



“Wha daur meddle wi’ me?”

Dear Kinsmen,

As you can see from the list of Clan Room Visitors, we have had members over the year from all parts of the world. Unfortunately I have missed a few; my daughter, Kate has met some and Tom Pringle, who lives and works at Redheugh, has unlocked the door to others. Everyone who comes has stories to tell, some of family trees re-found and connecting to many others.

Our genealogist, Ken Blaiklock, has got a large database of Elliots and it is growing all the time. He should be the first port of call for any members on the search for their ancestor; his address is in the Members List.

My son, Ben has just moved to a new job in renewable energy in Edinburgh and is about to embark on an MBA at Edinburgh University. Kate recently completed a remarkable journey cycling from Bangkok to Shanghai via Laos and Vietnam and the Leaping Tiger Gorge. Over six months, she and her Dutch friend, Nic, wrote up a blog on [www.pedaleast.wordpress.com](http://www.pedaleast.wordpress.com) which is available to dip into.

I am delighted to say that I will be going to Halifax in Canada for the International Gathering of the Clans in July next year and Stone Mountain Highland Games, Atlanta in October 2013.

This issue of our newsletter contains a report of a couple from Liddesdale finding Elliot connections in the US which makes a nice change from the usual way it happens. A journey from Newcastleton to North America in the 19th Century and an Elliot who made a great contribution to science while in India. The Amravati marbles are still one of the British Museum’s great treasures.

An updated Membership List was sent out at the beginning of the year and I have a big apology to make to our Australian members. Unfortunately something went badly wrong in the transfer of data to the printer and names and addresses got jumbled up. We will be sending a correct list to them this winter and I am heartily sorry for any upset caused.

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](http://www.elliotclan.com)

Chief: Margaret Elliott of Redheugh

Newsletter No. 65 – Autumn 2010

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

## Notices and News Items

**World Shearing Champ:** Zingisele Elliot Ntsombo lifted the title for the fourth time with his team from Lesotho at the recent 2010 World Championships in Built Wells in Wales, UK.

### Josh Elliott, The Ballinamallard Bullet

The outrageously talented Josh Elliott from Northern Ireland is only fifteen and has been a front runner in the German Supersport Motorcycle Championship this year. With his birthday on 9th May, he actually started the season when he was fourteen! Why Germany? Well he’s simply too young to be allowed to race here in the UK, although that could change next year when he turns sixteen. He races under the Racedays banner on a Honda CBR600RR and is mentored by ex-Moto GP legend, Jeremy McWilliams.



He started out on Mini Motos when he was nine and had won five Irish titles by the time he was eleven. He scored a pole position and a win in his first Aprilia Superteen race and that was soon followed by a move to the GP 125 class, where he became the youngest winner of a National race in Ireland at fourteen. He was also the only Irish rider to achieve an entry for the Red Bull Rookies Moto GP Cup. Josh wears the Elliott coat of arms on his helmet and has his name emblazoned on his backside, pictured above!

# SCOTTISH GENEALOGY

by Bruce Durie *Publisher: The History press*

It covers sources and records (both physical and electronic), it is also firmly based on established genealogical practice, with worked examples which will enable family historians to exploit the rich resources in Scotland. Scotland probably has the most complete and best kept set of records and other documents in the world. Given both this fact and worldwide Scottish diaspora (approx. 28 million ) the lack of a thorough guide to Scottish genealogy is a significant gap. Durie's book bridges that gap with authority and provides a sense of the excitement of the historical chase. He shows researchers how to get beyond the standard 'births, marriages and deaths and census' search and how to dig deeper in. Dr. Durie teaches Genealogy Studies at the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, and is the author of several books on local history and related subjects to genealogy.

## Sir Arthur Elliott Memorial Trust

**About the Trust:** The Sir Arthur Elliott Memorial Trust was established in 1991 in memory of the late Sir Arthur Elliott, Chief of Clan Elliot who lived at Redheugh, Newcastleton.

The purposes of the Trust are to benefit the inhabitants of Liddesdale; to advance education, provide facilities in the interests of social welfare and to improve quality of life within the community of the Parish of Newcastleton and the Liddesdale area. The intention is to provide annual grants to enable successful candidates to carry out individual ambitions or community projects that lie within the 'purposes' defined above. This may be either in the UK or outwith.

**Michael Jones:** 2nd Year Hons Adventure Tourism Management, Lochaber University, Fort William.

**Newcastleton Traditional Music Festival:** Two school workshops in songwriting.

**Linzi Beaty:** BA Hons in Marketing and Management at Queen Margarets, Edinburgh.

**Tom Drummond:** QTS in Primary Education at the University of Cumbria – private placement in London.

**Heather Kennedy:** Towards Community Project trip to Kenya and Tanzania.

**Frank Coutts:** Court Residents Association towards replacing a bench.

**Daniel Nixon:** Towards purchase of a violin.

**Dulcie Elliot Skelton:** NC in Early Education and Childcare at Borders College, Galashiels.

**George Aitchison:** BSc (Hons) Agriculture at the Scottish Agricultural College in Edinburgh.

**Victoria Gilchrist:** 3rd year. BSc(Hons) Occupational Therapy at University of Cumbria.

**TOTAL £1,500.**

## Strong Connections with The Holm

*Ed. Note: Newcastleton is also know locally as Copshaw Holm, its original name before the railway came and went. Tom and Susi are regular visitors to Liddesdale and have made many good friends. He is also official Piper to the Chief.*

We were visiting our relations in Connecticut and had offered to treat them to a real taste of Scotland – the 87th Highland Games, the third oldest Games in the USA. These were being held locally, in downtown Norwalk, only a 20 minute drive away. Imagine our surprise to find a couple with Newcastleton connections earlier this month at a Highland Games in eastern USA.

It was a hot sunny day – Cranberry Park had been taken over by hundreds of pipers, performers and traders with Scottish connections, and what seemed like the whole American Scottish population from a number of states on the eastern seaboard, including New York, New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Over a dozen pipebands were there. There were dozens of booths featuring different Clans. And yes, there was Elliot.

Tom and Susi Elliot were representing and promoting their Clan and had large colour photographs of Newcastleton and Liddesdale on their stand, which attracted our attention. After introductions all round, and much reminiscing of the homeland, Brian was invited to march across the Gathering field behind the Elliot flag with Tom and Susi at the opening of the Games. A great honour for Brian who was in full Lowlander dress. Traditional Highland games, sports, piping, dancing and music followed with a few not so traditional competitions in the blistering heat – including rolling pin throwing! American Celtic Band, MacTalla Mor played live at the edge of the field and attracted huge interest from the younger generation, including our cousins, Patrick (15) and Robbie (11). Neither had tasted haggis until this day, or appreciated how much woven cloth had gone into the more traditional full plaid and kilt, and neither of the boys had seen so many men in full Scots traditional attire. It was a real education and eye opener for them – this visit has sparked their interest in their Scottish heritage – a heritage well celebrated and remembered in a very colourful and patriotic style in this small corner of the New World.

*Sent in by Brian and Sue Fair of Riverside View, Newcastleton.*

## CLAN ROOM VISITORS

Davina Smart..... Jedburgh UK  
Geraldine Elliott Redmon ..... Florida USA  
Cameron and Bruce Graham..... Gretna  
Amanda Moffat ..... Edinburgh  
Elizabeth Phillips..... Leamington Spa UK  
Roderic Elliott ..... Dallas TX, USA  
Paul and Rachel Elliott..... Dallas TX, USA  
Mark Batluck..... Edinburgh  
Beverley Elliott..... Kendal, Cumbria UK  
Ian Valentine ..... Kendal, Cumbria UK  
Sally Elliott Scrimshaw ..... Delhi, New York

Chuck and Denise Elliott..... California  
Jeffrey Elliott..... Utah  
Tom Galloway ..... Florida  
Robert Elliott..... Arizona  
Leslie Elliott..... Nevada  
Rob E. Lloyd .....Hertfordshire UK  
Edward Elliot..... Australia  
Andy and John Hodgkinson ..... Queensland, Australia  
Brett and Diana Elliott..... Australia  
Lisa Elliott Jankanish.....Washington, USA  
Lesley and David Going .....Auckland, New Zealand

# ROBERT ARMSTRONG'S DIARY (1836-1892)

*An account of the Emigration of the Armstrong family from Newcastleton in Scotland to Elmira, Illinois, April 25, 1855-June 6, 1855. Atlantic Crossing on the Clipper Ship 'Dreadnought'*



The clipper ship "Dreadnought", 200 feet long and 1413 tons, was built in 1853 by Currier & Townsend in Newburyport, Massachusetts for New York owners. She was built to be commanded by the well-known Capt. Samuel Samuels, who was known as a superior ship driver and a true master of his craft. He sailed the "Dreadnought" under full canvas whenever possible. She went ashore near Tierra del Fuego in 1869 and was a total loss. Signed lower right, "Antonio Jacobsen." (American, 1850-1921). Oil on board, 19.5" x 35." Impainting in sky.

James Armstrong was a clog maker and travelled with his wife, Sibella ELLIOT Armstrong and eight children for the New World. As they did not wear clogs in America he took up farming instead. This is the diary of his sixth child, Robert, who was nineteen when he left Scotland, never married and died June 20 1892 at the age of 56 years.

**Wednesday April 25, 1855** – We left Newcastleton about one o'clock this morning for Carlisle which we reached about half past nine the same morning. And after some refreshment we left by the train to Maryport at 3.20pm. From thence we took the steam packet 'the Cambria' to Liverpool which after a beautiful sail over a calm and breathless sea we reached about three the next morning. Felt a little uncomfortable from the swearing, gambling, drinking and smoking which were carried on to excess in the cabin of the boat. Having escaped from the fangs of the sharpers which crowded around us in scores on the dockside .....

We got lodgings in Regent Street for fourpence a night each. Uncomfortable however they were from the bugs which swarmed in innumerable groups and made the weary travellers their prey. That part of Liverpool near to the docks seems to be very poor and inhabited by dirty and ill-dressed people. All except the office housed represents the appearance of poverty and filth. We found great difficulty in obtaining articles for our journey – such as a bisom, clothes, etc. all I supposed

from the poverty of the shops. But even when articles could be got, if the person who wished to sell thought that the purchaser would not be able to obtain the article at any other place, then he was sure to charge more than double the price at which it could be bought, and by every means possible did they endeavour to cheat and deceive the purchaser and this is true more particularly of the Jews who deal in watches and bullion. We .....

There are several beautiful streets at a good distance from the docks with a few good buildings. Having engaged a vessel and transacted business we left our lodgings and glad to escape from the merciless bugs we went on board the Dreadnought on

**Saturday the 28th.** Before engaging our passage we were molested by sharpers or loafers as they are called, who wished to give us assistance in taking it but all for their own advantage 5L percent being allowed to all such who can be seen near the ship while you take your passage ..... To such men catchers no encouragement should be given by the inexperienced ►

► emigrant as their own aggrandisement is their ultimate sin ..... while the ruin of the passenger is not heeded by them.

**Sunday 29th.** We spent the Sabbath on board the Dreadnought in the docks (five of us went to chapel) but such a Sabbath I never saw in my life before. I then felt that I had indeed left Scotland – the land of gospel light and Bible religion. Few seemed to know the difference bewixt the first and the seventh day of the week or if they did they acted as if they did not – We left the Waterloo docks about 9am on **Monday 30th** – after having been about four days in Liverpool. The vessel lay in the river all night and sailed early on the morning

*Editors note: Their crossing was uneventful with some rough weather.*

**Monday 28th May** – Landed this morning at NY about 6am after sailing 27 days. W. Ingles came and saw us in the ship. Went with Father and saw G. Dalgleish in Broadway. Beautiful street but not equal to my expectations. Took passage to go by N.Y.&E.R.R. to Chicago for which we paid £18. Afternoon got luggage out of the ship. A custom house officer looked into two of the boxes. Carried them over a ship to the carts which took them to the steamer ‘Erie’ lying in the Hudson. Steamer went but slowly in consequence of drawing four boats along with her Passed thro below the Telegraph Wires which reach across the river between. Reached Piermont a little after 9 o’clock. Left Permton by railroad for Dunkirk (483 miles) between 10 & 11. Went up the side of the Delaware River. A woody and hilly country. Scenery in some parts most beautiful. Apple trees along the whole line. Settlements every now and then. Very little good clear land, nearly all covered with stumps of trees. Passed Bynghampton, the nicest looking place along the Erie line. At Elmira station we parted with a Mr & Mrs. Oliver and family from Jedburgh who had come over in the Dreadnought with us. Parted with a Mr & Mrs. Currier from Dumfries at Cuba Station. Crossed the Susquehannah Rover several times. A healthier looking country and land rather better cleared there than in the Delaware.

**Wednesday 30th May** – Reached Dunkirk this morning between 6 and 7 after being on steamboat and rail for 33 hours. Left by steamer ‘Portsmouth’ for Detroit about 11 o’clock. The lake (Erie) was very calm. Slow steamer.

**Thursday 31st May** – Reached Detroit at 3pm this day. Had a fine view of Canada in sailing up the lake and the river. Wood on both sides of the lake. Went with Father and Abel and saw some watches. Left with the

immigrant train for Chicago at 9pm. Engine tender and two trucks ran off the line about 45 miles distant from Detroit. No induries. Had to remain for some time until an engine was got to get the trin on to the lines.

**Friday June 1st** – About 6 this morning the engine broke down which caused us delay til 2pm until another had been sent for from Detroit to take us forward.

**Saturday 2nd June** – Reached Chicago this afternoon at 3 o’clock. Left State St and staid with Mr. Stewart till Sunday night. Paid him \$9.

**Sunday 3rd June** – Left State Street this evening at 8 pm. Took rail to Kewanee \$4 each and \$3.50 for luggage. First class express. Wood nearly all along the line but not much in Henry County.

**Monday 4th June** – Reached Kewanee this morning at 4. Had a comfortable seat in the train but none of us well except James & John. After landing Abel and adam went in quest of Henry Scott and the rest of us stopt at Kewanee.

About 11 am a Mr. Adam Oliver being at the station with some grain and on his return home took all the family except Father and me to Henry Scott’s in his waggon and on the way gave them all to dinner at his house.

Abel and Adam not returning soon Father and I began to weary a little but sometime in the afternoon a Mr. William Oliver unexpectedly came and took our luggage for us free to his house which is situated about 4 miles from Scotts. Gotten there found every person exceedingly kind at Kewanee, a contrast indeed to all that we had seen in the western world. Robert Scott and Adam came with a team and took our boxes from Mr. Olivers to H. Scott’s. Found him Mary and her family very kind. Stayed with them two nights.

**Tuesday 5th June** – Father, Abel, Adam and self together with R. Scott went and saw Tom Jackson and Gideon Purdom, both kind but Gideon more than Tom. Got dinner with Gideon. Returned from Gideons and on our way went thro Henry Scotts woodland where Robt. Scott got a load of wood.

**Wednesday 6th June** – Left Henry Scott’s this afternoon to live in a house belonging to Mr. Adam Oliver who had freely granted us the use of it. R. Scott brough down our luggage to the house which is distant about one and a half or two miles. Fobt. Brought us two cart loads of firing this afternoon. Found it a little strange to pass the first evening in a solitary house and in a strange solitary land. This evening 6 weeks we left Newcastleton.

# SIR WALTER ELLIOT OF WOLFELEE

For twenty-four years after his return from the East, Sir Walter Elliot dwelt in his native county and on his paternal estate, honoured and beloved; efficiently fulfilling all the duties of a country gentleman; recognized by all as a devout Christian man, of singularly sweet and equable temper, of generous and kindly hospitality, and of unflinching patience under the blindness which tried so severely a man of his varied tastes and active mind; and furnishing to all an example of qualities which, if they were more common, would make this a better and a happier world.

Colonel Campbell said "My old friend Walter Elliot of Wolfelee, the Elliot mentioned in the text, was my preceptor in natural history and Indian woodcraft; and a better sportsman, or more zealous naturalist, never shouldered rifle or handled scalpel."

His hunting train, when on the march, must have formed a most imposing array, for Mr. Elliot, being a civilian of some standing, travelled with a retinue becoming his rank. "Our old elephant Anak" says Col. Campbell "with his driver and another attendant leads the procession. He is followed by four thoroughbred Arab horses, each attended by his groom and grass-cutter, with their wives and children. Then come the camels and tent bullocks, a squadron of native ponies or tattoos, loaded with baggage, and trophies of the chase; and some dozen 'coolies' bearing our beds, camp furniture, and cowie baskets. The rear is brought up by a host of native servants, tent pitchers, and nondescript camp-followers of every age and sex, occasionally intermixed with jugglers, snake-charmers, etc., who join us at the various villages, in hopes of being allowed to exhibit at the next halting place, for the amusement of the 'Burrah-sahibs. The whole is under the charge of Elliot's two peons, or armed followers, who are distinguished from other servants by wearing an embroidered shoulder belt, with a large silver breastplate. The duties of a peon are very similar to those of a Highland chieftain's henchman of former days; he attends his master on all occasions, carries his spare gun in hunting, scours the country in quest of game, acts as his confidential messenger, and on approaching a village, runs before him, proclaiming his titles and shouting his praises. He is generally a fine handsome fellow, and as consequential as a Highland piper. In the eyes of a European, it must appear strange and even absurd to see two young men in weather-stained garments, leather leggings, and battered hunting caps, moving about the country with such a retinue of followers as here enumerated.

*Taken from Border Sketches, historical and biographical by J.R. Oliver, published 1904.*

BORN 16TH JANUARY 1803, DIED  
AT WOLFELEE 1ST MARCH 1887



From Photo by Fradelle & Young.

[London.

SIR WALTER ELLIOT, K.C.S.I.,  
OF WOLFELEE.

## A MEMORIAL TABLET Within the Parish Church of Hobkirk

To the Honoured Memory of  
SIR WALTER ELLIOT OF WOLFELEE  
K.C.S.I., LL.D., F.R.S.,

*Who was for forty Years a Member of the Civil Service at Madras  
And during the last five held a Seat in the Council of that  
Presidency.*

*Able, Trusted and Distinguished in the Service of the State,  
He was yet more Eminent for the immense Compass and  
Fruitfulness of his Research*

*In Fields of Study so various and so rarely combined  
As the Archaeology and the Natural History  
Of the Indian Peninsula.*

*His Work in the Collection, the Decipherment, and the Elucidation  
Of ancient Hindu Inscriptions in sundry Languages  
Has formed a chief Element in the Recovery of the History of the  
Territories in which he labored;*

*His Rescue of the precious Marbles of Amravati,  
Which now line the great Staircase of the British Museum  
Brought to Light one of the most wonderful Monuments  
Of ancient Indian Art and Religion;*

*His Treatise on the Coins of Southern India,  
Based on the indefatigable Research of many Years,  
But finally elaborated at the Age of Eighty-two, when he was  
Entirely bereaved of Sight,*

*Presents a rare and memorable Example  
of undismayed and successful Struggle with Difficulties  
which might well have seemed overwhelming;*

*His numerous Contributions to Scientific Journals, bearing on  
the Ethnology, the Zoology, the Ornithology, the Agriculture, and  
the Vegetation of the same Regions, testify at once to the Width of  
his Intellectual Interests, and the Accuracy of his Observation.*

# MARTIN ELLIOTT – Tennis Girl Poster Photographer Dies

*The photographer behind Tennis Girl, one of the world's biggest-selling posters, has died at the age of 63.*

Martin Elliott took his most famous shot in 1976 of his then girlfriend dressed in tennis gear, hitching her skirt to reveal a bare bottom. The image, which featured in a calendar, shot to fame and more than two million copies were sold worldwide. Mr Elliott died at his home in Truro, Cornwall, last week following a 10-year battle with cancer.

He took his most famous picture, featuring 18-year-old Fiona Butler, on a university tennis court while studying photography in Birmingham. The pair borrowed a white tennis dress, racket and balls for the shot which was taken from behind as Ms Butler raised her dress, showing her left cheek.

## Schoolboy's fantasy

The picture was sold to poster chain Athena but Mr Elliott retained the copyright.

It was first published as part of a calendar for the 1977 Silver Jubilee before being made into the poster that hung on schoolboys' bedroom walls around the world.

On his own website, Mr Elliott called it "the most published photograph in the world." It has been parodied by various celebrities including Alan Carr and Kylie Minogue and was often seen in the background of the satirical puppet show Spitting Image. The photographer once said in an interview that it was "not a picture I would buy," putting its appeal down to the seaside postcard spirit of the image.

Mr Elliott never revealed how much he made from the photo, but his widow Noelle, has said the couple had "done well" out of it and were still receiving royalties for it to this day.



Ms Butler, who was not paid for her work, has always maintained she will never be embarrassed by the photograph. After qualifying, Mr Elliott went on to work in advertising and had a studio in Birmingham. He retired to Cornwall 11 years ago after living in Stourbridge, in the West Midlands, and Portishead, Somerset.

## *We welcome the following new members to the Society*

### UNITED STATES

US3408	Elliott, Daniel and Lydia	Albany	OR
US3409	Cummings, Eva Sue	Jacksonville	FL
US3410	Elliott, Leslie	Reno	NV
US3411	Elliott, Fiona	Winter Haven	FL
US3412	Elliot, Roger and Kathi	Brooksville	FL
US3413	Elliott IV, Robert Lowell	Casselberry	FL
US3414	Elliott, Ricky	Stratton	NE
US3415	Elliott, Christie L.	Sacramento	CA
US3416	Cooke, Patti	San Antonio	TX
US3417	Troutman, Lucy Elliott	Highland	CA
US3418	Elliott, Michael S.	San Diego	CA
US3419	Elliott, Mark	Bakersfield	CA
US3420	Pesch, Carol G. Elliott	Wakefield	RI
US3421	Chadwick, Nancy Elliott	Davis	CA
US3422	Chesebro, Diane and Kevin	Granite Bay	CA
US3423	Henderson, John E.	Hopland	CA
US3424	Osborn, Donald E.	Wilton	CA
US3425	Wagner, Kurt	Sacramento	CA
US3426	Henry II, James Travis	Houston	TX
US3427	Elliott, Matthew	Melbourne	FL
US3428	Elliott, Col (ret) Robert L.	Colorado Springs	CO
US3430	Elliott, Diana Joan	Colorado Springs	CO
US3431	Brown, Jackie Isabelle Elliott	Greensboro	NC
US3432	Elliott, Stetson	Arlington	TX
US3433	Lyles, Joseph S.	Greenville	SC
US3434	Harris-Sutro, Berta	San Diego	CA
US3435	Gooden, Carmen Elliott	Arlington	TX
US3436	Veremeychik, Kellie	Simpsonville	SC
US3437	Latimer, Jim W.	Jonesboro	GA

### UNITED STATES

US3438	Elliott, Claybourne Safford	Houston	TX
US3439	Elliot, Anthony B.	Indianapolis	IN
US3440	Elliott, Mark	Long Beach	NY
US3441	Elliott, James H.	Columbia	MO
US3442	Elliott, Charles E.	Erie	PA
US3443	Cox, Gerald Dean Lawrence	Tomales	CA

### CANADA

C1080	Trudeau, Justin P and Family, Montreal.
C1081	Elliott, Paul, Barrie, ON

### UNITED KINGDOM

E446	Elisha, David James, Romford Essex.
E447	Ploughman, Susan, Sudbourne, Woodbridge, Suffolk.
E448	Elliott, Dr David James, London.
E449	Elliott and Family, Mr and Mrs Charles G., Hale, Cheshire
S149	Elliot, John C., Edinburgh.

### AUSTRALIA

A296	Spies, Mrs Kelsie, Chifley NSW 2036
A296	Siefken, Mrs Shirley, City Beach, WA 6015
A296	Buckler, Mrs Carol, Gooseberry Hill, WA 6076
A296	Elliot, David, Watheroo, WA 6513
A296	Elliot, Lloyd, Watheroo, WA 6513
A296	Elliot, Mr and Mrs Ivan, Hughenden QLD 4821

### NEW ZEALAND

N/321	Hamilton, Mr and Mrs. Andrew and Family, Vauxhall, Dunedin.
N/322	Lock, Mrs. M. Hilary, RD1 Darfield.

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