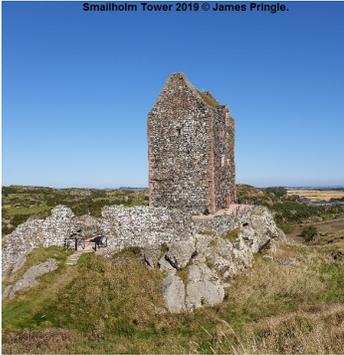




# Clan Pringle Newsletter

July 2022, Issue 9



Smallholm Tower 2019 © James Pringle.

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## Editorial Team



Derek



Erika



James M



Pam

### From the Editorial Team:

### “THE YEAR OF FAMILY CONNECTIONS”

Dear Friends,

At a recent meeting of Clan Pringle NA Steering Committee we were discussing plans for a Fall Pringle Gathering. One of the members suggested using the WikiTree theme for our Fall Gathering, “The year of Family Connections”. Bob added “I like that one, after all, isn’t that what it’s all about anyway – family connections”.



WikiTree’s free site, where genealogists collaborate, is marking 2022 as The Year of Family Connections. They have now passed the milestone of 30 million ancestors and relatives. They email a weekly bulletin and recently at the bottom of the page have added an interesting fun section “featured connections for [your name here]”. The June 1 bulletin listed my name as 19 degrees from Queen Elizabeth 2<sup>nd</sup>, Windsor. The Queen might be “not amused” by this, but there it is with just 19 connection steps.

As suggested in previous issues, we encourage individuals to go to the WikiTree site. You’ll find a large number of Pringles there. Add your name and a few family connections and see what results you get.

Another suggestion. During this year of Family Connections make a plan to reach out directly to another Pringle, perhaps once a month. You can do that through the Pringle Facebook page, WikiTree, Ancestry, etc. It may be another Pringle in your local area, or someone who has listed an ancestor’s name that you think might also be connected to your tree. In your contacts please be polite, show Pringle ‘friendship’, and simply move on if not welcomed.

The Pringle family motto “Amicitia Reddit Honores” embraces the characteristic “friendship” at it’s core. When we live into this characteristic we are able to make connections. And as, Bob, from our Steering Committee said, “after all, isn’t that what it’s all about anyway – family connections”.

All the best.

*The Editorial Team, Derek, Erika, James M, and Pam.*

*P.S. See “Greetings from Torwoodlee” p.2 for example of how to make “family connections”.*

*“Amicitia Semper Prodest” - Friendship always benefits*



### 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

*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. Part II in the April 2022 issue brought us up to the end of 1991. Part III below*

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

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

For the next four years to December 2005, I worked on various short and medium-term consulting assignments in the UK, Egypt, and Romania, usually as the Financial Expert or Team Leader.

In 2005, now also a Certified Management Consultant, I was head hunted to work on another EC project in Egypt called the Financial Sector Investment Cooperation - Rural Project (FISC-R) as the Banking, Credit and Finance Expert. This was essentially another credit line like the lines of the FSDP and the ASDP. I set-up a credit line similar to them. The contract was for four years with seven months initial input beginning November 2005. Thereafter it was five months/year, concluding in January 2009. All these programmes were externally evaluated as outstanding. Our work benefitted more than 100,000 people.

In 1998, whilst in Cairo, Tricia and I started an expatriate's club in Maadi, the Association of Cairo Expatriates, generally called the ACE Club. It became very successful with over 1,000 members and a similar number of visitors each month. We haven't taken part in the running of the club for many years now. I was the founding Chairman and Tricia was the first Secretary.

I was nominated confidentially for a UK honour in 2009 by my good friend John Rhodes, former Team Leader of FISC-R. This nomination was supported by the Junior Minister of Agriculture, the Committee of the Association of Cairo Expatriates (ACE) Club and others. I learnt later that my nomination was considered at OBE level by the Honours Committee. It was rejected because the British Ambassador in Cairo did not endorse it.

The British Community Association (BCA) Club was based in Dokki which was not a popular area with expatriates, most of whom lived in Maadi. The British Consul, Jenny Taylor, was on the Committee, and I was the Hon Treasurer. The BCA Club Chairman opposed opening a club in Maadi despite the demographics. The Consul herself proposed that we go ahead with a donation from BCA. This we duly did, despite considerable opposition from the BCA, and the British Embassy in the form of a new Consul, as Jenny retired to Cyprus. We were far more successful than the BCA with many more members. Ironically the BCA Club later moved to Maadi as well. Such is club politics.

I learnt an important lesson from the Arabs who work on a "trust basis". The EC ruled that after eight years the contract must be retendered. Prof Sherafeldin persuaded the EU to extend the contract for a further two years. Sherafeldin told the EC that they could insist on a retender, but the ministry would not accept any other consultants. The Team was reduced to just Jan Taaks, the Team Leader, and I. The EU Ambassador agreed that the Ministry could make a formal request to the Commissioner of External Aid and Deputy President of the EC Chris Patten (now Lord Patten).



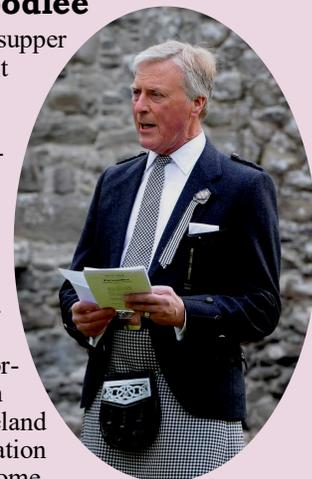
I duly drafted the required letter. To my surprise some six weeks later I was asked to draft Chris Patten's response! Needless to say, we got the extension!

I am honoured, as Chief, to be the Patron of the Clan Pringle Association which is a family charity. Under my other hat, as Secretary, I assist in the running of the organisation. The Chairman is James Pringle, Laird of Torwoodlee. I am also a Director, CFO, and major investor, with my Co-director and CEO Jim Turnbull, of a small group of companies. HRH Prince Charles has two houses in a village close to our Romanian company and has visited our operation twice. Our Romanian company is a certified social enterprise, and we also have the prestigious British Retail Consortium certification. At the age of 80, I still manage to keep busy!

## **Greetings from Torwoodlee**

As promised, Alice and I hosted a supper on July 1st and we had a lovely visit from Robin and Ikuko Pringle who had travelled up from London. Because it was only those two, we dispensed with the barbecue and offered them sustenance in the house, and we spoke about many things including Pringles.

Then on the 12th July we met Jean-Jacques and Nathalie Pringel from Belgium who are in the Scottish Borders researching their ancestor John (born 1671 in Stow) who was in Ireland for some time – any further information on this John Pringle would be welcome.



[www.facebook.com/brawladsgathering/](http://www.facebook.com/brawladsgathering/)

And in between times, Alice and I had a great morning following the Braw Lad and Braw Lass of Galashiels riding the marches of the town and performing their duties in various traditional ceremonies for the first time in 3 years and supported by a large part of the townsfolk (known as Galaleans).

And so some semblance of normality returns...how much of the old ways will persist we wait to see.

Stay safe and stay well.

*James of Torwoodlee*



*Braw lads gathering in Galashiels, July 2022  
Photo by Dougie Johnston*

## Pringle Knitwear

*Beginning in 1815 to Limited Liability Company in 1922*

The word “Knit” appears in Royal English grammar in 1530, although evidence of knitting goes back to AD 250. Originally a cottage industry, knitting became industrialised with the invention of a mechanical knitting frame by William Lee in 1589. By 1640 cloth factories or mills became established in Scotland.

In 1794 William Beck hosiery manufacture in Hawick employed a John Pringle, 16 years old, as an apprentice. By 1815 John was a partner in WALDIE, PRINGLE, & WILSON CO-PARTNERY.

John’s half-brother, Robert Pringle was employed as an apprentice in 1802 to a master hosier William Laing. 1807 to 1815 was a difficult time for the English hosiery industry due to the war in France lowering earnings, bad harvests, hosiery made of cut pieces, and Luddite rioting destroying knitting frames. Scotland’s hosiers responded by focusing on quality, with Hawick being recognised as the seat of woollen manufacture.

Wilson left the co-partnery in 1819 and Mr Waldie died in 1825. The Beck hosiery firm collapsed in 1826. In 1842 ROBERT PRINGLE & SON was formed operating in premises in Cross Wynd, Hawick, used by the 1815 co-partnery. Roberts’s second son, Walter Pringle joined as an apprentice in 1842. Robert died in 1859 aged 64, and Walter took over the firm.

At this time there were some 1200 knitting frames in Hawick. The 1820’s saw improvements in knitting frames with the introduction of the “broad”(or briad) frame which produced knitted underwear. Mechanical carding and spinning was also introduced.

Robert Pringle and Son relocated in 1868, purchasing a converted brewery in Walter Wynd, Hawick. The company was now one of ten leading hosiery manufactures in Hawick.

Walter Pringle admitted two of his children to the business; Robert II (admitted 1885) and Douglas (admitted 1897). Robert II focused on marketing and export, while Douglas was on the factory side. Walter and his two sons are credited with making Pringle and Son prosperous with developments of silk and colour underwear, and exports. The hand operated knit frame was replaced by steam operated power frames. At the

close of the century the mill employed some 150 staff and Hawick underwear products were renowned for quality.

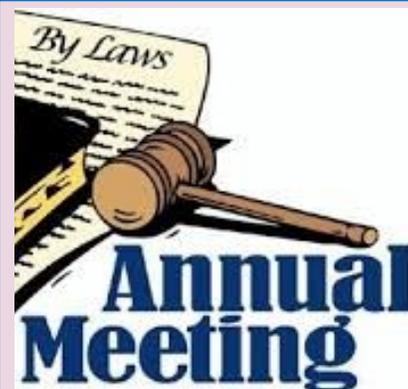
The 1899 Pringle catalogue featured 47 pages of underwear, made from wool, cashmere and silk. In 1905 James Boyd Sime a director of a Galashiels tweed firm joined the Pringle firm. A move to underwear commenced initially with swimsuits and dresses, and then sweaters. In 1914 the public demand for products dropped off and was replaced by orders from the war office. Robert’s son Gerald who had just completed his apprenticeship, joined the Kings Own Scottish Borderers. He died in action at Passchendaele on 12 October 1917, just 24 years old.

After the First World War the Pringle and Sons co-partnery was registered as a private company, ROBERT PRINGLE & SON Ltd

The above information is drawn from the book *Pringle of Scotland & the Hawick Knitwear Story* by Hugh Barty-King, published in JIG Publishing, Norfolk. It can be purchased through ABE or Amazon books.

Connecting the knitwear Pringles with other Pringle family branches is less precise than the above information. It is thought that the Pringle knitwear founders are descendants of John Hoppringle of Bents or Clifton (*personal communication with James Pringle of Torwoodlee*). Follow this link [Possible family connections](#)

*Douglas Pringle,  
New Zealand*



### Notes

- Submission of reports was due by July 1, 2022 and extended to July 8, 2022.
  - The Trustees did not meet during the year and engaged in no activities.
  - The Treasurer reported paid membership declined from 36 to 21
  - A total of 9 members voted. All reports approved.
- 
- The CPA website [www.pringle.info](http://www.pringle.info) - all materials from the old site have now been transferred to this new site and currently efforts are being made to create a Members Area page
  - CPA NA are planning a Pringle Gathering this Fall

### Board of Trustees

*Proposed Zoom Meeting*

Chairman James has emailed the members of the Board of Trustees with plans to set a date in the Fall (Autumn) for a board meeting. The last time the trustees met was in 2019. The general intent of the meeting is to have some ‘fellowship’ among the members, as well as time to discuss activities and future plans together.



BOARD MEETING

## William Leon Pringle, III

### *A Self-Introduction*

Hello fellow Clanspeople!

I am William Leon Pringle, III, a North American Trustee and proud member of the Clan Pringle Association. I have been married to my wonderful wife Lisa for 36 years and have two children, William IV (Billy), 32, and Paige, 27. I am very excited to share that my son Billy and his wife Lisa are expecting their first child in October. We are not sure whether we have another William on the way or perhaps an Isabelle (Grandpa's choice for a name after the prioress of Coldstream Abbey) as they have elected to not find out the sex of the baby.

My father passed away when I was relatively young and my father's father passed away when my father was just a boy, so my knowledge of the history of our family is quite limited. I wanted to make sure that my children had some knowledge of the history of the family, and thus began my research into our genealogy.

Fortunately for us Pringles, there are a number of genealogical resources for reference to begin our research. *The Records of the Pringles or Hoppringills of the Scottish Borders* by Alexander Pringle is the definitive reference source for the Pringle Family. It is not without a few errors, as James Bruce Pringle will point out, but it is the most comprehensive source of information on the Pringle family going back hundreds of years. Another great resource for those of us in North America is *The Prindle Genealogy 1654-1906: Embracing the Descendants of William Pringle the First Settler in Part for Six, Seven and Eight Generations and also the Ancestors and Descendants of Zalmon Prindle for Ten Generations, covering a period of two hundred and fifty-two years 1654 to 1906* by Franklin Cogswell Prindle. It is quite detailed and outlines all of the descendants of William Pringle who emigrated to New Haven Connecticut in 1653.

The Pringle DNA project is a great way of finding out more about your Pringle lineage. Through my participation in the Pringle DNA Project on Family Tree I found my particular branch of the family, Craigleith/Stitchill, and found my connection with another



Border family, the Hogg family. Please consider participating in the Project.

In 2014, the CPA hosted its first international Pringle Family Gathering in Scotland which was a fantastic event. Unfortunately, COVID-19 has put a damper on the CPA planning another international event until things normalize. However, the CPA North America has managed to hold a Gathering every two years with the last one being in 2020. Plans are in the works for another NA Gathering in the Fall of this year. Stay tuned for details on timing and venue (digital or in-person).

Looking forward to meeting you at the next Clan Pringle Association event!

*Bill Pringle*

## Comments and Questions

"... connections have been made during the year and many have come from the continued success of the Quarterly Newsletter and I would reiterate my thanks to the editorial team for their efforts." *JWP*

I live in Ireland on the Meath/Cavan border. My family has been here mostly farming for over 200 years. Many of our relatives moved to the US and Canada. We even had an Ice Company in New York in the early 1900s. It looks like we came from Scotland in the early 1600s. If you think you might be related I would love to hear from you. *Adam Pringle* [CPANA Facebook](#)

Thank you to our Clan Chief for sharing with us about his life, travels, and his many interesting contacts. As he tells his story we look forward to his sharing with us his role as Clan Chief over the past two years. What does this role involve? What does he do to connect with Pringles around the world? *CP*

*Thanks for your note and questions. The current installment of Sir Murray's life story does not include a sharing of his role as Chief. However, we like your suggestion and extend an invitation to Sir Murray to share with us about this role in our next issue (October 2022). (Editors).*

*Share your comments, responses, or questions for publication in the next issue. Ancestry questions are a great way to help each other extend family tree history.*

### Comments & Questions

## CPA NA Proposed Pringle Gathering Fall 2022

The CPA NA Steering Committee are working on plans for a **Pringle Gathering September or October 2022**. Previous Gatherings on alternate years were 2016 New Haven, 2018 Niagara Falls and 2020, due to Covid, a zoom meeting. As indicated in the editors' letter we are considering adopting the Wikitree theme, "The Year of Family Connections" Options being considered are an in-person event in Charleston SC or a zoom event as in 2020. Please click on the link below and complete the survey by August 4, 2022 to indicate your preference and if you plan to attend. Pringles from outside North America are always welcomed to participate in these Gatherings.

[Survey](#)

## 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:** Oct 2022. Please submit your article (**500 words or less**) by Oct 13  
*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