laying the ship under the lee of an Ice Island twice as high as our mastheads, and filling the boats with loose pieces of ice, bring it on board the ship, filling the decks, long boats, and so on. After it had lain to drain the salt particles off a short time, part was broke up and put into casks, to be melted at a future period, some was melted as soon as drained and put into casks, and was perfectly sweet and good. This was a very great acquisition and enabled us in future to water the ship at sea, and which we availed ourselves of during the remainder of the voyage, whenever a favorable opportunity afforded. By that means Capt. Cook was enabled to let everybody have as much water as they chose, a circumstance which I am persuaded conducted very much to the health of the Ship's company.

March 1773: We entered Duskey Bay, situated in the South West part of the Southern Island of New Zealand on 26th March 1773 having been at sea four months, and in climate and weather the most severe and trying to the constitution, yet owing to the care and attention paid by Capt. Cook in keeping the ship clean, airing and smoking her whenever the weather would admit of it, and having no indulgence of fire to run to, he preserved the health of his ships company in a most surprising degree, so that we had seldom any sick [Nonetheless, the following six weeks spent at Dusky Dound, before proceeding on to the agreed meeting place with the Adventure, seems to have been a lengthy convalescent period]. The Adventure under the same circumstances as to weather and so on, by not using the same care, was always sickly. (I introduced smoking the Ship, and plenty of fresh water afterwards, into every ship that I went, with the best effects). ■

A Definition of 'the Clan'

The conventional view is that a clan consisted of people sprung from a common ancestor who held a certain territory. While a clan always had a chief, kinship gave its members a feeling of equality – especially in connection with its land, which they held to be a communal resource.

Technically, the king stood at the top, above the various ranks of vassal, reaching down to the peasantry at the bottom. The top rank of vassal was the chief, but he represented the weakest link in the chain of fealty to the king. Many chiefs did not owe their position to any royal favour but had derived it in some fashion from the clan. Why, then, should they obey the king, unless they felt like it or he had something to offer them?

Further down the chain the links became stronger. The chief relied on the heads of the cadet branches of his family to perform whatever tasks of military or agricultural organization needed to be done. They held authority over the ordinary clansmen and clanswomen, who fought for their chief or worked his land in return for his protection.

The practice of blood feud was widespread because of a kin-based society that relied for its livelihood on a system of agricultural subsistence, which made control of land vital. The carnage of the blood feud can be exaggerated: it had its own procedures and limits directed towards compromise, once a satisfactory number of skulls had been cloven and limbs lopped, or sometimes to avert such mayhem. Compromise won mutual consent because no other outcome could exist in a society without a central authority and judiciary to rule which party was right and which wrong.

Wild Scots by Michael Fry .

Clan Genealogy Database

Ken Blaiklock, Genealogist to the Elliot Clan reports that the databank now has over 100,000 entries and he is still going strong. There have been a number of queries from Ireland, England and the USA.

You can get hold of him through his address which is in the Membership List 2010 which every member is issued or, failing that, through the webmaster on elliotclan.com

WILLIAM ELLIOTT SHOOTS A BEAR

*One of the earliest and best known of all books about outdoor life in the Southern States of America is William Elliott's **Carolina Sports by Land and Water**. Originally written as newspaper sketches, it appeared in 1846 and in an illustrated edition in New York in 1859.*

William Elliott was a native of Beaufort, South Carolina; his estate, Oak Hall plantation, remained in the family until the 1920s. He was born in 1788, educated at Harvard, served in the state legislature and for one term in the United States House of Representatives, and generally managed his plantations, but primarily he engaged in the practice of writing and hunting. He was a devoted Unionist, an opponent of nullification and later of secession and remained a Unionist in Charleston during the war.

Elliott writes up the bear story in "The Last Day at Chee-Ha." He takes up his stand near some ponds and as he listens to the hounds off in the distance, he catches sight of some unfamiliar objects. To his great surprise, there are no less than four bear, visible just ahead,

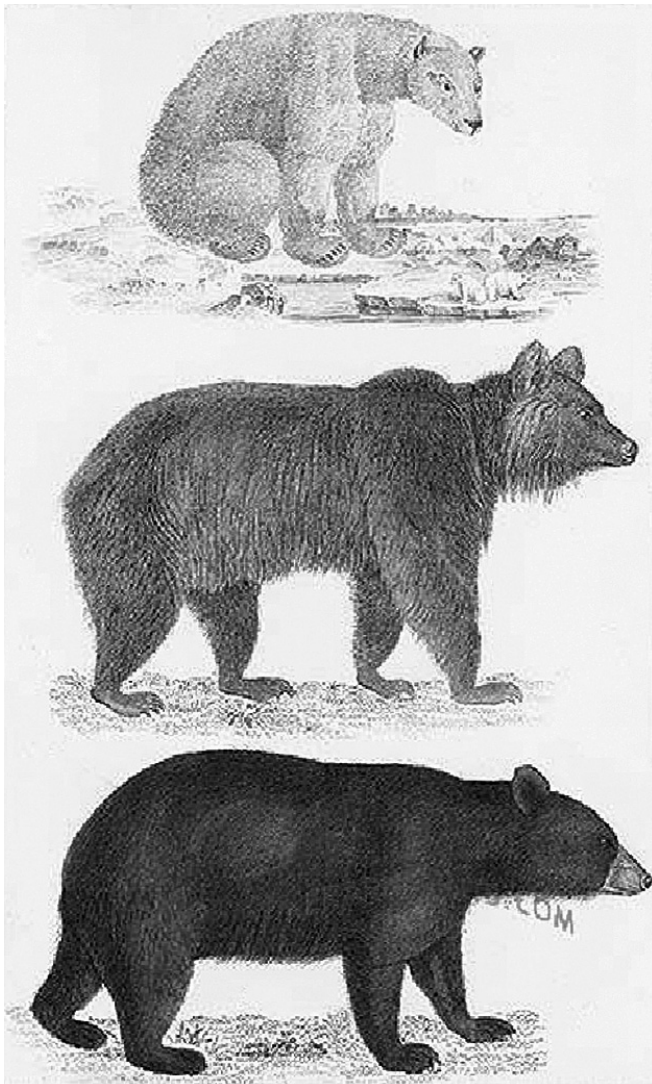
emerging from a nearby thicket. The leading bear stops not twenty yards away. A second moves directly behind the first, rears, and looks over the first bear's shoulder. Elliott fires one barrel of his gun, which is loaded with heavy shot. He believes he has hit both of them with the single blast. "Riding to the spot, imagine my surprise at seeing the large bear motionless, and in the same upright posture which he maintained before I had fired; his head, only, had sunk upon his knees. He was stone dead! – two shot had pierced his brain. His death, apparently, had been instantaneous – and the slight support of a fallen tree had enabled him to retain a posture, by which he yet simulated life!"

Elliott sets off in search of the second bear he is sure he has wounded, and meanwhile the deer hunters come up. Informed of Elliott's fortune, they are astounded. When the dogs smell the bear, their hair bristles in fright: "There he stood before them! Not fallen, but crouching, as if prepared to spring, yet, as we have said, stone dead!" Elliott then tells about the second bear. His friends refuse to believe: "Now we know you joke," said they in a breath; "you fired but one barrel." They go looking for the second bear, though the hounds are panic-stricken and will not pick up the trail. Sure enough, they find the second dead bear. When the hounds refuse to go after the remaining two bears they have to give up the pursuit.

*Taken from **Essays on the Southern Literary Imagination** by Louis D. Rubin, Jr.*

The Elliott School of International Affairs

The Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University, is one of the world's leading schools of international affairs. Located in the heart of Washington, DC, its mission is to educate the next generation of international leaders, conduct research that advances understanding of important global issues, and engage the policy community in the United States and around the world. The school was named in honour of former G.W. President Lloyd H. Elliott and his wife Evelyn.



HISTORICAL MAPS ONLINE

New documents that shed light on the history of our Border ancestors have just gone live online. They will join a treasure trove of material on the Scotland's Places website, www.scotlandsplaces.gov.uk which now brings together records from three of Scotland's national archives; the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS), the National Archives of Scotland (NAS) and the National Library of Scotland (NLS).

The website will interest amateur genealogists and professional researchers alike, providing an unrivalled resource on the historical landscape of Scotland.

■ New additions – drawn from the collections of the NLS – include the incredibly detailed Ordnance Survey (OS) first edition six-inch maps which show every road, field, hedge, milepost and even postbox in the landscape from 1843 to 1882.

■ County maps of Scotland, from 1580 to 1928 include the work of the most famous Scottish cartographers such as Timothy Pont, Robert Gordon and John Adair,

and include maps from the major Scottish atlases of the 18th century by the likes of Blaeu, Moll and Thomson.

■ Users can search across the three national databases at once, using geographic locations such as counties, parishes or other place names to start their search, before drilling down through a series of map layers, including OS maps, to refine their search.

■ Other additions from the NAS include the rolls of taxes on clocks and watches imposed during the war against France in 1797-8. The rolls name the owners of timepieces which were subject to tax and cover about two-thirds of Scotland.

■ Manuscript records and printed books from millions of pages in government and private records, including tax rolls, lists of owners of land and heritages and the annual report of county medical officers of health are also available.

Scotland's Places uses the very latest search technology to offer people access to maps, from the earliest maps of Scotland by Timothy Pont up to the 20th Century.

We welcome the following new members to the Society

UNITED STATES

US3444 Elliott, Cheri, Phoenix AZ 85028-3068
US3445 Elliott, Susan E., San Jose, CA 95133-2634
US3446 Rogers, Elizabeth, Alamo CA 94507-2459
US3447 Elliott, Barbara, Centennial CO 80122-2233
US3448 Hamilton, Rick, Bonita Springs, FL 34135-8470
US3449 Elliott, Lee A., Aurora OH 44202-9347
US3450 Winters, Leslie, Johnstown PA 15904-3230
US3451 Nett, Don, Nacogdoches TX 75965-1080
US3452 Eberly, Anna C., Purcellville VA 20132-4201
US3453 Elliott, James Scott, Alexandria, VA 22304-5621
US3454 Elliott, James W., Centreville VA 20121-3500
US3455 Palmer, Larry D., Chantilly VA 20151-1330
US3456 Kuska, Martha Elliott, Lithia, FL 33557
US3457 Crovo, Lawrence E., Lake Wales FL 33898
US3458 Anderson, Linda Jean, Victorville CA 02395
US3459 Graham, Mrs. Willow, Portland OR 97202
US3460 Elliott, Patrick Cook, Knoxville TN 37922
US3461 Blythe-Hart, Helen, Stockbridge GA 30281
US3462 Palmini, Andrew, Auburndale WI 54412
US3463 Boyd, David A. Greenville SC 29609-6951
US3464 Davies, June, Charlotte NC 28210
US3465 Meges, Darlene Gladstone, North Royalton OH 44133
US3466 Pavkovic, Paris Bossert, Portsmouth RI 02871
US3467 D'Eramo, Tony & Rena, Carmel IN 46032
US3468 Elliott, Charles C., Columbia SC 29209
US3469 Elliott, Stephanie H., East Bend NC 27018
US3470 Hoy, Janice Elliott, Henderson NV 89011-2406
US3471 Cleaves, Rodney & Elaine, Chelmsford MA 01824

CANADA

C1082 Elliott, David & Gay, Ottawa ON K1J 7K4

UNITED KINGDOM

E450 Elliott, Jonathon David, Sevenoaks Kent TD13 3UY
E451 Bell, Mr & Mrs Kelvin J., Bingham, Nottinghamshire NG13 8BL
E452 Betton, Isobel Margaret, Guisborough, Cleveland TS14 8EE
E453 Elliot, Albert Edward, Castleton, North Yorkshire YO21 2EL
E454 Stray, Peter B., Rickmansworth, Herts WD3 8UJ
S150 Clarke, Doreen, Newcastleton TD9 0RG

AUSTRALIA

A303 Elliott, Mr. Brett J., Newport VIC 3015
A304 Elliott, Mr Richard J., North Croydon VIC 3136
A305 Elliott of Stobs, Bt. Sir Charles, Longreach QLD 4730
A306 Elliott, Mr Michael W., Fairy Meadow, NSW 2519
A307 Armstrong, Mrs Bridget C., Agnes Water QLD 4677

NEW ZEALAND

N323 Lock, Mrs. Hilary, Rakaia, Canterbury 7710
N324 Elliott, Mr Peter G., RD10, Palmerston N. 4470
N325 Elliott, Mr Warren, Hillmorton, Christchurch 8025

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