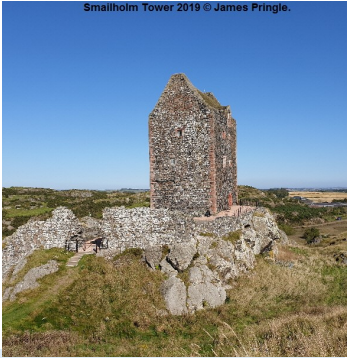




Clan Pringle Newsletter

April 2023, Issue 13

Smallholm Tower 2019 © James Pringle.



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Editorial Team



Derek

Erika



James M

Pam

Earth Day – April 22, 2023

What will we leave to our Descendants?

Happy Earth Day to all Pringles and friends:

Most of our interest in ancestry takes us to re-search those who have gone before us. We check out the dates of births and deaths, and try to explore some of their stories. There is, of course, another important aspect of our focus, and that relates to those who will come after us, our descendants. How will they view us, as they place our names among their list of ancestors, on their Pringle Family Tree?

As a Grandparent, I take great delight in watching our Grandchildren grow up and develop busy lives. Yet, as I think of their future lives, I also hear many scientists give warnings about future consequences of Climate Change. What kind of world will our descendants inherit in 100 years, or 200 years?

In a recent article, Richard Morrison, (IPL, Action for a safe climate), wrote about the need for care and action in the climate crisis issue. He adds, “I feel this more urgently as a father of three children and grandfather of eight grandchildren, who remind me every day of the importance of working to ensure a healthy and thriving planet for them and future generations”.

How will our descendants rate our life-contribution? Will they say “these ancestors exploited nature for immediate selfish gain”? or will they say “this ancestor worked to take care of the environment and averted serious climate-change harm”?

We have all become aware of the seriousness of this issue by this stage. We also know that the solution lies with each one of us. Yes! So, the challenge is for action. We hear the call to recycle as much as we can, bring shopping bags to the grocery store so we avoid taking home all those plastic bags, when changing the car by hybrid or EV,,, you know the list. Let’s add one; when grandkids toss candy rap by the sidewalk, let Grandparents stop to pick it up as they teach their grandkids these important lessons for Earth Day and every day.

Many, many generations of Pringles, lived on the land and knew how to take care of it. ‘Well done’ to those ancestors. May our generation do as well for our Pringle descendants.

The Editorial Team

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth” quoted by John Glen, first American to circle the earth on the spacecraft “Friendship”, 2/20/1962



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Spring Thoughts from Your Chairman

Easter has again come and gone and has been much enjoyed by all the Torwoodlee Pringles.

We had both our girls at home with us and we also enjoyed the company of friends on Saturday and the greater family on Easter Day; both days filled with laughter and happiness and no shortage of love. It is yet another reminder to me of the importance of family and friends and of our place in the wider community of humans around the world.



The Easter Day gathering included 80+ year olds and an 18 month old and everything in between and, while not everyone quite understood the more intricate religious and spiritual connections, I think everyone appreciated the significance of the resurrection even if the connection between the stone and Easter eggs was uppermost in some minds.

Whatever the reason for a family gathering we should celebrate and embrace the communion that it brings and reflect that friendship does indeed bring honour.

James of Torwoodlee

April 2023

Dr John Adams Pringle 1910 – 2002

A Scholar, Scientist and Author



My wife painted this portrait of my Dad

My father was born in Warrenton on 31 October 1910. This is a little town in the north of the Cape Province in South Africa. His father, Alfred Sydney Pringle, was a descendant of William Pringle, who was one of the Scottish Party of 1820 Settlers.

He was the oldest of 4 children. My grandfather (Oubaas) was a farmer, but Dad decided against farming. He always had an interest in animals. When he was 9 years old, he and one of the farm workers killed a yellow Cape Cobra, which is extremely poisonous.

Mauff, the worker, used the blade of his pocketknife to show Dad the difference between venom fangs and ordinary teeth. All of the children had jobs to do on the farm, including digging holes for poles, inspanning oxen and ploughing. The family moved from farm to farm whenever his father had developed the farm as much as he could. They were never very well off. Farm Granny was a very caring person who had wanted to become a doctor. She was determined that all of the children would have a qualification.

Dad attended school in Warrenton from 1916 until 1920. Oubaas sold the farm and the family moved to another farm – Witkloof – in the Carolina district. He attended the Witkloof Farm School and then the Town School in Carolina. After he matriculated he went to the University of the Witwatersrand, where he obtained the Bachelor of Science Degree in Zoology, and then the Master of Science Degree in Zoology. He obtained his first degree in 1931, but could not get a job. He returned to their farm – Noltes Puts – outside Kimberley. It was the middle of the great depression. In 1933 Dad was offered a post as a temporary junior

lecturer at the University of the Witwatersrand. This enabled him to study for his BSc Honours and MSc Degrees. His studies for the honours degree included, inter alia, the structure of the heart of a tadpole, zoological geography and entomology. His masters' thesis included a study of the larvae and pupae of five species of timber boring beetles. This was published in "Transactions of the Royal Entomological Society" in 1938. Dad graduated in March 1935, and then had to consider his career options.

He applied for the post of assistant at the Port Elizabeth Museum and Snake Park and started on 1 July 1935. He later became the Director.

He improved the museum collections by recording all specimens in one book. Dad also had a shell named after him. It is the "Afrivoluta pringlei." The sources of the shells were private collectors and fishing trawlers. He also had a collection of wooden ship models. After he retired he made a model of the 1820 Settler Ship the Weymouth. He found the plan of this ship and made it without any kit.

The Snake Park was started by Dad's predecessor, Dr F.W. Fitzsimmons. It became world famous. The Royal Family visited it when they came to South Africa in 1947. The snake demonstrations were done by Johannes. He was an uneducated Basuto man, who became famous.

During World War 2, the army needed snakebite serum for the troops in North Africa. He enlisted farmers in the area to catch snakes and "milked" cobras and puff adders for their venom.

(Part II of this article will be presented in July 2023 issue.)

Robert Pringle



Clan Pringle Association of North America Facebook Page

Our Facebook page has been around for almost nine years. It currently has 436 members from all around the world. Most, about 78%, are in the US. Canada and the United Kingdom are also well represented. The city with the most members is Sioux Falls, SD which has 8.

We have recently made a big change to the page. We were getting inundated with spammers trying to sell t-shirts so a poll was taken on whether or not to make it private. The votes and comments were unanimous. It is now private and there are two questions that people need to answer in order to be approved to join. They may not be the best questions, but they will keep bots out. What "private" means is that anyone can find the group and ask to join but they will not be able to see any posts nor will they be allowed to make posts until they are approved. They will not be approved if they are invited by a current member because they really do need to answer the questions but feel free to tell them about the page and where to find it so that they can join.

We have a lot of interesting discussions such as the debate about the Pringle tartan and of course there is a lot of genealogy. There are other clans and some local groups in the UK that post

information about activities that they are hosting. Our own events, such as the virtual get togethers, are announced and discussed there. If you would like to join you can do so at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/clanpringleassociationofnorthamerica>.

Mena Ryan

P.S. Mena Ryan, along with Jeff Pringle and David Pringle, are the co-admins of the NA Pringle Facebook Page.

Mena traces her Pringle ancestry back to Margaret Pringle, 1770-1846, North Berwick, Scotland. The family moved to Canada in the 1830s, and were successful in the lumber industry there. She and her husband, Alexander Learmonth, had eight children. They and their descendants, moved across Canada and some went to the US. Mena is from West Haven, CT. US.

Editors: We express appreciation to Mena, and co-admins, Jeff and David, for all their care of the NA Pringle Facebook Page.

Joel R.P. Pringle and the USS Pringle



Photo Stanley & Terrie Howard
Plaque [HMdb.org](https://www.hmdb.org)

As we turned the pages in our photo albums this winter, my husband, Gary Lee Pringle and I, came across a long-forgotten memory. Back in 1993, we had taken a road trip through the southern US states of North Carolina, Georgia, and South Carolina. Stepping off the trolley car, at one of our tour's stops in Charleston, S.C., directly in front of us was a memorial sign for the USS *Pringle* (DD-447). Surprised to see our surname had been used to name a ship, we were intrigued to learn more. The sign said the ship had "Launched at Charleston, S.C. on May 2, 1942," and was "Lost to enemy action off Okinawa

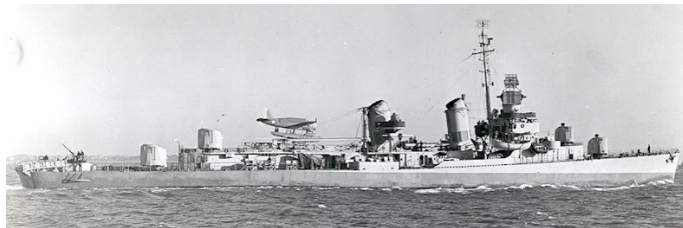
on April 16, 1945." The rest of our old photo was not easy to read, but I could clearly see it included a long list of names lost on that ship.

Thirty years ago, we didn't have a computer, so the project of looking up more information at the library got put off to a later date. Today, a quick search of Wikipedia provided the answers to all our questions and more! It turns out, not only was a ship named after Joel Roberts Poinsett Pringle, but also a Hall at the Naval War College! Vice Admiral Pringle must have been someone very important in US Naval history. I had to learn more, and here is what I learned:

- Born 2/4/1873, in Georgetown, South Carolina, Vice Admiral Joel Roberts Poinsett Pringle served as a distinguished officer in the navy from 1894-1932. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for his service as commanding officer in WWI (1914-1918) on the *Melville*, and as Chief of Staff for the Destroyer Flotillas in European Waters.
- Pringle was appointed to the US Naval Academy in 1888, commissioned ensign in 1894, and graduated from the Naval War College in 1920, where he served as a staff member from 1923-1925. He then served as the college's president from 1927-1930.
- By 1932, Pringle had attained the rank of Vice Admiral. He commanded the destroyer *Perkins*; *Dixie*; Flotilla 2, Destroyer Force, Atlantic Fleet; *Melville*; the battleship *Idaho*; Battleship Division 3, Battle Force, and Battleships, Battle Force.
- In addition to the Distinguished Service Medal, he was also awarded the Spanish Campaign Medal, the Victory Medal, the

Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George (UK), and Officer of the Legion of Honor (France). Before his sudden death in San Diego, CA on 9/25/1932, at age 59, Vice Admiral Pringle had been selected, by soon to be elected President Franklin Roosevelt, to be his new Chief of Naval Operations.

- The USS *Pringle* (DD-447) was a *Fletcher*-class destroyer. Its keel was officially laid down on 7/31/1941, by the Charleston Navy Yard in S.C., and later launched by Vice Admiral Pringle's widow, Cordelia Phythian (daughter of Commodore Robert L. Phythian, USN) on 5/2/1942. It was then commissioned on 9/15/1942.



USS Pringle DD-477 Photograph contributed to [Navsource.org](https://www.navsource.org) by John N. Edeland

- The USS *Pringle* screened transport areas, covered mine-sweepers, and provided support fire. She shot down two kamikazes on 4/16/1945, before a third crashed into her bridge, plowing through the superstructure deck. A single 1,000-pound bomb (or two 500-pounders) penetrated the main and superstructure decks. The explosion buckled the keel, splitting the *Pringle* in two. 258 survived. Sadly, 69 were killed.
- WWII began on 9/1/1939 and officially ended on 9/2/1945, nearly five months after the sinking of the USS *Pringle*.
- Charleston, South Carolina also has ties to another Pringle. Vice Admiral Pringle was a direct lineal descendant of Judge Robert Pringle (born in Scotland), whose law offices were established, at 70 Tradd Street, in 1742. Judge Pringle was very active in his community both politically and professionally. See <https://charleston.com> for more information on Judge Pringle and his home.
- In addition to having the USS *Pringle* named after him, Joel Roberts Pointsett Pringle was honored by the naming, in his memory, of Pringle Hall, at the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island, USA. Among many other things, the NWC is known for educating and developing leaders. Pringle Hall opened in 1934. It contains a 432-seat auditorium, the Quinn Lecture Room, the Naval Staff College, the Graphic Arts Studio, the Photography Branch, and the Naval War College Press.



Vice Admiral Joel Roberts Pointsett Pringle
Photographer: US Navy [HMdb.org](https://www.hmdb.org)

For more detailed information, visit <https://www.wikipedia.org> and search for Joel Roberts Poinsett Pringle; USS Pringle (DD-477); and Naval War College.

Laura S. Pringle

The Editors would like to express appreciation to Robert Pringle, Mena Ryan and Laura S. Pringle for their interesting articles in this issue.

A Message from our Clan Chief



It was gratifying to see 26 Pringles attending the Zoom Meeting last November. I was particularly pleased to meet the South African Pringles. The Clan Pringle Y-DNA Project proved that the South African Pringles are descendants of the same line as mine. They were 1820 settlers who originally settled near Pringles Bay on the east coast of South Africa. The party was led by Thomas Pringle the poet and abolitionist.

Before talking about the Y-DNA Project, at the November Gathering I did some research on what DNA is and what it can tell us and I have now developed a brief summary of this research. For anyone interested in learning more about DNA and the Pringle Y-DNA Project I would be happy to share this summary. Just email me at murraypringle@btinternet.com and I will send you a copy.

International Day of Friendship July 30

Proposals for a World Friendship Day dates back to 1958. The idea was introduced by the United Nations in 2011. The idea is about connecting people, sharing friendship in practical ways, and building on common bonds.

As the Pringle motto "Amicitia Reddit Honores" is built on this principle of friendship, we ask what might we do to celebrate this special day which is so integral to the Pringle name and our values? We invite your thoughts and ideas.



Comment Section

Comments on Editorials

In the January 2023 Editorial the question of the "purpose" of Clan Pringle Association was raised. It reviewed the reasons for our existence and asked what our goals should be for the next decade. The current Purpose, Mission Statement, and Objectives were set out and readers were asked for their input and thoughts. We received a few responses:

Purpose: a little wooley; yes; a vehicle to connect Pringles around the world with each other to share their stories;

Mission: Not bad; other; needs to point us forward (our history should not be a comfortable couch but rather a springboard to our future).

Objectives: Needs some more specific additions; To promote the sense of worth of family; specific goals to reach out to Pringles in other countries

In this quarterly newsletter (April 2023), the editorial reflects on concerns relating to Earth Day. The History of the Pringle Ancestors, from the 13th century to today, tell the story of many Pringle families who lived on the land and worked as farmers.

Today, our Chairman, James W. maintains the Pringle estate at Torwoodlee, Scotland. Also, Walter Pringle, Derek's brother maintains his family farm in Co. Monaghan, Ireland. So we put out the question; "Do we have other pringles farmers today? If yes please let us know where you are and what you do.

[Comments, Questions & Locations](#)



Annual General Meeting

Clan Pringle Association

The Clan Pringle AGM will be held via Zoom on Sunday June 25 at 8:00 pm UK time.
We extend a welcome to all Pringles and Pringle descendants.*

The Zoom invitation and Association reports will be sent out by the CPA Secretary Alastair Pringle alipringle@gmail.com

(Membership in the Clan Pringle Association is required for those who wish to vote at the AGM. Go to the Clan Pringle website <http://pringle.info/> and click on Association link. Scroll down and you will see the directions for becoming a Member.)

Come and join us and participate in CPA life and activities

* Meeting time for AGM in your location:

UK 8 pm; Washington DC (US) 3 pm; Johannesburg (South Africa) 9 pm; Melbourne (Australia) 5 am next day; Wellington (New Zealand) 7 am next day. Check your local time www.worldtimeserver.com

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 2023. Please submit your article (**500 words or less**) by **July 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