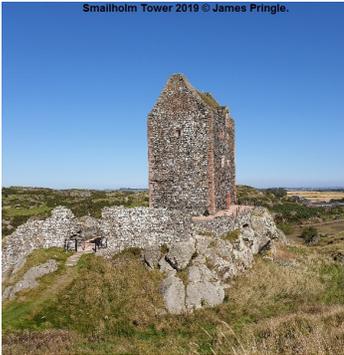




# Clan Pringle Newsletter

April 2022, Issue 9



Smallholm Tower 2019 © James Pringle.

## Index

From the Editors	1
Anniversaries	1
Chairman's Letter	2
Color the Family Tree	2
Pringle Potato Crisps	3
The Unusual Life of a Scottish Clan Chief <i>cont</i>	3
Ancestry Questions	4
Announcements	4
Share your Stories	4
Share your Comments	4



## Editorial Team



Derek



Erika



James M



Pam

## From the Editors – Pringle Peace Principles??

The war in Ukraine has captivated the attention of people around the world over the past two months. The horrors shown on our TV screens of people's homes and apartments destroyed, and thousands of civilians killed, shock our senses. How can this be happening in the 21<sup>st</sup> century in "civilized" Europe. In this letter we draw your attention to two Pringle principles which speak to this moment:

1. This week we learned that hundreds of hospitals and medical clinics have been destroyed or damaged in Ukraine. The violation of these emergency and medical centers reminds us of the work of a great Pringle medic, Dr Sir John Pringle of Pal Mall (1707-82), Physician and Author (see Clan Pringle website, scroll to bottom of home page and click "contents" in "Menu" list) who negotiated for safe places for the wounded and sick even in the midst of war. The Red Cross developed Pringle's idea, however, last week as the Red Cross tried to enter Mariupol, they were forced to turn back because of the bombings and indiscriminate missile attacks. Dr Sir John's ethic of compassion and mercy for the most vulnerable in such situations is certainly a principle all nations should observe.



2. In our October 2021 Pringle Quarterly Newsletter, Hamish Pringle raised some helpful insights into the translation of the Pringle motto "Amicitia Reddit Honores". With assistance from a Virginian Latin teacher, Beverly Foot, he helped us see the context in the 16<sup>th</sup> century when the motto was awarded. "As in 1592, various Pringles appeared before the King with other border Lairds, giving an oath to faithfully serve as Wardens... in keeping the peace" in their area along the Southern Boarder. So, Hamish adds, "the primary reason for the awarding of the motto by the King was in recognition of our forefathers' role in mitigating conflict... In this historical and linguistic context, a more pertinent and relevant translation of "Amicitia Reddit Honores" would be "Peace brings Rewards". The translation is also timely given the factious societies we live amongst". Considering that Hamish wrote these comments last October before the outbreak of the war in Ukraine, we can almost see a prophetic tone in his analysis. Amicitia (friendship) in human relationships is in contrast to threats and violence between peoples. If only more chose this pathway, the world would be a kinder, gentler and safer place.



Yes, we Pringles can have influence in all of this, whether in upholding the moral ethic espoused by Dr Sir John or, adhering to the themes of "Friendship" and "Peace" embedded in the Pringle Family Motto. These principles are examples of what is needed for better human relationships between people everywhere.

*Derek, Erika, James, and Pam*



## Celebrations!!

Pringle Newsletter celebrates its 2nd anniversary

Clan Chief Announcement from the Lyon Court in Scotland 2nd anniversary

## CPA Board of Trustees

<b>Chairman</b> - James W. Pringle of Torwoodlee, 14th Laird, Scotland	Alastair Pringle , England
<b>Secretary</b> - Sir Murray Pringle, 10th Bart. , England	Andrew Pringle, England
<b>Treasurer</b> - Mrs Priscilla Dorman (nee Pringle), England	William Pringle III, NA Rep. USA
James M. Pringle, CPA Website Administrator	Derek Pringle, NA Rep. USA

## A Message from your Chairman:

Hello:

Here at Torwoodlee it is spring – the temperature is rising, the grass is starting to grow, calves are being born and lambing is about to start. There is even a hint of green on some of the trees and everything is looking good for the annual rebirth and the push towards summer.

There has been some discussion over the last couple of years about the lack of opportunity for a chance to meet and talk about subjects Pringle as well as the future direction of the Association.

I have volunteered to host a gathering here at Torwoodlee on the evening of Friday July 1, 2022 to discuss future plans for our Association without the formality of the AGM which really deals just with the necessary workings of the charity and the information requested by ‘the authorities’. The date has been chosen to allow those with an interest to join in with Braw Lads’ Day the next day which is the highlight and culmination of the Galashiels Common Riding week.

Please note that this is not a gathering with a capital G but a get-together of those who feel comfortable travelling and mingling for social purposes and to allow good talk to flow.

I have looked at the logistics and, having originally imagined a hybrid real-life-and-virtual event, I fear that the virtual part simply won’t work here so we are left with a hope that we can gather in person, in the clean Scottish fresh air, to enjoy one another’s company and some hospitality.

Please let me know if you are able to come so I can organise my grocery shopping (!) and I shall look forward to the first live CPA event in Scotland for well over two years. I will of course let you have more information closer to the time.

Stay well and safe

James, 14<sup>th</sup> of Torwoodlee



View from office window

## Colouring in the Family Tree

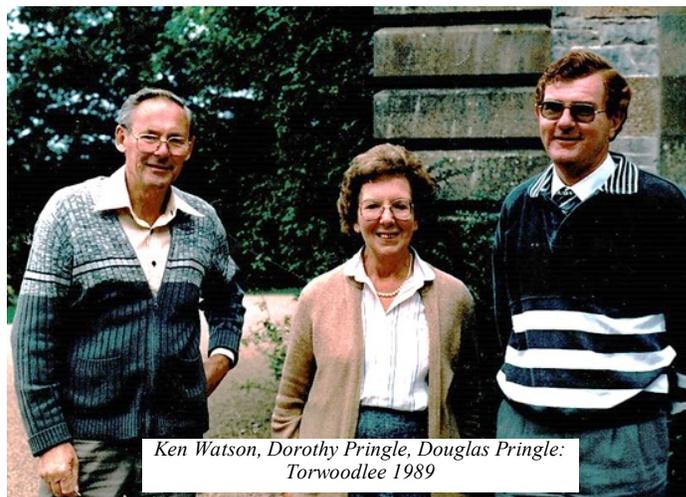
This piece is written by Douglas Roger Scott Pringle. Douglas is a descendant of a party led by Thomas Pringle (*poet and abolitionist*) which left Scotland in 1820 to settle in South Africa. This article identifies family members who kindled Douglas’s interest in discovering more of his heritage.

My parents moved from South Africa to New Zealand in 1955 when I was 4 years old. My grandparents and some wider family had already settled in New Zealand. When I was 17 years of age my Grandmother Margret Pringle gave me her copy of *The Record of the Pringles* by Alex Pringle. She said she was giving me the book as I wouldn’t get it any other way. My grandmother’s trust in me started my interest in the Pringle family tree.

*Pringle of Valleys* by Eric, Mark, and John Pringle describes the

South African settlers’ family trees in some detail and I was born in time to appear in it. I would borrow my father’s or aunt’s copy to check on relatives when our paths crossed. My aunt Shirley Sparks (nee Pringle) encouraged my interest.

The prospect of “colouring in the family tree” by visiting historical Pringle sites was stimulated by Dorothy Pringle of Torwoodlee - James W. Pringle’s mother. Touring Scotland in 1989 with my mum and stepdad, we discovered Torwoodlee House. It had been open for viewing during the summer as a historic home-stead. Our visit was in autumn, but, on phoning, Dorothy invited us in “as the house is never closed to a Pringle”. This visit was an eye opener for me.



Ken Watson, Dorothy Pringle, Douglas Pringle:  
Torwoodlee 1989

Dorothy gave us a personal tour. We were able to go behind the roped off areas, explore books and treasures, and enjoy her commentary. Most significantly, she showed us four family trees, handwritten and beautifully set out. She worked out that as South African descendants, we were from the Whytbank branch. I was able to replicate the Whytbank family tree on return to New Zealand. (This was prior to the yDNA project).

Dorothy explained how to access the Whytbank tower high up on the east slope of Knowes Hill. The tower was in ruins, but scaffolding for restoration was present. We had much fun exploring, commencing the journey of “colouring in the family tree”. While in the borders, Smailholm tower and Melrose Abby were also high-lights.

The next opportunity to visit Scotland was 2004. My stepdad had died so it was just mum and me. We were able to engage in some serious “Pringling”. James and Alice were now in Torwoodlee and they guided us on our adventures. We visited the place of origin



Douglas, Alice & James W. Pringle.  
Torwoodlee 2004

of the Pringle name in the Parish of Stow, along with the restored Whytbank tower, Gala house, and church cemeteries. Dorothy was in her new insulated cottage; it was very sad saying "goodbye" realising we might never see her again.

However, since the yDNA project results there is now much more to explore in the Scottish Borders such as Kelso and Blakelaw, if funds, age and Covid permit.

In her later years my mum explained where she wanted her ashes scattered in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. That morphed overtime to "I will show you where I want my ashes scattered". The South African family tree colouring didn't start until 2005 when I was able to briefly visit with mum. In her legacy mum left funds for me and my sister to undertake a second South Africa trip in 2017 to scatter her ashes. The Pringle family in South Africa were excellent hosts and guided us to explore in detail all the places where South African Pringles have lived, but that, is another story.

*Douglas Pringle, NewZealand*



*Restored Whytbank Tower*

## PRINGLE POTATO CRISPS:

*From whence the Pringle name?*

Ever wonder about the famous Pringles Potato Chips and if they had a connection with Clan Pringle? In 1956, Procter & Gamble asked chemist Fredric J. Baur to develop a new type of potato chip which addressed consumers complaints about stale, greasy, broken chips in a mostly air-filled bag. It took Fredric two years developing the saddle shaped chips, from fried potato dough, to fit inside the familiar tube-shaped packaging. They were introduced to the Indiana market in 1968. By 1975, they were available across the United States, and introduced to the UK in 1991.



Now, how did Pringles get their name?

Well, there are a few theories about the name. "One theory refers to Mark Pringle, who filed a US Patent 2,286,644 titled "Method and Apparatus for Processing Potatoes" on March 5, 1937. Pringle's work was cited by P&G in filing their own patent for improving the taste of dehydrated processed potatoes. Another theory suggests that two P&G advertising employees lived on Pringle Drive in Finneytown (north of Cincinnati, OH). They felt the name paired well with "potato chips". Another one says that P&G chose the Pringle name from a Cincinnati telephone book. A fourth source says that the name Pringles was "chosen out of a hat" to promote a family name appeal."

Pringles was originally named, "Pringles Newfangled Potato Chips." Many other snack companies objected, saying Pringles didn't meet the definition of a potato chip since they were made from a potato dough and not sliced from real potatoes. In 1975, the US court ruled that Pringles could use chip in their name, within the phrase: "potato chips made from dried potatoes." Pringles then renamed their chips, crisps. They are known as Pringles Crisps Chips in today's marketing. The familiar mustache changes size and style to grasp attention.

So, the name origin of these very famous crisps-chips is still a mystery, but, a good choice!

*Erika Bentley, New Jersey*

*Information for the above article was sourced from the following Wikipedia page which lists multiple references.*

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pringles>

*We want to thank Sir Murray for submitting an article on his personal life journey giving Pringles worldwide a chance to "Meet the Chief". Part I of this article was published in our January 2022 issue and covered the first half of his very active life. This issue contains Part II and brings us up to the end of 1991. Part III will appear in our July 2022 issue and will conclude this story.*

## THE UNUSUAL LIFE OF A SCOTTISH CLAN CHIEF (Part II)

*Sir Norman Murray Archibald MacGregor Pringle of that Ilk and Stichill Bt,  
Chief of the Honourable Clan Pringle*

In 1981, we emigrated to South Africa, living in Johannesburg for a year. I worked as a Senior Management Consultant with Deloitte. We moved to Jwaneng in Botswana in 1982, where I was Mine Secretary of De Beers Jwaneng Diamond Mine in the Kalahari Desert, still the world's most wealthy diamond mine. Their security systems were sophisticated and included X-rays and hand on plate stress testing. Diamond sorting is done in the Diamond Trading House in Gaborone. The diamonds are weighed every 15 minutes. On my visit, my wife had to sit in the waiting room but, I got to hold \$5million worth of diamonds in one hand! The Kalahari Desert is so flat that one can see the mine dump 40 miles away at night. The mine had just opened. In the two years that we were there the population of the town grew from under 2,000 to over 10,000. Initially, I acted as the Town Clerk. Looking after a township was something I never expected to do, I oversaw the usual public services, also a TV station, clubs, hostels and hotels and legal administration.

Following completion of my two-year contract, I started an accountancy business in 1985 with the Internal Auditor from the mine, Jim Rickards FCA, who was a good friend. The business was difficult at first. Every month I had to visit our debtors to collect enough to pay the expenses of the business. Eventually, we sold the business to Ernst & Whinney, one of the then big five accounting firms.

In 1985, I got a contract as Commission Secretary of the Joint Permanent Technical Commission of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project based in Maseru. This was an appointment under a Treaty between South Africa and Lesotho (a landlocked country encircled by South Africa), to build two dams, a hydro-electric scheme, roads, bridges, townships 48 km of tunnels and other facilities. The over-



arching objective of the Project was to transfer water from the Malibamat'so river from the Maluti (Drakensburg) mountains in Lesotho to the Vaal triangle of South Africa.

Phase 1A of the Project was massive costing over US\$7 billion. My job carried diplomatic status in South Africa and Lesotho. The main Katse dam on the Malibamat'so river became the highest in Africa at 185 metres. Lesotho was at that time undergoing political problems. Chief Jonathon had been murdered and the king restored to his throne. Nevertheless, I liked the country (despite being shot at!) but did not enjoy the job which was politically charged as so much money was involved.

In 1989, after two years in Lesotho, we left for Newbury, UK. I had completed my chartered accountancy exams and was hired as Chief Accountant for The British Shops & Stores Association, now part of the British Retail Consortium.

Lys died in December 1991 at the age of 47. In 1992 I married Tri- cia. I worked in Cairo Egypt from November 1991 to December 2001 on a European Commission (EC) Project called the Food Sector Development Programme combining milk, edible oil, and Rinderpest extermination with a credit line of €50million which morphed with additional grant funding into the Agricultural Sector Development Programme. I was the Financial Advisor and the Deputy Team Leader (of 8 consultants initially).

In December 1991, our first formal meeting with our boss, Prof Dr Mamdouh Sherafeldin, the Counsellor to the Minister of Agriculture and Deputy Prime Minister Yousef Wali known to us as "uncle Joe". The three of us who comprised the advance guard (of eight) were seated at one end of a long conference table with the Counsellor (a former UNDP official) and other officials at the other end. His first remark was to the effect that we were forced upon him and that he had perfectly capable people sitting beside him. Two years later he put his arm around my shoulder and told me that the only people he trusted in the whole of the Ministry of Agriculture (250,000 employees) were me and my Team Leader Jan Taaks. *(To be continued in our July issue).*

## Ancestry Questions

*Please check these out and respond directly if you can provide information that will help to expand these family trees.*

I recently completed my 100% Scottish ancestry with most lines traced back to the late 1600s & 1700s. My G5 grandmother is **Isabell Pringle**, married to Thomas Brokie. I can't find their b.m.d. data. Their daughter **Agnes Brokie**, was born/baptised 1750 in Mertoun, Berwickshire. Agnes married (1768 Edinburgh) James Bryden (a teacher, b. 1740 Edinburgh - d. 1792 Leith South. They had at least 6 children including my G3 grand-

Father Thomas Bryden (a watchmaker, b.1779 Edinburgh, d.1855 Dundottar). Thomas relocated to Angus, married and had children in Angus and Fife.

My grandfather, in 1901(aged 18), adopted the name Bryden (grandmother's maiden name) as his middle name -also my middle name.

John Bryden Christie [john.christie20@bigpond.com](mailto:john.christie20@bigpond.com)  
Korora, NSW, Australia

My mother's name was Judith Ann Pringle, daughter of Benjamin Drummond Pringle and Doris Thompson. My interest was truly awakened when 12 years ago I visited Bath Abbey in Somerset. To the left of the main door, was an inscription to John(?) Pringle of Stichill, 2nd Baronet. Many of the names in that inscription related to names in my Pringle family but also included Drummond and Margaret (my mother's little sister's name, she lived only a few months). I would love to know if I am connected to these Pringles.

Mum often talked about Galashiels where she said the family had connections. Her father, (d. 1937 aged 35), had a textile company in that area. Could he have had some connection with Pringle's Wool Family?

My grandfather Benjamin Drummond Pringle had a brother, Peter Alan Holmes Pringle, and I am hoping that some of his family will be able to contact me. Their father, my great grandfather, Peter Pringle was vicar of Saltaire Church for 27 years. He died in 1927 - his obituary indicates, of a broken heart. He appears to have been a wonderful man who did much good in Saltaire and was loved and respected. He studied at Glasgow School of Art before he was ordained. This gives me great pleasure to know as I also am an artist.

Vanessa Ventiroso [yventiroso@gmail.com](mailto:yventiroso@gmail.com)

I've got a possible 14 generation search going for my grandson. It all hinges on finding a connection between Luman and Ambrose Pringle. Some link my ancestors to Amasa Pringle through his son Luman .

Amasa Pringle: born (21 Mar 1766) in Putnam, Kent, NY and died (Abt 1844) in Winfield, Herkimer, NY

Luman Pringle: born (20 May 1791) in Richfield, Otsego, NY and died (17 Aug 1865) in Waterford, Erie, PA

Ambrose Pringle: born (1830) in Spring Creek, Warren Co., PA and died (1865) in Green Township, Crawford County, Erie, PA. (can't find where Ambrose is buried, or lived 1860 - 1865, nor any reference to his parents, in either PA, or NY.)

Otis A. Pringle born (1852) in Erie Co., PA and died (1917) in Crawford County PA.

I've got tons of Pringle information dating back to 1500's willing to share with others. I've been researching since 1985, but STILL can't find a solid connection between Ambrose and Luman (or other) connection.

Richard D. Pringle [it@richardpringle.com](mailto:it@richardpringle.com)  
Michigan

## Informal Gathering at Torwoodlee

Friday evening July 1, 2022, to discuss future plans for our Association. See more details in James W.'s letter, p.2.

## Annual General Meeting

The 2022 AGM, as in the past 2 years, will be the sharing of written reports with members via email. Members can then reply with comments to the Secretary. Register and pay dues prior to the AGM (usually in early July) in order to participate. [Membership registration & dues](#) (scroll down to end of page)

## 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:** July 2022. Please submit your article (**500 words or less**) by July13  
*to the email below as a Word doc or within the body of your email*

[pringlenewsletter@gmail.com](mailto: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