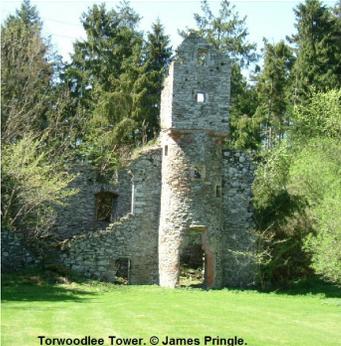




Clan Pringle Newsletter

July 2021, Issue 6



Torwoodlee Tower. © James Pringle.

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Editorial Team



Derek



Erika



James M



Pam

From the Editorial Team:

Our Motto – Badge of Honor?

Dear Friends,

It was nearly two years ago, before the Pandemic began, I was in the grocery store when I saw this tall gentleman wearing kilt and full Highland attire. I introduced myself and he told me he had been attending a local Cameron Clan Gathering. When I told him my surname he responded, “that’s the Clan with the fine family motto, “Amicitia Reddit Honores”, (Friendship gives Honors). We talked together for a few moments about Clan interests and as we parted he referred again to the Clan Pringle motto, Friendship, and then added, “Wear it as a badge of honor”.



That brief encounter in the grocery store got me thinking about the meaning of our Clan motto. Is it just a nice Latin phrase related to the distant past, or has it some meaning for contemporary Pringles? Can you imagine for a moment, we’re together attending a Pringle Gathering in a hotel focusing on ourselves, and a tired staff member at the end of the day places an order in the kitchen for “that unfriendly Pringle group”? Well, let’s say that would never happen. Right! But it raises the question as far as friendship is concerned, are we just like everyone else or might we give to this motto some added meaning as to what kind of people we are, particularly in how we relate to others? And when you meet a Pringle do you treat them as just another individual, or do you go out of your way to show them some warm friendship?

In the past October Pringle Newsletter we raised this issue regarding our motto and it’s friendship theme. A few responded expressing positive feelings about it. So, now we raise it a step higher and invite your thoughts – your responses. What might the board of Trustees, the Clan Chief, the NA Steering Committee initiate on this subject? We invite you as an individual to get involved as well – to do two things; 1. Share with us examples of specific acts of friendship which you have received and appreciated, and 2. Give us your suggestions of how we might do better in showing that Friendship to one another, whether on the phone, in our emails, by our actions, or other.

Can we work together to make our family motto become more meaningful? Why sure we can! Let’s embrace this family motto theme, and as the Clan Cameron man put it, “wear it as a badge of honor”.

In Friendship to all – the Editorial Team, Pam, James, Erika and Derek.

“There is nothing on this earth more to be praised than true friendship” Thomas Aquinas.

CPA Board of Trustees

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From our Chairman:

Greetings! How time flies – we're now into summer and the sun is shining in Scotland although not quite as hard as some places on the west coast of the US and Canada. We're content with 20°C and a gentle breeze.

Naturally over the last year, little major has happened in the world of Pringles although there are signs that some folk have used their enforced "leisure time" to do some research and we have welcomed some UK Pringles coming to explore their histories in the last few months. I hope that you have all been well during the year.

Yet again we are forced to conduct our AGM business online by the pandemic, but I hope that by this time next year we might be able to meet in person and enjoy each others' company.

As with all things at present, the future still looks a bit unfocused, albeit as an optimist I remain hopeful that all will be well and that the western world, at least, will be vaccinated before too long.

That being said, I am thinking ahead to the proposed 2022 Clan Gathering to be held in June here in the gorgeous Scottish Borders and I wonder what sort of an appetite Pringles will have for international travel in a year's time. Will long-haul flying be seen as unsustainable in a climate crisis? Will it be taxed out of reach of normal people? Will we still be restricted to travel only in our home countries? Even if we are allowed and can afford overseas travel, will our first thoughts be to Scotland to meet and greet our Pringle kin?

I am, of course, very happy to help organise such a gathering (and to host a part of it) – especially as the local on the ground – if you are interested, please let me have some indication of your thoughts and intent over the next few months.

There is a suggestion that we should organise a world-wide Pringle Zoom call later this year, perhaps in a few months, and this might be the time to give me a guide on how you're thinking. Please let us know if you'd like to join this call and we'll send an invitation once we have a time and date to suit the majority.

In the meantime, thank you all for your interest in, and support of, all things Pringle – I hope to hear from as many of you as possible in the next few weeks with your thoughts and I hope that your many and varied lives start to improve as those weeks progress.

*James Pringle of Torwoodlee
Chairman, Clan Pringle Association*



Braw Lads Gathering

This event takes place at the end of June each year and includes many events and traditions over the course of a week in and around Galashiels. Wednesday evening is Torwoodlee Night. This involves the Principals meeting with the Laird of Torwoodlee, who allows them to take a Sod and Stone from the grounds.

The history relating to this, dates back to 1503 when James IV of Scotland married Margaret Tudor of England in what was known as the marriage of the Thistle and the Rose. 100 years later this led to the union of the Crowns and as part of Margaret's marriage settlement she was given Ettrick Forest and Newark Tower. In those days, the transfer of ownership was done by the symbolic exchange of earth and stone.



Around 140 riders on horseback follow a planned route from the muster point at Netherdale car park through the town and out the A7 to Torwoodlee where they stop whilst the Principals carry out their ceremonial duties. From there the cavalcade return via the A72 where they join behind the fancy dress parade to go through the town to the awaiting crowds. Please visit the Braw Lads Gathering website www.thebrawlads-gathering.co.uk, for more information and photos on the history and many events included in this Gathering.

Due to Covid-19 the gathering events for both 2020 and 2021 were conducted online. Please take a few minutes to view the 2021 video of Torwoodlee Night (link below). You will see the ceremony of removing the sod and stone and will also see an interview with Laird James as he shares some of the history of Torwoodlee Tower and the Pringle family.

[Torwoodlee Night – 2021 Braw Lads Gathering](http://www.thebrawlads-gathering.co.uk)



Note: We acknowledge the work and research of James M. Pringle, CPA Website Manager, in this wonderful article on the history of the Pringles. Others, including James Bruce Pringle, have contributed years of research to the information here. While this article is much longer than the norm for our newsletter, we feel it needs to be presented as one whole piece. We greatly appreciate James's summation of Pringle history in Scotland and express a big "well done" for his work.

We welcome [debate and/or comment](#) on this article from Pringle history buffs!!

Derek Pringle

The Early History of the Hoppingills of Hoppingill

Introduction: There has been so much incorrect speculation on the origin of the Pringle family, its true history needs to be clarified. The surname Pringle is a placename, named after a place called "Hoppringle", the original homestead of the Pringle family. The early form of the name was Hoppingill, eventually it became shortened to Pringle. The first Pringle recorded in historical records was Robert de Hoppryngil. He appears as a witness to a gift to the Augustinian Hospital of Soltre (now called Soutra Aisle) in a charter contained in the Chartulary of Soltre c.1265-1275 which was confirmed by King Alexander III of Scots (1249-86) in the 13th century. His grandson Elias de Hoppingill was stated to be a tenant of the Bishop of St Andrews in the Ragman Rolls of 1296. We have no historical evidence to support the idea that Robert, the first known Pringle, may have been a pilgrim who came back from the Crusades and was granted the Hoppringle lands by the bishop for his troubles. The suggestion that Pringle is a corruption of 'Pilgrim' or its Latin equivalent 'Pelerin', is equally fallacious.

DNA: Pringles origins prior to this time were unknown until recently, when members of the Clan Pringle Association undertook DNA tests. The deep ancestry DNA tests show that the ethnic origin of the Pringles is the Haplogroup R1b-S21 Germanic (also known as R1b-U106), proving that the Pringles are descended from the Northumbrian Angles and not from other ethnic groups such as the Ancient Britons, Caledonian Picts, Gaelic Scots or Norse Vikings. This corroborates the author Alexander Pringle's opinion that all three syllables of the surname 'Hope-ring-hill' (the haven on the round hill) are all from Old English and not from any other language.

Historical Background: Historically the Scottish Borders area was settled by the Votadini tribe of the Ancient Britons, until the first Angles invaded and settled in the Borders in the early 6th century. The first Angle king of Bernicia (Lothians and Borders) was King Ida, who is said to have obtained the throne in about 547. King Ida's grandson Aethelfrith united the kingdoms of Bernicia and Deira into the kingdom of Northumbria in about the year 604. The Borders remained in Angle possession until Malcolm II, King of Scots defeated the Northumbrians at the Battle of Carham in 1018 taking the Scottish frontier down to the River Tweed. The Angle residents of the Borders then paid homage to their new Scots King and were naturalised as Scots subjects.

Early Hoppingills: From 1099, when David the youngest son of King Malcolm III was made Prince of the Cumbrians (he later became King David I of Scots (1084-1153)), he became pivotal in the unwritten history of the early Hoppingills. The Principality of the Cumbrians then consisted of both Strathclyde and the Scottish Borders, making Prince David the feudal overlord of the Hoppingills. David is believed to have founded Roxburgh Castle (just outside Kelso in the Borders) and it seems to have been the favourite residence of many of the early Scottish Kings before the Scottish War of Independence. David also founded Selkirk Abbey in 1113 (which moved to Kelso in 1128), Jedburgh Abbey in 1118, Melrose Abbey in 1136 and Newbattle Abbey in 1140.



Original family home of Hoppingills

Hoppingill Lands: These lay within the Lordship of Stow in Wedale, in the Regality of St. Andrews, in the County of Edinburghshire (now called Midlothian). It was King David I of Scots who gave the Lordship of Stow in Wedale to the Bishop of St Andrews (later Archbishops) and from that time on the Hoppingills were subject to the feudal lordship of the bishops.

Neighbours: Immediately to the east of the Hoppingill lands lay the Lordship of Lauderdale. King David I of Scots also created the feudal Lordship of the Regality of Lauderdale and gave it to Hugh de Moreville (1138-1162), whom he also made the Constable of Scotland. The Lordship of Lauderdale and the office of Constable of Scotland passed to his son Richard de Moreville (1162-1189), and after him to Alan of Galloway, who was the son of Helena, daughter of Richard de Moreville. The Lordship of Lauderdale then passed through Alan's daughter Dervorguilla, to his grandson King John Balliol. After the Scottish War of Independence King Robert the Bruce gave the Lordship of Lauderdale to the Good Sir James Douglas (the Black Douglas). The Lordship of Lauderdale then became one of the subsidiary titles of the Earls of Douglas until their fall in 1455. The Earls of Douglas also possessed the Lordship of the Forest (The Ettrick/Selkirkshire Forest) to the southwest of Hoppingill. So, the Pringles were caught between being vassals of the Crown, the Archbishops of St Andrews and the Earls of Douglas for many years.

Scottish War of Independence: The history of the Hoppingills is not recorded during this period. Sir William Wallace is long believed to have been knighted and made Guardian of Scotland in the 'Kirk o' the Forest' (Selkirk) in 1298, and the men of the Forest (the Selkirkshire Forest) are said to have supported him. Perhaps the Hoppingills were amongst them.

Robert the Bruce was crowned King of Scotland in 1306. His success at the Battle of Bannockburn in 1314 essentially brought Scottish Independence, and the treaty of Northampton

in 1328 recognized him as King of Scotland and renounced all English claims to overlordship. King Robert died in 1329 and at his request his friend and lieutenant, the 'Good' Sir James Douglas, along with seven other knights, set out to bury his heart in Jerusalem in 1330. Sir James died fighting the Moors in Spain at the battle of Teba en route. His body and King Robert's heart were found on the battlefield and returned to Scotland for burial. The Pringles were the squires and men-at-arms to the Earls of Douglas, and it is believed that they would have accompanied Sir James to the pilgrim site of Saint James of Compostela in northern Spain. However, only the knights were named, so it is impossible to be sure. Ever since this time however, the Pringles have used the badge of St James (an escallop) as their principal heraldic device.

Squires to the Earls of Douglas: Since that time Hoppringill men have been squires to each of the nine (Black Douglas) Earls of Douglas. At the same time many Hoppringills were servants in the royal households of James III, IV and V. The chiefs of the name, the Hoppringills of Hoppringill were the only Pringles with land until 1408, when Robert Hoppringill (a younger son of William Hoppringill of that ilk and a Douglas squire) obtained the lands of Pilmuir and Smailholm from Archibald, 4th Earl of Douglas. After the fall of the Black Douglases in 1455, several Pringles were able to obtain land, forest steads in the Ward of Tweed in the Selkirkshire Forest, of which George Pringle (Douglas squire) was the Master Ranger.

In summary, the Hoppringills should be viewed in the context of the Scottish Borders and its history. They were not Gaelic speaking kilt wearing Scottish Highlanders but were part of the distinct lowland Scots Borders tradition.

??? Ancestry Questions ???

Submit your Ancestry question and others may be able to provide you some answers. Responses can be sent directly to questioner or posted in the next Newsletter [here](#)

I live in Ireland, on the Meath/Cavan border, but a lot of our family moved to the various parts of US/Canada over the years. We had an Ice Company in New York City in the early 1900s. They are my cousins, my immediate family stayed here, mostly farming, for around 200 years but before that I'm not sure yet...it looks like we came from Scotland in the 1600s though, and if you think you are related to our little recorded Irish family I'd be interested to hear from you *Adam Pringle* (www.facebook.com/groups/clanpringleassociationofnorthamerica)

Ambrose Pringle (my great great grandfather) (b: 1830 in New York? Coming from Vermont?)

- Otis Pringle (my great grandfather)
- Almon Pringle (my grandfather)
- Richard Eugene Pringle (my dad)
- Richard Donald Pringle (me)
- Richard Donald Pringle II (my son)
- Richard Donald Pringle III (my son's son)

IT@richardpringle.com

A Pringle on the International Business scene!

Abigail Pringle, President, International and Chief Development Officer of The Wendy's Company, says, "We're excited to expand Wendy's presence across the Central Asia Region with world-class, experienced franchisees that have strong operations experience, local development expertise and a proven track record for growing brands internationally."

Abigail is the oldest daughter of Dr. James O. Pringle, member of Clan Pringle NA Steering Committee, and Dr. Jane Pringle. Our warmest 'congratulations' to Abigail and to her proud parents.



CLAN PRINGLE ASSOCIATION AGM

The Annual General Meeting is set for July 31, 2021. Due to Covid-19 it will not be in-person, neither will it be via zoom. Annual reports will be submitted to the Secretary, Sir Murray by July 19 and he will send the email package out to all members. Responses to these reports can be submitted by email prior to July 31. *If not yet a member and you wish to receive the reports and be engaged in the process please register online and submit the annual membership (£15 or \$20US)*

http://www.clanpringle.co.uk/html/clan_association.html

??Fall/Autumn Zoom Gathering??

Because this year's AGM is neither in-person or via Zoom, some of the Trustees have suggested we do a separate Zoom Gathering in the Fall/Autumn. So we put out the question now: - Would you be interested in a Zoom Gathering in a few month's time? Please send your response to the CPA Secretary at murraypringle@btinternet.com or the CPA Chairman at torwoodlee@torwoodlee.com

An International Gathering of Pringles?

The CPA Board of trustees have given consideration to a grand International Event in the summer of 2022. The thinking has been of an in-person gathering in "Pringle Country" in the heart of Scotland's Southern Borders. As of this moment, no firm decision has been made. Obviously, because of Covid-19 there remains uncertainty whether such an in-person event would be safe, or whether Pringles from around the world will feel ready to travel. We will have to continue to monitor what's happening with the pandemic as we consider future plans.



Share Your Stories

- * You have a story to tell; how you found a family contact, a fun incident, a surprise find.
- * A unique Pringle man/woman – their noted accomplishments, good character, scandal.
- * Tell us about your primary interest in the overall Pringle story?
- * Offer ideas or suggestions about how to prevail with ancestry research.
- * You've got a question – perhaps some other Pringle reader has the answer.

Next Issue: October 2021. Please submit your article (**500 words or less**) by October 13

to the email below as a Word doc or within the body of your email

pringlenewsletter@gmail.com

Some of you may feel you are not authors

But we say:

*"Why not give it a whirl".
Share your Pringle story.*

The Editorial Team is ready to help/edit wherever it is needed.

Click [here](#) to have Newsletter sent to your email