



The Kist :: 3

THE KIST

The Magazine of
The Natural History & Antiquarian Society
of Mid Argyll

NUMBER THREE

WHITSUN 1972

EDITOR: Marion Campbell of Kilberry, FSA, FSA Scot

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EDITORIAL

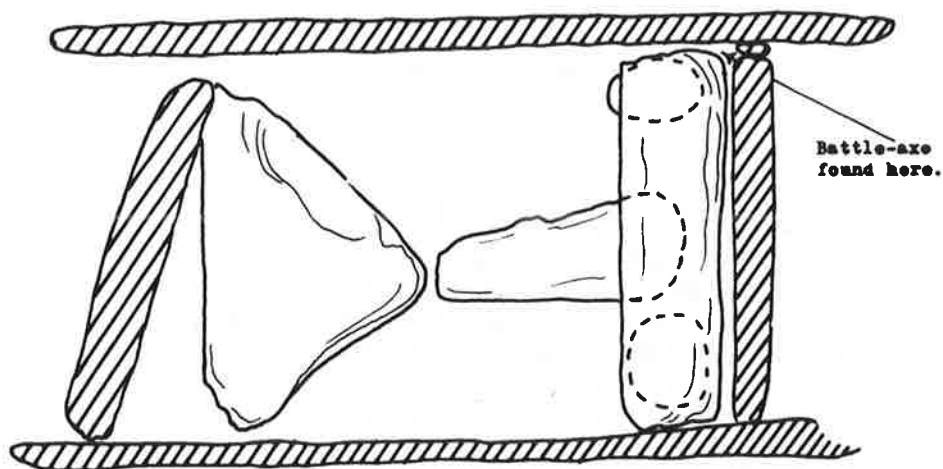
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KIST 3 is late; your editor deserted her desk for an archaeological trowel. I hope to give an account of the results, and of 1973 plans, in our next number.

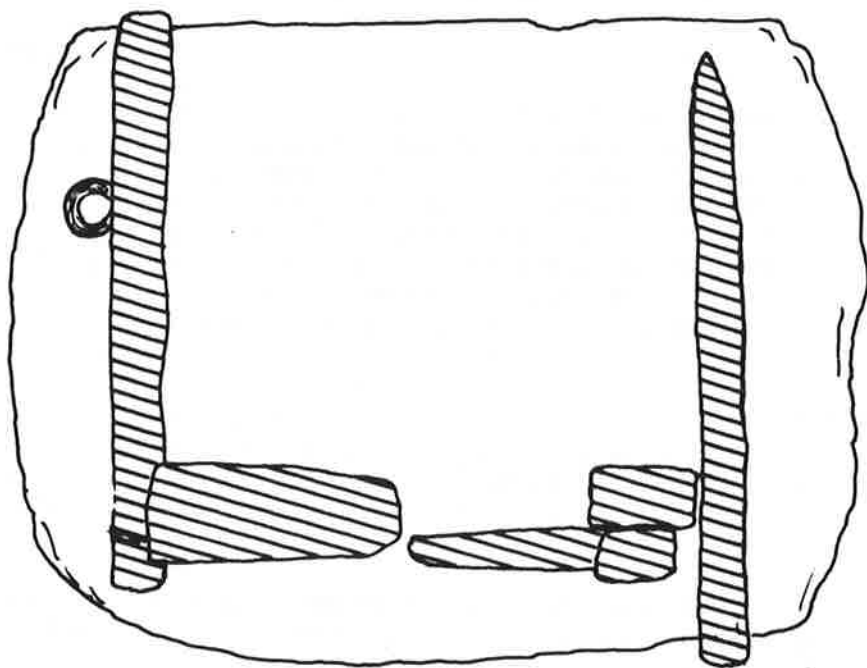
We have a splendid range of subjects this time - my thanks to all contributors, and apologies to all whose work has been held over. We would plan a round-up of 1972 Natural History notes for KIST 4; more on old customs - harvest, Hallowe'en, Christmas, weddings; and, from time to time, lists of societies and periodicals likely to interest you; (titles, addresses and subscription rates please).

Our Society has joined the nation-wide project to record inscriptions on pre-1855 tombstones, often the only record of names, homes and trades before the formal registration of deaths began. The Scottish Genealogists' Society collates this information centrally, and we hope to produce a Mid Argyll Index (perhaps with short interim reports in KIST). At least four graveyards have now been recorded, but there are many more, and more recorders are needed for what proves to be an absorbing task. If you can help, and have not already had particulars, please contact the Secretary (and see p 16 for one example of what may be found).

KIST is undoubtedly proving worthy of our Secretary's enthusiasm in launching it; if it has a duty beyond that of providing some light reading, it is surely the duty of recording something of our area's past and present - so do let me have your contributions for the Martinmas number as soon as possible (preferably typed, though this is not essential - and illustrated with drawings where appropriate, but remember that these may have to be reduced to fit our small format).



Plan of Ornsary cist.



Ornsary cist - side elevation.



THE CIST CEMETERY AT ORMSARY ESTATE, KNAPDALE

Alex. Morrison, MA, FSA Scot

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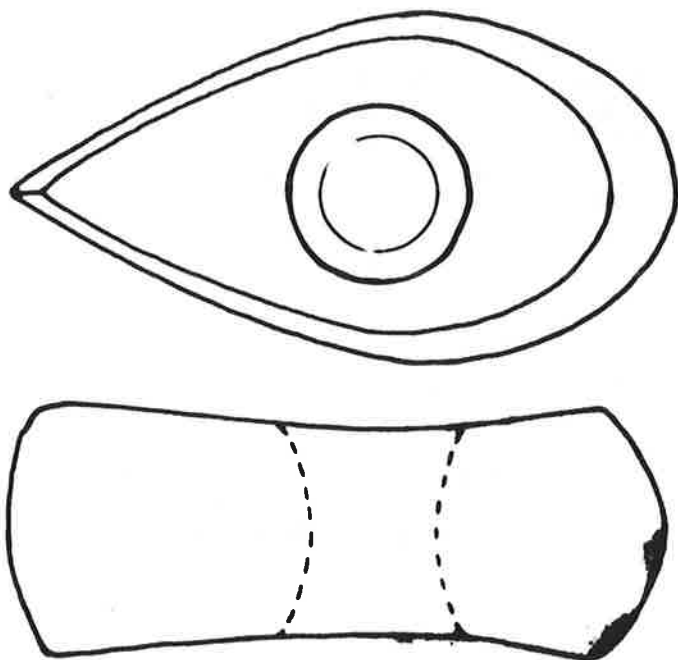
During clearance of land for new steadings at Ormsary Estate in May/June 1971, earth-moving machinery uncovered one massive cist and probably destroyed at least two smaller ones. Thanks to the kind co-operation of the landowner, Sir William Lithgow, further clearance of the ground was postponed for several weeks until the writer could excavate the large cist completely. This cist was covered by a massive slab measuring 6 ft 3 in. in length by about 6 ft in greatest breadth. Internally, the cist measured 3 ft 11 in. in greatest length, 2 ft 6 in. in width and was 2 ft 10 in. in depth from the upper edge of the tallest side slab to the upper surface of the floor slabs. The two large slabs in the bottom of the cist did not, in fact, form a continuous level floor, but may have been jammed into position as supports for the side slabs. When opened the cist was empty except for a depth of 3 or 4 inches of gravelly earth and pebbles covering the jamming stones at the bottom. No trace was found of the burial, apart from a few tiny fragments of bone. In the northern corner of the cist, in the angle formed by the jamming stone and the side and end slabs, a perforated stone battle-axe was found. When the cist was being dismantled, a countersunk perforation was discovered in the NW side slab about 5 inches in from the end and 14 inches down from the top. This perforation was located outside the end slab of the cist, but this end slab may have been pushed inwards at some time before the excavation.

The battle-axe is 3.6 inches long by 1.9 inches in breadth, the perforation narrowing from 1.0 inch to .67 inches in diameter. It belongs to Fiona Roe's Calais Wold Group (Intermediate) with crescentic

butt. (1. Of four known finds of stone battle-axes from mainland Argyllshire (Inveraray; Oban; Poltalloch Estate; Whitestone Farm, Kintyre) those from Oban, Poltalloch and Kintyre belong to the same Calais Wold Group as the Ormsary axe. The battle-axe from Oban (near McKelvie Hospital, 150 ft above Glenshellach Roach) was found associated with a Cordoned Cinerary Urn, and was a later type than the Ormsary axe. (2. Despite the lack of pottery in the Ormsary cist, there is a strong likelihood that the cemetery was used by a culture using Food Vessel pottery, since this was the typical method of burial in the area.

Remains of a further cist were uncovered in December 1971, suggesting that this site is a smaller version of the cist cemetery at Clachbreck. It is hoped that the large cist might be re-erected in the grounds of Auchindrain Folk Museum.

Footnotes: 1. Proc. Prehist. Soc., XXXII (1966),
199-245 2. Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XXXII (1897 -8),
58-9, figs 1 & 2



ORMSARY BATTLE-AXE

Scale 1 : 1

EILEACH AN NAOIMH
IN THE GARVELLACH ISLANDS

Leslie B Patrick

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Our Society visited Eileach an Naoimh on 19 June 1971, enjoying a halcyon day among the green vales and the ancient ruins, traditionally said to be the site of a monastery of Columban times.

The name Eileach is ancient. Dr Gillies in "Netherlorne and its Neighbourhood" (1909) says that Gaelic speaking people on Mull and the nearby mainland refer to it as Eileach not Eilean. The first recorded use of Eileach spelt Ailech is in the "Vita Sancti Brendani", in which a monkish chronicler wrote, "Et in alio regione in Brittania monasterium nomine Ailech sanctissimus Brendanus fundavit", and in a later manuscript of the same work it is more explicitly stated "unum monasterium in insula Ailech, alterum in Terra Ethica". This suggests that Ailech is near Tiree for Terra Ethica is Tiree. (Ailech has been identified with Aleth near St Malo in Brittany, with Alyth in Perthshire and with Aileach in Co Donegal). However Professor W J Watson in "The History of the Celtic Place-names of Scotland" (1926) remarks that 'na h-Eileacha Naomha' was beyond reasonable doubt the site of Brendan's monastery of Ailech. The date in which the Vita was written is not known, but Carl Selmer in "Navigatio Sancti Brendani Abbatis" (1959) discusses the date of the "Navigatio Sancti Brendani" another monkish chronicle, three manuscripts of which date from the 10th century, and Selmer thinks it safe to consider the first half of the 10th century as the

date of its composition. Others have placed it in the 9th century. Selmer writes that it is obvious that "whoever wrote the Navigatio must have known the Vita and used it effectively in his work". Therefore the Vita is the earlier work and can be placed not later than early in the 10th century or in the 9th century. If the above opinion is correct, the earliest known written record of the traditional name of the island was made about 300 years after the death of Columba in AD 597 and about 200 years after the death of Adamnan his biographer.

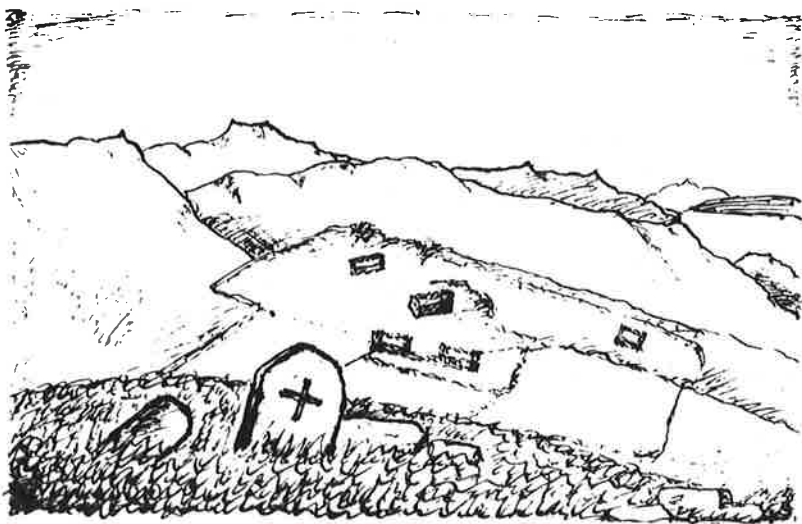
Then there is a long gap in the record until 1594 when Donald Munro, High Dean of the Isles, recorded the traditional name. He visited many islands but, its glories forgotten, he must have passed Eileach an Naoimh by for his only comment was "ane verey little iyle, callit in Erische Eluche Nanaose", the spelling which to his ear represented the Gaelic pronunciation.

Dr Macculloch, who rediscovered the island, wrote in "A Description of the Western Islands of Scotland" (1819) the island's name as he heard it 'Ilachanu'. In 1854 Cosmo Innes in "Origines Parochiales Scotiae" spelt it 'Ilachnave' and quoted a document of 1630 in which it was spelt 'Ilachinive'. Unfortunately Reeves and Skene in "The Historians of Scotland" VI (1874) and Muir in "The Characteristics of Old Church Architecture" (1861) assumed that Eileach was a corruption of Eilean and began to write Eilean na Naoimh. In fact there does not appear to have been any early use of 'island' except as in 'Insula Ailech'.

The meaning of Eileach last century gave rise to much difference of opinion. It is now

accepted that it is not a corruption of Eilean. The 'A' in Ailech apparently is sounded short and the word can be translated 'stony or rocky place' from obsolete Gaelic 'ail' a rock; (Gillies, Watson). This is a reasonably accurate description. The main island of the group Garbh-eileach meaning 'rough rocky place' gives its name to the whole group. The small island between Eileach and Garbh-eileach is Cuile Bhrianain, 'Brendan's Retreat' and may be where the Saint retired from Eileach for meditation. Professor Watson remarks that, "There is thus more than a probability that the islet was known as Ailech in Columba's own time and it is most improbable that Adamnan would call it by any other name".

There is no doubt that St Brendan founded a monastery about the year 542 on the island of Ailech and, judging from the above authorities, there is little doubt that Ailech and Eileach an Naoimh are the same island. In a recent lecture to our Society Professor Charles Thomas indicated that the date of the ruins we saw is uncertain and that the church building does not date back even to Adamnan's day.



EILEACH AN NAOIMH.
'GRAVE OF EITHNE'.

AUCHINDRAIN - 1972

Arthur Littlewood, Manager

- - - - -

1972 is the 10th Anniversary of the proposal to preserve Auchindrain and it is an appropriate time to see how matters have developed since that first decision to acquire one building.

Auchindrain has many facets: at least, each person tends to read something different into it, which is not quite the same. It is a ground on which different people can cast their own distinctive mould and it will remain interesting as long as it can change. Highland life was, after all, a constant makeshift and it would be presumptuous to try to catalogue chaos.

The first phase is over and it should not be forgotten that this was the most difficult time: every credit should be given to Miss Campbell for her persistence, devotion and endless hard work in starting it all.

The buildings were acquired, a number of implements and furnishings formed and a pool of basic information made, for which we are all very grateful.

We are now in an intermediate stage which is no less interesting but has different problems, the first of which is to realise more of the potential. My aim is to increase greatly the number of visitors during 1972 and I have a target of 15,000 against 7,800 in 1971 and 3,600 in 1970. This I hope to achieve by wider publicity and by making the site itself more eye-catching for fast-moving traffic.

A booklet of fairly general content, designed to last for three years, is being produced in collaboration with Edna Whyte, of Luing, whose drawings will do much to enhance Auchindrain's reputation. It will also provide much-needed revenue.

Sir William Lithgow, Bart, of Ormsary has continued to provide outstanding support in a number of ways.

Four more buildings have been re-opened and I have tried out various kinds of lighting and methods of display, some successful, others less so. One particular difficulty was to decide how untidy to be. In the end I thought it better to get tidy first and introduce some studied dis-array afterwards. Gates contrived of old bedsteads are very authentically West Highland but this may not be immediately apparent to a passing visitor.

How far should one pander to the idealized image that a large number of visitors have that "in olden times everyone lived in little white-washed cottages, pursuing rural crafts and being happier than people are to-day"?

What will happen next we shall know later this year when the Countryside Commission for Scotland, in conjunction with the HEDB, publishes its Feasibility Study.

This again will be a consensus of attitudes, none of which should be allowed to dominate and calcify.

Auchindrain is thought of as a Folk Life Park, a Museum of Farming Life, a Tourist Mecca to provide local employment and absorb coach tours,

a Regional Museum of Comparative Ethnology, a group of architecturally interesting buildings, a group of buildings, and much else! It will be difficult to strike the balance between scholarship and showmanship, both of which will be necessary ingredients.

There are a number of ways in which Society Members can give me practical help.

Please visit us during the season and bring as many friends as you can.

Please look out for any object that you think might be useful to Auchindrain. Anything from farm tools to clothes or kitchen utensils, used in similar communities in this area, may be of interest. I am particularly interested in local photographs and letters to and from families who emigrated. Both these can be photocopied and returned to their owners.

I also want to gather recollections and stories from old people in Mid Argyll and would welcome any material that you can collect. I should especially like to meet anyone who has lived in a rush-thatched house.

If anyone would like a specific project such as painting a cart or making a lazy-bed, please let me know.

THE SHELLS OF LOCH SWEEN

R B Purvis

- - - - -

Bored with sitting on the sand watching the children dig castles? A fascinating alternative awaits you if you start picking up some of the shells lying around you - or better, those nearer the low-tide line. The beautiful Banded Wedge Shells and Baltic Tellins picked up on a Kent beach were to have been handed over to Achnamara Residential School for the children's work; but it seemed a pity to dispose of them all, and of the intriguing strangers which came to light among them, so eventually, while the majority went to the School, the rest were put aside and gradually identified as books became available. It soon became evident that Loch Sween would have a major contribution to make; and before long the handful had become a collection.

There are 113 different species represented now, wherever possible by several examples of each, as shells vary considerably within the species. Each one when washed and still damp has been painted with white of egg, to preserve the colour without giving it the harshness of varnish. They are kept in boxes with transparent lids, and rest on white or coloured cotton wool. Nearly all have come from the variety of small beaches extending down Loch Sween from the estuary conditions of Achnamara village to the open sea at Kilmory Bay. Often a particular species is limited to a small area, followed by entirely different kinds only a few yards further on. Sometimes a once common species disappears completely; at others an uncommon kind becomes

abundant. Storms may pile sand and seaweed over a particularly lucrative hunting ground and obliterate it. Before it gets back into production it may have been overwhelmed yet again.

"Very common on all our coasts" reads the caption to many a shell still unrepresented among the 113, and one cannot help feeling a bit guilty at having apparently overlooked so many. At other times there is the compensation of coming upon a treasure, an *Astarte elliptica* perhaps, not exactly rare but at least "Scotland only". Then there are the tinies, great numbers of which must have gone down the drain with the washing water of the bigger shells before it was realised that the sand these had contained was inhabited. There are the Pyramidellidae for instance, some 40 of them, all roughly the same shape, all but four of them white, an exceptionally large species 9 mm high but the great majority much smaller. Or the Rissoidae, 26 species, rather more varied but none larger than 5 mm. The books give no illustrations for most of these two groups of gastropods, only descriptions. For bivalves there is a more satisfactory book, with every species illustrated as well as described; but even so, and even using a strong lens, it is difficult to be accurate about the dentition of a shell when a full grown specimen measures something under 2 mm. Identifying these tiny shells makes heavy demands upon time and eyesight, and many are still unnamed.

It is difficult to avoid taking live specimens among the very small shells brought in inadvertently among larger ones, but apart from this only empty shells are taken for the collection.

After a rapid build up initially, the total now rises only very slowly, and may indeed fall as further experience leads to the discovery of errors in earlier identifications. The present 113 were 114, but the Bearded Horse Mussel had recently to be discarded, having proved to be merely a juvenile Common Horse Mussel.

For some time now the collection has been housed in Achnamara Residential School, and once during each group the children go to "Shell Beach" to bring back as many different shells as each can find, subsequently trying to identify them from the collection - any live ones having first been quietly removed for later return to Loch Sween. Exceptionally good specimens may be accepted for the collection, and very occasionally there is a completely new species. Still waiting for identification is a shell brought back by a Glasgow boy two years ago: a white gastropod, very glossy, measuring about $\frac{1}{2}$ " x $\frac{2}{3}$ ", marked all over with fine linear patterns as delicate as if drawn with a very fine pen in black ink. Defying all the descriptions in all the books, it continues to tantalise, beautiful, anonymous.





♀

Nymphalis io -
The Peacock Butterfly.

THE PEACOCK BUTTERFLY AND MID-ARGYLL

Iain D Jex Long FRPSL

- - - - -

In answer to the Editor's cri-de-coeur in No 2 of the KIST requesting some notes on Lepidoptera, readers may be interested in a matter which intrigues me. It concerns the Peacock butterfly (*Inachis io*). During all the time when I was an active collector most of my collecting was done round Glasgow, the Blane Valley and Ayrshire, and I never saw this insect nor collected any larvae. An uncle of mine had been a keen collector from the mid-seventies until about 1890; the only time he collected any Peacocks was in 1888 when he was on holiday in London. So much for historical records or rather lack of them.

In August 1939 we spent our holidays in Furnace and my son had just taken up collecting in a rather desultory way when he obtained a number of butterfly larvae which duly pupated and to my great surprise emerged as Peacocks. At Furnace again the next year he collected some more.

Thereafter I never saw either imago nor larva until we came to live at Minard in 1968 where they are quite common and where they have appeared every year since.

Now it would be interesting to learn whether the Peacock has always been one of the mid-Argyll species or whether it is extending its range North and West.

Incidentally the rarest of the Lepidoptera which I have seen in Argyll is the Humming-bird Hawk Moth (Macroglossa stellaterum) which I observed at flowers on the Ardinglass shore of Loch Long (just above high water mark). I was extremely glad that with me was an old friend who had also been a 'bug hunter' in his youth and who was able to verify my identification; he was as excited as I was.

1855 GROUP : RESEARCH ENQUIRY

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The Editor has found stones signed by a family of masons named Glen, and would welcome news of others. So far, she knows of Alex. Glen, Mason, Kilberry (1810), John Glen, Mason (1823), and Thomas Glen, Stone Cutter (1817, 1825). It is probable that they worked the Kilberry quarry from which some medieval stones were also taken. It may be possible to produce an article on their designs and lettering, for a later number of KIST. All information on this family, or on stones signed by them, will be valued.

THE LOST DOMINIE

Alexander Fraser

- - - - -

Jamie Stuart stood in the door of his schoolhouse and looked down the Sound of Fiunary. Although it was a beautiful summer evening, he was depressed. His was an Adventure School, opened and continued at the teacher's own adventure, and it was a discouraging business. During the winter, he had had six pupils, who brought a peat for the fire, and stuffed the holes in the ramshackle walls with divots to keep out the draughts. Now that summer had come, four of his pupils had gone to the herding, leaving him with little or nothing to do. His sole textbooks were Gaelic and English Bibles, issued by the Greenock and Port Glasgow Bible Society, from which he taught Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, History and Geography. His income from the school was three pounds a year, which he supplemented by cultivating an acre of ground, fishing for saithe and keeping a few hens. Unfortunately, his hens had scratched up the seed oats in a neighbour's patch of ground, and there had been a scene. "In the good old days", she had screamed, "I would have had you up before the Baron Bailie for trespass". To add to his depression, he had found on the path that morning a corpan criadh, a small clay image of himself, skewered with rusty nails, the black magic of an ill-wisher.

"Schoolie" was roused from his grey thoughts by the sound of pipe music on the shore. It came from a tinker's camp, which had been pitched in the early evening. He listened: there was no doubt that the man had music. He played a little

spring in a ranting manner and then wandered into variations, which as he went on, he decorated with a perfect flight of grace notes. Stuart shut the door and made his way through seileastars, yellow iris, to the shore. He took in the familiar scene at a glance: the ragged piper with his bonnet set at a jaunty angle; the brown, healthy, half-naked children; the circling, snarling watchdog; the fire of drift wood; the bow tent. As he drew near, the flap of the tent opened and a beautiful girl came out. Her hair was auburn with lights of red and gold; her eyes were like sunlight in the brown waters of a burn; her lips were ripe and red, apta ad virum; her teeth were the colour of milk. She was graceful as a birch sapling, she walked like a queen. For Stuart the Sound of Mull and the Hills of Morvern swam and shone with exceeding brightness.

A week later, the dominie asked Mary Whyte to marry him. She shook her glorious hair, "No", she said, "I could never settle in that dull little house. I couldn't breathe in it, and besides seanar (grandfather) says we are moving on tomorrow". "Then", said Stuart desperately, "I will marry you, and come with you". That night they were married by seanar and the next morning the schoolhouse was forsaken.

Twenty years later, on their endless perambulations through the Highlands, the Stuarts camped once more by the mouth of the burn in Mull. After a meal of salmon and oatcake, the erstwhile dominie wandered up to his old schoolhouse. All that remained of his former home was in ruins, overgrown with nettles. The roof had long since fallen in. His broken, rusty three-legged pot lay amid the stones. Rank rhubarb grew in the garden. There was a bare patch of earth, where sheep had

couched beside the end wall. Nearby were foxgloves, meuran nan cailleacha marbha, thimbles of dead old women. Stuart took stock of himself. He caressed the grey stubble on his chin with a thin dirty hand. He looked at his torn trousers and muttered "I have a leg like a fowl. I must beg another pair of breeks at the Manse over in Fiunary". His boots did not match one another. When he had recovered from a violent fit of coughing, he thought of Mary. There she sat by the fire on the shore, smoking Twist in a cutty pipe. There was not a grey hair in her head. Her dark, weather-beaten face was still handsome in a bold, hard way. Round her shoulders was a faded, tartan plaid. She was the matriarch; her word was law; he didn't count. He wasn't a tinkler, and never would be. His four sons disregarded him. His six daughters were very close to their mother.

There was a raucous shout from his wife. She might have been speaking to the dog. He must be getting back to the camp.

On a summer evening, a few years ago, I met one of Stuart's great, great grandsons on Lochfyneside. He was a jolly fellow. He wore an old diked bonnet of the Lovat Scouts. Although it was a fine June night, he was clad in a heavy great coat. His clean-shaven face was the colour of old leather, he had a black moustache, and strong white teeth. He told me the story of his forebear, who left his school in Mull to take the road with Mary Whyte. So engrossed were we in the conversation, that we wandered into the middle of the road without being aware of it. A speeding motorist sounded his horn, menacingly, "very rude", I said to Stuart. "The fellow has no breeding at all", he answered with a laugh, and at the aptness of the rejoinder, I wondered if, for a moment, I had heard the voice of the last dominie of long ago in the mouth of his descendant.

OVERSEAS QUERIES

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We have two enquiries this time. If any reader can help with information, would they very kindly write direct to the enquirers, and not to the Editor?

1. Mr and Mrs McQuilkan, "on a working holiday from New Zealand", are at 83a New River Crescent, Palmers Green, London N 13; they are interested in tracing the history of their family, and will be touring Scotland this July. (There were McQuilkans in South Knapdale, with gravestones at Lergnahension and Kilnaish, and notes of these will be sent to Mrs McQuilkan when available, but any other information would no doubt be welcome).

2. Mrs V W Sharp, 3931 E Piccadilly Road, Phoenix, Arizona, 85018, (and the Revd Mr Kellas, Inveraray, on behalf of another enquirer), ask about the MacTavishes of Dunardry, some of whom emigrated to Canada. The Revd Mr Fraser, and your Editor, can both help with this enquiry to some degree, but again, any further information will be appreciated.

As a result of the successful enquiry in our first number, Miss Eleanor Campbell, Toronto, is now helping another of our members to trace his relatives in Canada; so we have set up a two-way traffic already.

Further enquiries will be welcome for future numbers of THE KIST.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

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The Society continues to flourish; membership has increased and is now over 170, although with some subscriptions still outstanding a few resignations are expected.

Attendances at the winter meetings have averaged about 50 which indicates the high standard of our speakers. (Has anyone calculated the distance travelled by Professor Chas. Thomas when he came from Cornwall to give his lecture?)

Many members were disappointed when Mr Fenton was prevented by snow, from giving his paper on 17th and 18th Century Crofting, but we hope he will be able to visit us early next winter.

The "1855 Group" has started to record the pre-1855 tombstones; more volunteers are needed so that every burial ground in Mid Argyll will be surveyed. It promises to be a very interesting and worthwhile venture.

I hope the Summer Programme will be an outstanding success. It should be with visits to Inveraray Castle at the invitation of our Patron, Kilberry Castle by invitation of our President, Lochfyneside from the book of that name by the author, and much more!

Members will have been greatly relieved when it was announced that the Secretary of State for Scotland upheld the Society's objection to the proposed development at Dunadd and we are all grateful to our President for so ably presenting the case.

Once again I must remind you that this is YOUR magazine, you must write it and you must sell

it. Nearly every member has something worthwhile to contribute so please send your contribution to the Editor as soon as possible.

There are still plenty of copies of 'Kist' 1 & 2 available, and there must be many friends and relations living outwith Argyll who would be delighted to receive a copy. Any member who is willing to help with distribution by arranging sales in local shops should contact me.

BOOK REVIEWS

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Good news for lovers of local history; the St Andrew Press has reprinted LOCHFYNESIDE, which now joins the same author's NORTH KNAPDALE in a place of honour in the "local studies" shelf. Our learned and energetic member, the Revd Mr Fraser, has collected a mass of information about his present parish, and presented it in a form at once scholarly and entertaining. Fishing methods, the price of clothes and food, schooling, birch wine and horn spoons, local industry (and its disasters), illness and the heroic Belle MacPhedran among her cholera patients - all are here. Don't miss it.

(LOCHFYNESIDE; A History of the District in Recent Times; Alexander Fraser, BD. The St Andrew Press, 1971; £1.25)

Good news again, this time the long-awaited appearance of Kintyre; the first volume in the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments of Scotland's Report on Argyll. The price may seem daunting, but the value is undoubted and

production is up to the Commission's own exacting standards. The 378 entries range from Mesolithic sites of the fifth millenium BC to buildings of last century, concluding (in magnificent honesty) with two "indeterminate sites". The reviewer, with some experience of the work involved (though on a much smaller scale), can only salute respectfully; these delicate drawings and superb photographs show no evidence of the exhausting hours, the rain, wind, clegs and midges (not to mention bulls and bogs) which no doubt took their toll.

We hope to have the book in our Library shortly, and look forward to seeing the remaining volumes of the Argyll Survey alongside it - some day. (ARGYLL 1; KINTYRE. HMSO £10; by post £10.27½).

THE COVER

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Our cover this time designed by Ann Thomas, shows the Kilberry crucifix, a stone cross (carved on both faces, the other side much defaced), probably of late medieval date, and found in the 1850s buried in the ground near the site of the pre-Reformation church. It was then believed to be the missing head of a cross-shaft which stands nearby, and was fixed into place with iron cramps, but now recognised as a free-standing cross, it has been detached and placed with other carved stones recovered from the graveyard-site and elsewhere, in a shelter erected by the (then) Ministry of Public Buildings and Works, at Kilberry. It was most probably carved at Kilberry, of stone quarried locally.