

RAGHNAILL – ‘Brown Eye’

Ancestry of the CLANRANALDS (REYNOLDS)



Favente Deo
“Favoured by God”

RAGHNAILL – ‘Brown Eye’

Ancestry of the CLANRANALDS (REYNOLDS)

3000-8000 BC

The people of Eire (Ireland) are recorded to have lived and built monuments and tombs across the region dating back to the 8000 BC. The ancient Irish were the world’s leading astronomers having concluded that there were 365 days in a year, the earth was moving ‘around’ the sun and that Venus gave perfect time returning to the exact same spot in the universe every 40 years. They invented the Neolithic yard (6 yards to a rod, 4 rods to a chain, 80 chains to a mile and 24,000 miles around the world). People from the Middle East visited Ireland often to trade in tin and gold but also to learn astronomy. The Egyptians came and went and took the ‘Neolithic Yard’ of the Irish (an accurate measurement of distance based on time and space – a very advanced measurement) to return to Egypt and build the pyramids, if the Irish didn’t come and engineer it for them. (archaeologists remain confused as to where they got the measurements for the blocks of the pyramids). Because the Irish were great astronomers, they were subsequently great seafarers and traders, thus the links to the Middle East. (Later, and due to their habit of cutting off the heads of their enemies with the subsequent battlefield full of heads, they were to invent the games of soccer.) The Romans never went to Ireland, by the way, but decided to keep their heads.

595 BC

Prince Galamh –(married) Princess Scythia (Egyptian Princess) sailed to northern top of Ireland, settle, and their people became known as the Dalriada -The House of Kings. (Dal Al Riada in Arabic = House of the Leaders)

↓ (son)

Eirhe Ahmon

↓ (son)

586 BC

Eochaid (High King of Ireland) – Tamar Tephi (Hebrew Princess)

[Tamar Tephi was daughter of King Zedekiah of Judiah]

King Zedekiah of Judiah (northern Israel) is captured by King Neuchadnezzar and taken, with most of his people, into slavery in Babylon, Iraq. Tamar had escaped with the prophet **Jeremiah**, who took the stone that Jacob slept on the night he had seen his vision of the stairway to heaven, and they sailed to Ireland. This stone becomes the Stone of Destiny that all Scot (Scotti) kings have to place their hand on at the time of coronation (still exists today and is in hiding)

The Royal Houses of Ireland
The Royal House of Dalraida - Dal Riara



480 AD

Colla Uais, High King of Ireland
The Royal House of Dalraida - Dal Riara

503 AD

Decedents of the Kings of Tara, and sons of King Erc, Lorn, Angus and Fergus, The Royal House of Dalraida from northern Ireland, Ulster, invade Pict-land (Alba or Albany) and take west coast region. The people are referred to by the Romans as Scotti or Atascotti) Fergus mon mac Erc is the ancestor to Kenneth MacAlpine, King of Scots.-850 AD. Country become Scotti-land after MacAlpine joined the Picts and Scots together through marriage. Alpine's decedents include David and MacBeth. Robert de Bruce was a French-English-Scot who was to later become King.

840 AD

Godfraidh mac Fergus
– Lord of the Hebrides,



Gille Adomanan



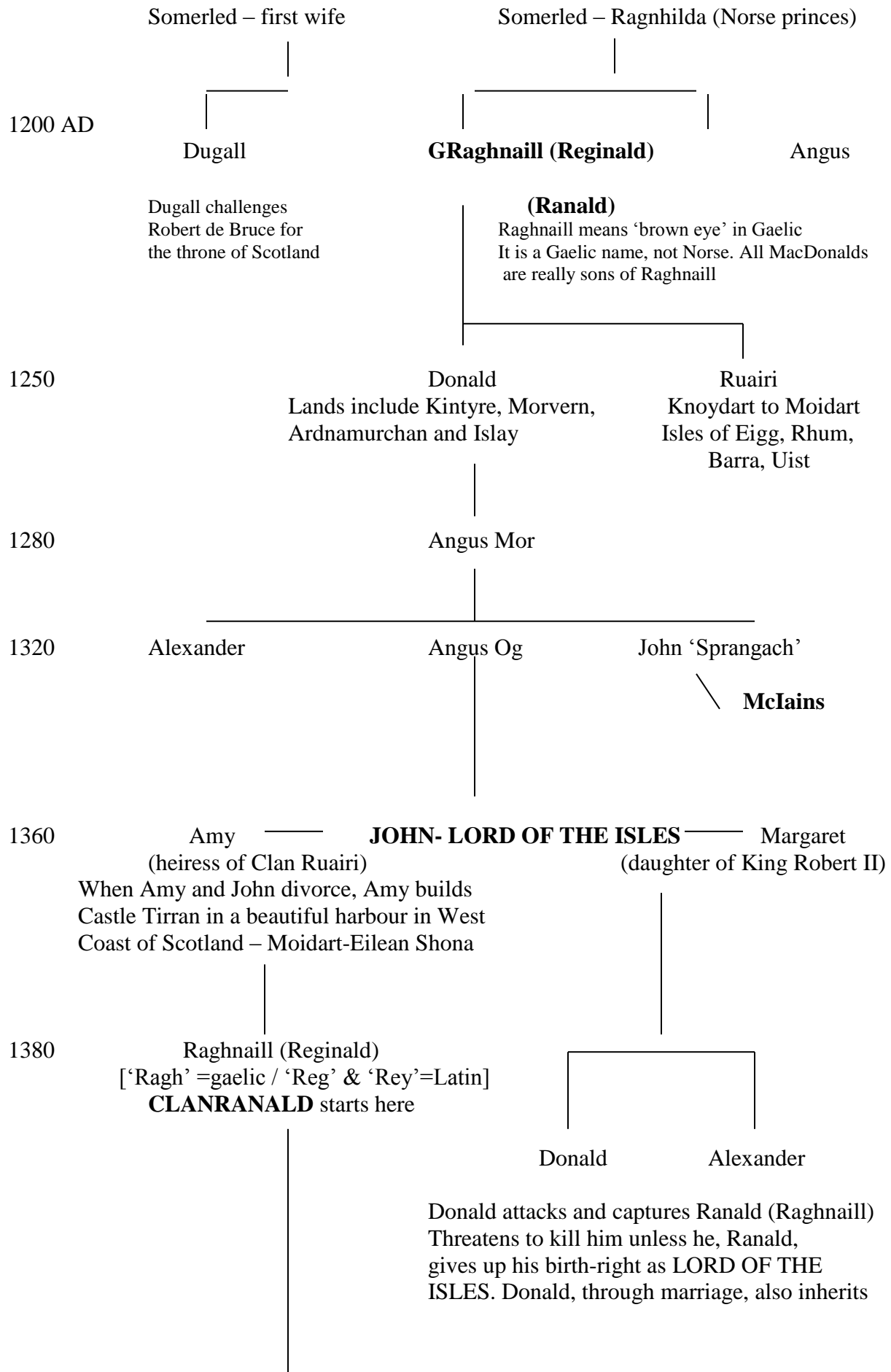
Gille Bride



AD 1140

Somerled, Ri Airir Gaidheal,

Ruler of the Coastlands of Ireland and Scotland. (Lord of the Isles)
Somerled defeats the Vikings in the coastal islands and west coast of Scotland to become Lord of the Isles. Ancestral lands of Lorn in Argyll, the Isles of Mull, Coll and Tiree. In defeating the Vikings he gained all of Kintyre and the Isles of Arran and much of the West Coast of Scotland.



the Ross estates. Donald becomes LORD and head of the Clan and thus we are all now classified as part of the McDonalds Clans. BUT it is only so because Donald stole the birth-right. Donald has no children and there is no real Macdonald line.

1430

Alexander – Lord of the Isles.
MacDonalds in control of West Scotland and in constant conflict with Scots Crown (Stuarts)

Donald
MacDonalds of Glengarry

Allan

Dougall
MacDougalls

1480

Roderick

Allan

MacDonells of Knoydart

1500

Allan

Hector

MacFachens

1520

Ranald Ban

Alexander - Dorothy

Dougall

Allan
Macdonalds of Morar

Ranald
MacDonalds of Bornish

1560

JOHN OF MOIDART

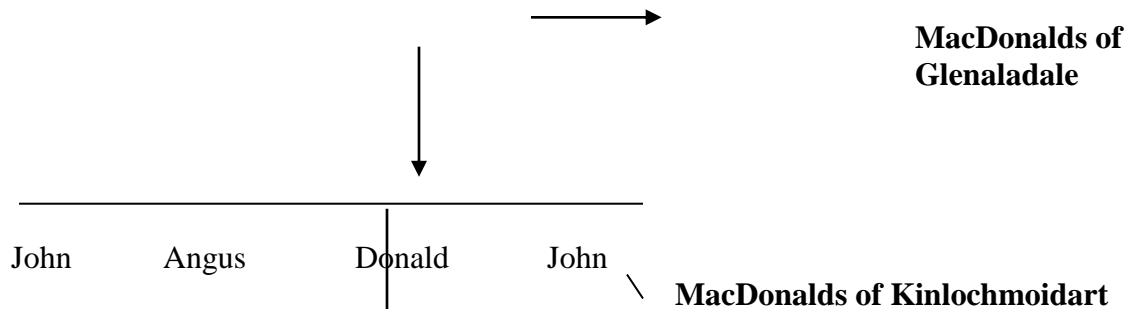
[Buried in front of the alter of the Iona Church.

Iona is where a number of the early Scots kings are buried, including Macbeth. Iona was a Celtic Christian Church which became Cistercian. The Church has been restored and JOHN lies under a black granite Knight in front of the alter]

1580

Allan

John Og



The MacDonalDs/ClanRanalds were Lords of the Isles and the Highlands. They were the warrior clan – as the lion on their crest represents. People referred to the ClanRanalds as the ‘gallows clan’ because they were always being hung – by the Stuart kings & queens.

The Stuarts wanted to control all of Scotland and fought with the MacDonalDs/ClanRanalds for over 150 years before winning and destroying them.

In 1536 King James V went to Kintyre and took land from the Ranald, gave it to the Campbells, repaired Castle Kilkerran, and installed a garrison and governor. Before James sailed out of Cambelltown lock, ClanRanald had killed the governor and then hung him over the wall of the castle. Stuart granted all the MacDonalD/ClanRanald land to the Campbells. This led to war between the clans and Kintyre being devastated.

ClanRanalds people go to Ireland. →

In 1544 John ClanRanald won a victory over other clans and this caused resentment by the government. Government attack highlands but fail to get John. Clan Chiefs leave for Ireland and plot with King Henry VIII against Stuart King. The Chiefs were, John of ClanRanalds, Maclean of Ardgour, Maclean of Kingairloch, Maclean of Ardnamurchan and Chief of Glengarry.

ClanRanalds people go to Ireland. →

Continual conflict with Campbells in Kintyre with the land left in ruin.

1640 – 1660

ClanRanalds people go to Ireland. →

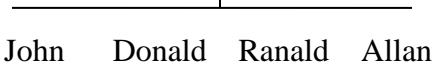
1650

John



1670

Donald



1700

John

Donald

Ranald

Allan

1740

Ranald



1745 Bonnie Prince Charles, representing his father, James Stuart in exile in France, comes through Ireland, arrives in ClanRanold country and declares war on the English and the English Scots (the Campbells). They win all the way to 100 miles north of London and then the Irish leaders talk him out of attacking London. Prince Charles is defeated at Culadan. Many Scots are slaughtered by the English and the Campbells. ClanRanold/MacDonalds suffer heavy losses and English/Campbells come into west coast of Scotland and slaughter many people.

ClanRanalds people go to Ireland. →

1760

Ranald



1790

John



1850

Ranald



The Scots ClanRanalds take on a variety of surnames but know themselves as decedents from the ClanRanalds; mostly, they take the surname of McDonalds. Remember, that the real surname for Ranald is Raghnaill.

ClanRanald is absorbed into the MacDonald Clans in Scotland– after loss of land and titles.

The Raighnaill (Ranald/Reynolds/Rannal) in Ireland

As history shows, the Raghnaill had for hundreds of years owned land in the coastal regions between Scotland and Ireland. Travel between the Islands, Scotland and Ireland was an everyday occurrence for the Lords of the Isles families in the Galley ships. They were warriors of the sea as well as land. They also remained catholic after much of Scotland, including the Campbells, had become Presbyterian. Thus, the links with Ireland were strong.

The lowland Scots, especially Presbyterians Scots, referred to the ClanRanald/MacDonalds as the ‘Wild Irish’ even when they were Lords of the Isles and landowners of the West coast of Scotland. They were until the battle of Culloden, where Bonnie Prince Charles Stuart with an army of Highlanders, were an independent and high-spirited people until they were defeated at Culloden and much of their people slaughtered by the Campbells and other Lowland Scots in pay of the English.

The emigration to Ireland was to escape from trouble in Scotland, but Ireland offered work for the Raighnaill. Ireland was also divided by clan rivalry and wars and Irish Chiefs hired the Raighnaill warriors as mercenaries to fight and win their battles.

The family took hold of County Leitrim, is the western-southern part of the county, as their homelands with some 7,000 acres in County Leitrim and another 1,000 acres in County Roscommon up to the mid 18th Century. They were also the Lords of Muintir Eclais.

The name ‘Raghnaill’ in the gaelic has a ‘g’ sound in front of the ‘r’, thus family was also known as “Grnaill” or “Grannaill” . In the Irish context, the name took an ancestral prefix; becoming “MacRaghnaill, and MacGrannaill”.

The name was to become a surname, but because Catholic priests refused to baptize children in the gaelic, the name ‘Raghnaill’ became ‘Reynolds’ or MacReynolds, MacRannal, in Ireland. It wasn’t until the mid-17th Century, around 1660, that the name Reynolds is taken as the English pronunciation of gaelic originals as James Raghnaill calls himself James Reynolds. Thus ‘Reynolds’ is an Irish derivative of Raghnaill, and does not appear in the Scot – but it is the true line of the gaelic ‘Raghnaill’ with roots back more than 1000 years and lineage back some 3000 years. In parallel, the surname/clan name has been lost in Scotland, where the Clan came from, after it came from ancient north Ireland and the Islands.

The ‘Reynolds’ clan can use the County Leitrim tartan, or the MacDonells (of Ireland) tartan, but it is more correct to use the CanRanald-MacDonald tartan depicting our ancestral home land and Castle Toirim in Moidart, Scotland.

Celtic heritage (Scots & Irish) has always passed from father to son. With the changing of the family names also came the habit of using family names to denote clan heritage. Thus, John of Clan Raghnaill, became John Reynolds. The use of the surname denotes family ties through history and thus it is possible to have a definite line back to the ancestors of historical note.

But the story of transmigration didn't stop. With the opening of the Americas (Canada and the US) many Scots and Irish chose to migrate to new lands. With the Convict settlements in the US and Australia, many Irish were chosen to go to new lands (Up to 1965 60% of Australia was of Irish decent) and with the Potato Famine in Ireland and developing opportunities and work in the colonies, the Irish went again. And lets not forget the gold rush and the promise of never-before-known wealth for poor people brought a lot of people to Australia; including families such as the Reynolds, McNamaras, Kellys, and Delaneys (my family mix). And last, with cheap passage to Australia after the wars, again many people chose to leave Ireland to their colonies in US, Canada, Australia, NZ.

1790s Henry Reynolds — Anne McGuinness
(Esker Townland, in Bomacoola Catholic Parish)

1824 Charles Reynolds
(Baptized Nov. 15, 1824 in Bomacoola – between Mohill and Dromad)
Travels to Australia with Leonard Family.
During the famine in 1860, Charles sells his farm to raise the money for the trip to Australia. Along with the Leonard family, they move to Australia. There is a story about the ship being wrecked off the Australian coast and how Charles who helped saved the Leonard children. The Leonard family could have originally come from County Cork. On arriving in Sydney, Charles and family lived at Piermont, Sydney. Charles was a jockey.

1852 Thomas Reynolds — Maria Leonard
Both Thomas and Maria were born in Ireland.
Thomas was 8 years when he travelled to Australia.
They were married and lived in Orange, NSW.

1869 John Joseph McNamara – Mary Maloney

Kelly
Delaney

1890 (3/3/1890) Percy Charles Reynolds _____ Florence Muriel McNamara



1925-30 Leslie Thomas Leonard Charles Malvena
Bill, Loraine, Denise, James, Patrick Helen, Keith



1952 – 1955 Christopher Leonard Gregory John
Shane, Patrick, Thomas

1983-2003 David Andrew Michael Stuart (MacRds)

The children's initials along with the initial their father plus their surname spells
MACRDS.



Stuart Douglas Reynolds, 2004, Castle Toirim, Moidart, West Scotland

NOTES:

MacRandall, Reynolds, Grannell

In Reynolds we have an example of a fine old Gaelic Irish surname which has been given as its usual anglicized form a common English one. In Irish it is MacRaghnaill, Raghnaill being the Gaelic equivalent of Randal or Reginald. The forms MacRannal and Grannell, also used in English, are of course, nearer the original. The sept belongs to Co. Leitrim: their territory was Muintir Eolais in the southern half of that county. They remained influential as long as the Gaelic order survived and indeed up to the end of the seventeenth century, in spite of continual rivalry and feuds with their powerful Breffny neighbours the O'Rourkes with whom, however, they were at times allied). The "Composition Book of Connacht" calls the Chief of the Name Magrnaill of Moynish (Co. Leitrim) and thirty years later Camden, writings of Counties Leitrim and Longford in 1617, includes them, under the name of MacGrannell, with the O'Rourkes as "downright Irish". O'Dugan's fourteenth century "Topographical Poem" shows that they were equally prominent in the mediaeval period. Modern statistics indicate that Co. Leitrim is still the principal stronghold of the name, nearly half the people in Ireland so called hailing from that area. an excellent memoir on the MacRannals in the Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries (vol. xxxv) gives much valuable information, particularly about the family of Lough Scur Castle, whence came several notable members of parliament as well as James Reynolds, whose diary (1658-1660) is of great interest. The Elizabethan mac Rannal of this line who was the first to change the name to Reynolds was known in consequence as Mac Raghnaill Gallda (I.e. the English MacRannal). their estates were very extensive: after the Restoration and the Act of Settlement they were in possession of no less than 6,660 acres in Co. Leitrim and 1,000 acres in Co. Roscommon. quite a number of Irishmen called Reynolds have distinguished themselves in various fields of activity. To the Church they have given Most Rev. Christopher Augustine Reynolds (1834-1893), first Catholic Archbishop of South Australia. (Richard Reynolds, Catholic martyr, was not Irish). In science there were Osborne Reynolds (1842-1912), famous for his original investigations on mechanical and physical subjects, and

James Emerson Reynolds (1842-1920), discoverer of various chemical substances. In literature the father of the last named, Dr. James Reynolds (d. 1866), was a novelist and playwright, while George Nugent Reynolds (1770-1802) was a noted ballad writer and probably the author of "The Exile of Erin".



The Clan Ranald

During the whole of the 15th century the Clanranald had been engaged in feuds regarding the lands of Garmoran and Uist; first, with the Siol Gorrie, or race of Godfrey, eldest brother of Ranald, the founder of the tribe, and afterwards with the Macdonalds or Clanhuistein of Sleat, and it was not till 1506, that they succeeded in acquiring a legal title to the disputed lands. John, eldest son of Hugh of Sleat, having no issue, made over all his estates to the Clanranald, including the lands occupied by them. Archibald, or Gillespock, Dubh, natural brother of John, having slain Donald Gallach and another of John's brothers, endeavoured to seize the lands of Sleat, but was expelled from the North Isles by Ranald Bane Allanson of Moydart, eldest son of the chief of Clanranald. The latter married Florence, daughter of Maclan of Ardnamurchan, and had four sons - 1. Ranald Bane; 2. Alexander, who had three sons, John, Farquhar, and Angus, and a daughter; 3. Ranald Oig; and 4. Angus Reochson. Angus Reoch, the youngest son, had a son named Dowle or Coull, who had a son named Allan, whose son, Alexander, was the ancestor of the Macdonells of Morar.

In 1509 Allan Macruari was tried, convicted, and executed, in presence of the king at Blair Athol, but for what crime is not known. His eldest sons, Ranald Bane, obtained a charter of the lands of Moydart and Arisaig, Dec. 14, 1540, and died in 1541. He married a daughter of Lord Lovat, and had one son, Ranald Galda, or the stranger, from his being fostered by his mother's relations, the Frasers.

On the death of Ranald Bane, the fifth chief, the clan, who had resolved to defeat his son's right to succeed, in consequence of his relations, the Frasers, having joined the Earl of Huntly, lieutenant of the north, against the Macdonalds, chose the next heir to the estate as their chief. This was the young Ranald's cousin-german, John Moydartach, or John of Moydart, eldest son of Alexander Allanson, second son of Allan Macruari, and John was, accordingly, acknowledged by the clan captain of Clanranald. Lovat, apprised of the intentions of the clan against his grandchild, before their scheme was ripe for execution, marched to Castletirrim, and, by the assistance of the Frasers, placed Ranald Galda in possession of lands. The Clanranald, assisted by the Macdonalds of Keppoch and the Clan Cameron, having laid waste and plundered the districts of Abertarf and Stratherrick, belonging to Lovat, and the lands of Urquhart and Glenmoriston, the property of the Grants, the Earl of Huntly, the king's lieutenant in the north, to drive them back and put an end to their ravages, was obliged to raise a numerous force. He penetrated as far as Inverlochry in Lochaber, and then returned to his own territories. The battle of Kinlochlochry, called Blar-nan-leine, "[the field of shirts](#)," followed, as related in the account of the clan [Fraser](#). The Macdonalds being the victors, the result was that John Moydartach was maintained in possession of the chiefship and estates, and transmitted the same to his descendants. On the return of Huntly

with an army, into Lochaber, John Moydartach fled to the Isles, where he remained for some time.

The Clanranald distinguished themselves under the Marquis of Montrose in the civil wars of the 17th century. At the battle of [Killiecrankie](#), their chief, then only fourteen years of age, fought under Dundee, with 500 of his men. They were also at Sheriffmuir. In the rebellion of 1745, the Clanranald took an active part. Macdonald of Boisdale, the brother of the chief, then from age and infirmities unfit to be of any service, had an interview with Prince Charles, on his arrival off the island of Eriska, and positively refused to aid his enterprise. On the following day, however, young Clanranald, accompanied by his kinsmen, Alexander Macdonald of Glenaladale and 'neas Macdonald of Dalily, the author of a Journal and Memoirs of the Expedition, went on board the prince's vessel. and readily offered him his services. He afterwards joined him with 200 of his clan, and was with him throughout the rebellion.

At the battles of Preston and Falkirk, the Mcdonalds were on the right, which they claimed as their due, but at Culloden the three Macdonald regiments of Clanranald, Keppoch, and Glengarry, formed the left. It was probably their feeling of dissatisfaction at being placed on the left of the line that caused the Macdonald regiments, on observing that the right and centre had given way while they were ordered to wait, eventuated in them leaving the field without striking a blow. at disgust with the military command. The mismanagement of the clan regiments, supplies and preparations were the chief causes of the defeat at Culloden, and the final insult of the Clanranald by placing them away from their brethren.

At Glenboisdale, whither Charles retreated, after the defeat at Culloden, he was joined by young Clanranald, and several other adherents, who endeavoured to persuade him from embarking for the Isles, but in vain. In the act of indemnity passed in June 1747, young Clanranald was one of those who were specially excepted from pardon.

The ancestor of the Macdonalds of Benbecula was Ranald, brother of Danald Macallan, who was captain of the Clanranald in the latter part of the reign of James VI. The Macdonalds of Boisdale are cadets of Benbecula, and those of Staffa of Boisdale. On the failure of Donald's descendants, the family of Benbecula succeeded to the barony of Castletirrim, and the captainship of the Clanranald, represented by Reginald George Macdonald of Clanranald.

From John, another brother of Donald Macallan, came the family of Kinlochmoidart, which terminated in an heiress. This lady married Colonel Robertson, who, in her right, assumed the name of Macdonald.

From John Oig, uncle of Donald Macallan, descended the Macdonalds of Glenaladale "The head of this family," says Mr. Gregory, "John Macdonald of Glenaladale, being obliged to quit Scotland about 1772, in consequence of family misfortunes, sold his Scottish estates to his cousin (also a Macdonald), and emigrating to Prince Edward's Island, with about 200 followers, purchased a tract of 40,000 acres there, while the 200 Highlanders have increased to 3000. "

One of the attendants of Prince Charles, who, after Culloden, embarked with him for France, was Neil MacEachan Macdonald, a gentleman sprung from the branch of the Clanranald in Uist. He served in France as lieutenant in the Scottish regiment of Ogilvie, and was father of Stephen James Joseph Macdonald, marshal of France, and Duke of Tarentum, born Nov. 17, 1765; died Sept. 24, 1840.

October 17, 1999 The Mail on Sunday By Andrew Beaven

A Highland Chieftain yesterday made an emotive plea for planning authorities to permit the renovation of his clan's ancestral home.

For more than 250 years Castle Tioram - once the mainland stronghold of the powerful Clanranald - has lain in ruins.

Legend has it that the imposing mediaeval fortress was torched by clan members during the Jacobite uprising to prevent it falling into the hands of the invading English.

Now ambitious proposals have been finalised to restore the castle.

But although the plans are to be submitted for official consideration next month, conservationists have already voiced their opposition, believing the castle should be left in ruins.

Last night the 24th chief of the Clanranald, Captain Ronald MacDonald argued that the restoration must go ahead.

He said: "Castle Tioram is extremely important for members of my clan the world over. There are hundreds of thousands of clan members out there, in dozens of different countries.

"There are very few who do not cherish their Highland heritage. It gives them a certain support wherever they may be. These people would be thrilled to know that Castle Tioram is being given a new lease of life".

Built in the 13th century, the castle towers above Loch Moidart in the West Highlands.

It was finally destroyed by fire in 1715 when Allan of Clanranald ordered it to be burnt rather than surrender it to the advancing Campbell army.

One later historian reports that the henchman commanded to torch the castle was initially reluctant, but eventually conceded declaring: "I shall never come back again and it is better that our old family seat should be given to the flames than forced to give shelter to those who are about to triumph over our ruin".

Despite its delapidation, Castle Tioram remained in the hands of the Clanranald until early this century when it was sold to foreign owners.

Put up for sale again by its absentee American landlords in 1997 for £100,000, it was bought by Scottish air charter millionaire Lex Brown, who immediately announced an ambitious and controversial plan to re-roof the castle with a view to making it his home.

The new plans to restore the castle as closely as possible to its 17th century splendour - at a cost of £3million - will be passed to Highland Council next month.

In addition to routine planning permission, the project requires Scheduled Monument Consent from Historic Scotland, who have signalled disapproval.

The Clanranald Castle Tioram Trust, a community ownership trust which failed in a bid to buy the property, argues it would be wrong to convert the historic monument. Spokesman Dr Michael Foxley believes it should be left a ruin.

He said: "For almost 300 years it has stood clearly as a burnt-out shell and as a statement to what was effectively the lordship of the isles and the Clanranald empire.

Lex Brown was not available for comment last week but spokesman Iain Crawford said "The castle needs substantial resources to be spent to prevent it deteriorating".

- [The Clan Ranald Macdonalds of Lochaber](#)
- [The Clan Ranald Macdonalds of Garmoran](#)

- [Dark Isle Wolf - A clan members](#)