Clan Pringle Newsletter

October 2026, Issue 27



Torwoodlee Tower. © James Pringle.

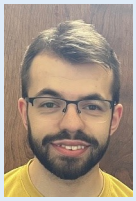
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Editorial Team



Janis



Adam



Mena *Pam*

From the Editorial Team:

Greetings to all members of the Pringle Family!

On 17th October I attended the Clan Pringle Association North America Virtual Gathering. Garry, our Canada rep and CPA Secretary has written a report of it which you can read on Page 2. I was struck by how strongly Pringles are drawn back to their original homeland. Margaret from Washington State said she felt at home in Scotland, as if with family.
For Derek Pringle the skirl of the bagpipes at Torwoodlee last year reminded him of his Scottish roots.

Rob told us that his Pringle ancestor had emigrated to South Africa during the Clearances-a time when people were forcibly removed not only from their homes but also from their spiritual heart-lands. How many hearts have been broken in this way throughout the centuries? And continue to be to this day?

On page 2 Doug from New Zealand writes about the Scots Gaelic word 'Dachaigh', a complex emotion an emigré can feel towards home. And home doesn't have to be in another country: at the Gathering Laird James described how, after ten years in Edinburgh, he realised that Torwoodlee was where his heart lay, and it was time to return home to The Borders.

Here in Wales, there are two words on a similar theme dear to Welsh hearts: 'Hiraeth' (HEE rythe) and 'Cwtch' (kutch, like butch). 'Cwtch' means cuddle, but it's much more than that, conjuring also a warm and cosy feeling, as if gathered up safe in Mam's bosom in a comfy armchair by the fire.

For American author Pamela Petro it isn't Massachusetts that triggers a longing to return, it's Wales, where she now works. 'Hiraeth,' she says, [is] an awareness of the presence of absence...a feeling in which pain and joy are braided too tightly to untangle.' And she reminds us of the lyrics of 'Mae hen wlad' which you may have heard at rugby matches: 'This land of my Fathers is dear to me.' The Celtic nations seem to share a common culture.

For the past six years Derek has been Chair of the CPA and has written this editorial. He's decided to step down (for a well- earned rest I'd say!) and I am writing this in his place. He usually signed off with the Latin word 'amicitia', meaning friendship, from our Pringle motto.
He has worked to foster in the CPA a friendly spirit, a place where Pringles throughout the world can find a home: at the Gathering, we welcomed a new member into our Pringle family called Mario, from Mexico.

So in that same spirit of friendship I send love and best wishes to all Pringles worldwide.

Janis

PETRO, P., *The Long Field* (Little Toller Books), 2021.



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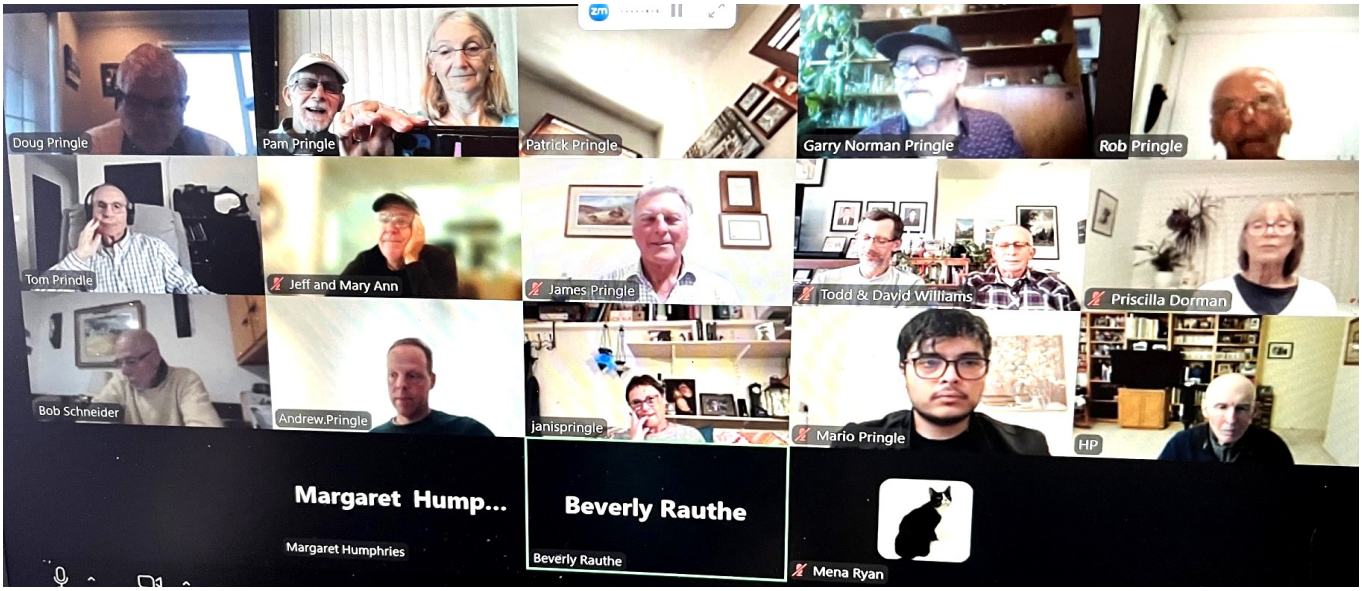
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Clan Pringle Association North America (CPANA)
Fifth Biannual Gathering

On October 17, 2026, the steering committee of the CPANA Chapter hosted a virtual gathering over ZOOM. This was the 6th gathering in eleven years. Beginning in New Haven, Connecticut in 2016 and gathering again in Niagara Falls, New York in 2018, the first two gatherings were held in person with the Clan Chief Sir Norman Murray Pringle calling in from the UK. In 2020, the pandemic prevented us from gathering in-person, so a virtual meeting proceeded. Subsequent gatherings were also held virtually in the autumn of 2022 and 2024.

The 25 participants in this year's gathering were primarily from the United States. Attendees from Canada and Mexico were represented making the gathering a truly North American event. The event was open to all Pringles, independent of nationality, and guests from the United Kingdom (England, Scotland and Wales), South Africa and New Zealand were also in attendance.



A screenshot of some of the attendees at the Oct 17 Gathering

Special welcomes were provided by Andrew Pringle, Clan Pringle Association Chair and James Pringle Laird of the Torwoodlee estate from the border district of Scotland. https://www.torwoodlee.com/

Special guests included Ruaridh Anderson and Cloe Logan, the 2026 Braw Lad and Lass, who talked about their experiences related to the Braw Lads Gathering in the Melrose area of Scotland. https://www.thebrawladsgathering.co.uk/

We then held a roundtable where all the attendees spoke about their Pringle (and some cases Prindle) connections and history. This was the fascinating part of the gathering as it truly brought together Pringles and the realization that we are a unique case of a surname diaspora that maintains it roots in the borderlands of Scotland.

Garry Pringle
Chair, North American Steering Cttee
CPA Trustee

DACHAIGH – A Scottish Gaelic Word

There is a Gaelic word that an English speaker will translate as home, and in doing so will miss almost everything that actually matters about it. The word is dachaigh (pronounced *DAH-chee*). On the surface it means home, the house you live in. But in the Gaelic world it carries a depth that the flat English word cannot hold. It is not the building. It is the place your life is rooted in, the ground your people belong to, the single spot on the whole earth where you are not a stranger. Dachaigh refers to a deep, emotional sense of home, and belonging. It invokes the warmth of a fire, family voices, and a lamp in the window.

A Gael could live for fifty years in a great city and still speak of a small croft on the windswept Lammermoors as dachaigh, the home, as though the place they now live is as if they are on a long errand.

This is why so many Scottish emigrants carried a specific patch of ground in their hearts for the rest of their lives. Not Scotland in the abstract, but one hillside or glen, one township with a name outsiders could barely pronounce. It is why their children and grandchildren, born thousands of miles away, sometimes feel an ache for a place they have never seen.

That is dachaigh working across the generations. It is the reason a diaspora Scot descendant can visit the Borders to breathe air they have never breathed before, and burst into tears with no idea why. The blood recognised the ground before the mind ever could.

Home, in Gaelic, was never just where you slept. It was where you were from, where you belonged, and where some quiet part of you was always trying to return. You may have never set foot in it. But somewhere in Scotland there is ground that your people called "dachaigh", and it has not forgotten you.

Adapted from Facebook and Google by Doug RS Pringle, New Zealand

Scotland

Mena Ryan

Hi, I am going to be one of the new editors working on the newsletter. I'm an American living in Canada due to having married a Canadian. I'm originally from West Haven, Connecticut, which some of you have visited during a previous gathering but I'm not descended from the original Pringle settlers there. I have no idea how our family did get to New Haven from Canada, but it was probably 50 or so years later. I grew up near Chicago and moved to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in 2010.

I am not the person in my family that did the genealogy. That was my father, Jim Ryan. My Pringle ancestor was born in Lothian and passed away in 1816 so it has been a few generations. I had been looking for more information about where they settled in Ontario, at that time "Upper Canada", and anything that I could find about her family's life there. I found the Clan Pringle Facebook group and stuck around, becoming an admin, because there are so many nice people in our group. Now I'm also on the steering committee.

I'm looking forward to working with Janis and Adam. I enjoy working on newsletters and have previously done them for the Saskatchewan Weavers and Spinners Guild, which unfortunately is now defunct, and Saskatoon TechWorks which is on hiatus due to some issues with membership during those joyful COVID days that we all went through, but I expect to revive it around January 2027. I am excited that I'm going to learn some new programs to make a newsletter with and will also have people working on it with me instead of it being a solo project.

I'm looking forward to seeing your submitted articles!

Mena

Eildon, South Africa

I recently looked at some very old photographs, and came across some that Pringle people might find interesting. They are of Eildon. This is the farm where the Scottish Party of 1820 Settlers settled. The farm is still owned by a Pringle descendant, Alex Pringle.

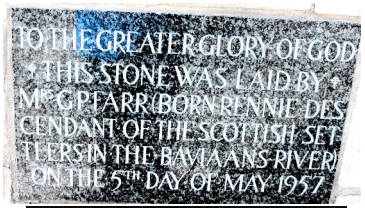


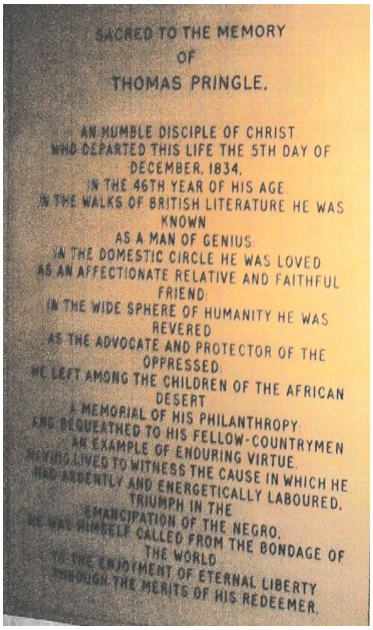
I visited it many years ago and took these photos. The first one is of the oak tree under which, possibly, the party held their first Sunday service.

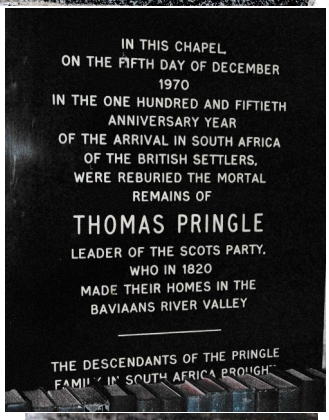
The second one is of the current house.
The third one is the memorial church which was dedicated in 1957. I photographed the foundation stone. I also included the memorial to Thomas Pringle. He was reburied in the church in 1970.













I hope that this is of interest.

Rob Pringle, South Africa

Pringles from Baja California!

Hello everyone, my name is Mario Pringle from Mexico, specifically from Baja California, I'm 24 years old and I work as a Software Engineer. I've been following CPA for a long time because my sister (Valeria Pringle) shared the Facebook group to me about 8 years ago (I might be wrong, something like that). And it always looked to me very curious because I wanted to know if any of the stories that I heard from my grandfather (David Pringle) matches any of your stories, and it wasn't until October 17th that I joined my first CPA Meeting and I got very surprised... The little stories that my grandfather told me like, *"Hey there's another variant of Pringle called Prindle, and they are very related to us...", "Hey did you know that our ancestors had a very special banner that represents us with a shell facing down?...", "Did you know that your great-great-grandfather (David Alberto Pringle) was from Ireland and he was the first Pringle in Mexico?."* and after the meeting I could confirm that my grandfather was not lying about it.

After hearing all of your stories in a very short time, I really ended up wanting to know more about our story, and share more about the Pringles from Mexico! We are only 23 Pringles here, all of us located in Baja California. My grandfather has a really extensive investigation that our family did a long time ago about the Pringle surname, and I'm still working on getting those files to share with all the CPA members.

Thanks for reading this very short introduction of my family and myself to CPA, and I couldn't be more happy to be part of it. I am definitely looking to attend a CPA event in person in the future, and hope to hear as many stories as I can and share some good moments with everybody.

Mario Pringle

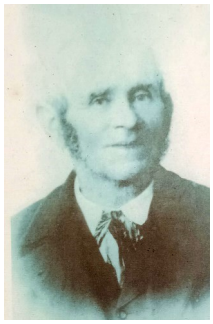
A Belgium Pringles

Dear Scottish family and cousins,

I'm Jo-Ann from Belgium, and I'm so happy to be part of the Pringles clan. Our branch comes from my mother's side.

My great-grandmother was Clementine Pringles, who married Josef Raemdonck. Her father was the Scottish 'Leonard Pringles', born 1830 and was married to a Belgian woman named 'Marie Poppe'. I have two precious old photos I'd love to share in this letter.





Beyond these names, I have many gaps in our history, and I'm curious to learn more. There are whispers our line connects back to the Stewarts, all the way to royalty. I'm a published Author, and my debut novel starts and ends right here in Scotland. My main character is Scottish, and the story grew from the deep connection I've always felt since I was a child to this land and our heritage.

I'll be visiting the UK from November 2026-April 2027, and I'd love to meet and greet new relatives who are happy to connect. Whether to share stories, help me fill in our history, or simply say hello and have a cup of tea with me.

Please contact me at

Jo-Ann André - (Author name: Joanna Robert)
joannarobert444@gmail.com





Cameron Prindle

My name is Cameron Prindle, and I am researching my paternal Prindle family line in the United States. I recently came across the Clan Pringle Association and learned about the historical connection between the Pringle and Prindle surnames.
I'm hoping you may be able to help me determine whether my Prindle line connects to William Pringle/Prindle of New Haven or another documented Pringle branch.
This is the paternal line I have been able to trace so far:
Cameron Prindle
→ Douglas Lee Prindle
→ Duane Prindle
→ Ernest Lee Prindle (1910–1993)
→ Loyd Byron Prindle
→ Moses G. Prindle (1832–1922)
Researched but not 100% confirmed:
→ Samuel H. Prindle, married to Elizabeth C. Worden
Moses G. Prindle was born in New York in 1832 and later lived in Buchanan County, Iowa. At this point, I have not been able to reliably identify the parents of Samuel H. Prindle, so this is where my research has stopped.
I would love to connect with anyone who might have any records or family trees that might identify this Samuel H. Prindle or connect this branch to the Pringle family? I am also checking out the DNA Project.

Cameron

Ancestry Queries

Gene Immel, Ohio USA Our Pringles were in Smailholm. Margaret Stoddart Pringle is our connection. Looking for any early (1600s connections you can help me with and connections to Roxburgshire

Gene Immel g.a.immel@gmail.com

Luigi Capello Seeking information on the Pringle-Pattison family. I am the grandson of the artist Roman Biliński (1897–1981). I am researching Mary Gertrude "Molly" Pears (born 1902), who married Lieutenant Colonel Harry Siegfried Seth Pringle-Pattison (1894–1977) in 1939.

A terracotta portrait entitled "Miss M. Pears" appeared in Biliński's 1934 exhibition in Istanbul and may represent Molly. The sculpture's present whereabouts are unknown.

I am particularly interested in establishing whether the couple had children and in contacting relatives who might have inherited some family photographs, correspondence or artworks.
I would be very grateful if anyone with relevant information could get in touch with me.
luigi capello romanbilinski.art@gmail.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: January 2027. Please submit your article (**500 words or less**) by January 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.

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