1. John MacLennan 4 x Great Grandfather

According to Alexander MacLennan who was giving evidence at the Napier and Brand Commissions of Enquiry into Crofting 12th June 1883 the family of MacLennan were from Ceann Creannag at the head of Loch Brollum and confirmed that Ceann Creannag was one of the first townships to be cleared when the Pairc Sheep Farm was set up in about 1802. Duncan MacLennan’s (Alexander MacLennan’s grandfather) place of birth on this death record was Loch Shell.

The known head of the family was John MacLennan and his wife Christina Mackenzie, gleamed from their son Duncan MacLennan’s death record. Duncan MacLennan was cleared to Marvig and was living there by 1807. It is unknown whether his father John MacLennan was living at Marvig at the time of his death. There was at least another child of John and Christina MacLennan’s marriage a Margaret MacLennan who married Lewis Smith and settled at 18 Marvig. As both Duncan and his sister settled in Marvig it is likely though not proved that John and his wife may have been cleared to Marvig too.

2. Duncan MacLennan 3 x Great Grandfather

Duncan MacLennan born about 1772 Loch Shell married twice, Margaret Mackenzie and Annabella Macritchie. His father John MacLennan was a crofter in the Pairc region and although on the 1851 census and death record it states Duncan MacLennan pauper on his son Murdo’s death record it states occupation as crofter. From his death record it states that Duncan had 6 children; Murdo, Christina, John, Alexander, Isabella and Mary. Duncan had 18 Marvig as his croft and then this passed to his son Alexander Maclennan.

2a. John MacLennan 3 x Great Uncle

John MacLennan was a crofter and fisherman born approx. 1809, he married Margaret Campbell from Marvig in 1845 but this may have been his 2nd marriage as there is a child called Marion living with John in 1841 and in 1851. On Marion’s marriage she states her father is John MacLennan and mother Catherine (maiden name unreadable) but on her death it states mother Margaret Campbell but Marion was born about 1838 and John did not marry Margaret until 1845.

John settled with Margaret at 16 Marvig where they had a further 5 children as follows; Mary b. 1849, Finlay b. 1852, Margaret b. 1855, Ann b. 1858 and Donald b. 1859 (1st cousins 3 x removed). John dies in 1859 Marvig, his brother in law John Campbell as informer to his death.

His widow Margaret remains in Marvig where she brings up his children, she does not marry again.

2ai Marion Maclennan 1st Cousin 3 x Removed

Marion Maclennan the youngest daughter of John MacLennan was born about 1838 Lochs (not Barvas as per her marital census), she was likely to be the child of an unknown 1st marriage of John Maclennan.

Marion marries Donald Mackay from Barvas in Stornoway 1858 where she had been working as a servant in Keith Street. Donald and Marion settle in Europie (district of Barvas) and
where Donald worked as a fisherman. Donald and Marion went on to have 7 children as follows; John b.1859, Donald b. 1863, Catherine b. 1866, Anne b. 1869, Christy b. 1872, Isabella b. 1876 and Donald b. 1879 (2nd cousin 2 x removed). In 1901 the family were living at 37 Europie, John Mackay had immigrated to Canada.

John Mackay married Henrietta in Stornoway 1886 he sailed on the Corean with his wife and daughter Anne arriving on the 29 May 1888 Quebec. John and Henrietta settled in Manitoba where they had 7 children, John died in Manitoba in 1949.

2a1i Finlay MacLennan 1st Cousin 3 x Removed

Finlay MacLennan born 1852, eldest son of John marries his 1st cousin Margaret Mackenzie of 12 Marvig daughter of his aunt Isabella MacLennan. They take on the croft at 16 Marvig where they bring up 4 children as follows; John b. 1879, Isabella b. 1886, Margaret b. 1889 and Kennina b. 1893 (died at a young age). Margaret MacLennan remains single and is the teacher at Arrivauch School for the last 35 years of its existence when it closed in 1952 with only 11 pupils.

2b. Alexander MacLennan 3 x Great Uncle

Alexander MacLennan was born about 1819 Lochs he married Margaret Macaskill from Gravir, 13 January 1848 and settled at 18 Marvig where he was a crofter and fisherman. Alexander and Margaret had 5 children as follows born at Marvig; Margaret b. 1850, Donald b. 1852, Christy born 1855, Catherine b. 1860 and John b. 1863. Margaret passed away before Alexander, Alexander was living in a private house with his son John in 1901 Lochs, crofting records show he took over 19 Marvig which was were his aunt Margaret Smith lived whilst married.

2bi. Donald MacLennan 1st Cousin 3 x Removed

Donald MacLennan born 1852 married Janet and remained at 18 Marvig (parental croft) where they had 7 children as follows; Donald b. 1882, Duncan b. 1885, Christy b. 1887, Murdo b. 1890, Angus b. 1894, Alexander Murdo b. 1896 and Peggy Ann b. 1898. Donald worked as a fisherman. Donald and Duncan remained on the island, Angus was known to have fought in the 1st World War in the Canadian Navy, Police Section. Alexander Murdo briefly opened a shop at 18 Marvig but then moved to Glasgow.

2bii Catherine MacLennan 1st Cousin 3 x Removed

Catherine MacLennan born 1860 married Roderick Kennedy a fisherman and settled at 15 Marvig. Catherine and Roderick had 5 known children; John b. 1882, Alexander b. 1883, Donald b. 1886, Maggie b. 1888 and Margaret b. 1890. John the eldest son died in 1916 in the Royal Navy Reserve leaving a wife and 5 children.
2c. Christina MacLennan 3 x Great Aunt

Christina MacLennan married Donald Finlayson, of 14 Calbost but died when she gave birth to her daughter Chirsty and Mrs Murdo Nicolson, 11 Calbost, who lost a child at the same time, gave suck and brought up Chirsty as if she were her own child. There was a younger daughter of Christina and Donald Finlayson called Maggie born about 1848.

2d. Isabella Maclennan 3 x Great Aunt

Married Kenneth Mackenzie from Habost and the family settled at 12 Marvig. Isabella and Kenneth had 4 children as follows; James b. 1843, Roderick b. 1849, Margaret b. 1852 and Catherine b. 1854, Isabella was a widow by 1871. Both James and Roderick remained in Marvig, James as 12 Marvig and Roderick at 7 Marvig.

3. Murdo MacLennan 2 x Great Grandfather

Murdo Maclennan born about 1811 Marvig married Margaret Macfarlane 25 January 1832. The family settled at 6 Marvig where they had 6 children as follows; Donald b. 1833, Margaret b. 1836, Alexander b. 1838, Marion b. 1845, Aline b. 1848 and Isabella b. 1851. Murdo worked as a crofter and fisherman, he died 5 March 1886 aged about 75 Marvig.

3a. Donald Maclennan 2 x Great Uncle

Donald Maclennan eldest son or Murdo was a fisherman who won the heart of a herring girl Barbara Macdonald from Bettyhill, Caithness. He brought her home where they settled in the lochs area. They had 4 girls and 1 boy as follows; Margaret b. 1855, Johanna b. 1859, Marion 1865, Catherine 1869 and Angus 1871. After Donald’s early death Barbara moved to Stornoway first living at 14 point street then 7 Church Street by 1891.

3ai Angus Maclennan 1st Cousin 2 x Removed

The only son of Donald Maclennan was brought up in Stornoway after the death of his father. He was known as Coachie and he owned one of the fastest fishing boats in the fleet “Mary” and she entered the Coronation race as described below:

The fishing boat, SY150, was well known in Gravir in the early year of this century. She was called the 'Mary' and, because of the slender shape, she was appropriately referred to in the village as 'Mairi-Chaol'. She operated under sail during her entire life and, with her main and jigger sails hoisted in a favourable wind, she was said to be one of the fastest boats in the fishing fleet of the time.

She is remembered in local lore as one of the boats which participated in the 1902 race for fishing boats under sail. The race, which was organised to mark the coronation of King Edward, was held over a course of 25 nautical miles from, and back to, Stornoway.

Boats were placed in one of three categories, depending on size. The 'Mary' was one of two boats - the other, Point - in the third category which was for the smallest boats, i.e. those with a keel of 33 ft. or less. The 'Mary' completed the course in good time but when placings were decided by the application of race rules, the other boat was awarded the runner-up's money prize.

Angus married Margaret Mackay in Edinburgh occupation Merchant Clerk 1899. One of the children of that marriage was Annie Maclennan born 1910 who married James Watson.
Galloway grandfather and grandmother of Susan Galloway who works with Kathleen Maclennan.

3b. Margaret Maclennan 2 x Great Aunt

Margaret Maclennan born 1836 Marvig married Alexander Morrison a fisherman living 20 Marvig. They had 4 living children (3 died as infants) as follows; Margaret b. 4 December 1861, Norman b. 6 July 1866, Alexander b. 5 February 1871 and Donald b. 20 January 1872. Margaret then died and Alexander Morrison then married Margaret's cousin Christy Finlayson.

4. Alexander Maclennan Great Grandfather

Alexander Maclennan born 1838 married Jessie Mackenzie 25 December 1862 and remained at 6 Marvig where he was a crofter. Alexander and Jessie had 6 children as follows; Kenneth b. 1863, Marion b. 1866, Alexander b. 1870, Isabella b. 1873, Donald b. 1878 and John b. 1881. Alexander was well thought of in Marvig he was a spokesman at Napier and Brand Commissions of Enquiry into Crofting 12th June 1883 and was a church elder. His son Donald immigrated to USA.

4a. Kenneth Maclennan Great Uncle

Kenneth Maclennan born 1863 was a fisherman, he married Donaldina Macleod and had 2 children before he was drowned in Marvig Bay 26 November 1900 aged only 37. His death was reported in the Evening Telegraph and states Kenneth was one of the most respected men in Lewis, he was aboard the General Gordon and had just bought a new boat the week before, Annie Smith. The two children Betsy born 1897 and Jane born 1898 was living with their widowed mum in 1901 in Lochs.

Recently one of his relatives visited Marvig to see where her Grandfather was born.
4b. Marion Maclennan Great Aunt

Marion Maclennan born 1865 married Donald Kennedy from Calbost a shoe maker by trade. They had the following children; Murdo, Christy, Dolina, Jessie Mary, Kenneth and “baby Alexander. The family moved to Stornoway, Donald dying in 1908.

4c. Alexander Maclennan Great Uncle

Alexander Maclennan born 1870 moved to Stornoway where, as the article below shows he became the pillar of society owning the famous Mackenzie and MacFarlane shop.

One hundred and forty years ago Charles Morrison came from Dornoch to Stornoway as a young man and opened a ships chandler's shop which became a universally recognised institution, particularly among the fisher folk. Sadly, the Stornoway Gazette issue dated June 6th 2002 reported the closure of ‘Bùth Thearlaich’ on Thursday 31st May. Marvig had a close association with ‘Bùth Thearlaich’.

About halfway through its life Charles Morrison’s original shop fronting onto Bank Street amalgamated with the shop ‘Mackenzie & Macfarlane’ in the same building but fronting onto Point Street. An internal communicating door between the two shops was opened, and from then onwards the two shops functioned as one retail shop. Two men originally set up Mackenzie & Macfarlane’s shop from Crobeg, Lochs. John Mackenzie (1836-1903) was the son of ‘Coinneach Bad a Chro’ or ‘Coinneach Crossbost’ as he was known because he was the last tacksman in Crossbost. John Mackenzie was brought up in Crobeg and mention was made of him in the book ‘The Men Of Lewis’ by the Rev. N.C. Macfarlane (who also resided at Crobeg for a while) as being one of the saintliest men in Lewis at that time. His partner John Macfarlane was a cousin who resided in Crobeg as well, a brother of Rev. N.C. Macfarlane.

A young man from Marvig became a shop assistant in ‘Mackenzie & Macfarlane’, Point Street. He was Alexander Maclennan, 6 Marvig ‘Mac Alastair Bhàn’. Alexander was popularly known as ‘Holy Alex’, probably because he was a pillar of the Free Church congregation in Stornoway. Alex the young lad from Marvig eventually became the proprietor of ‘Mackenzie & Macfarlane’, and in due course Provost of Stornoway, and County Councillor for Park, the district of his birth.

He retired from the Council as late Provost in 1933 after working for 25 years for the council, for 3 years he was chairman of the Stornoway Trustees and the Lewis Castle Trust. Even after he retired he still worked as chairman of the Lewis Hospital Management Committee, honorary Sheriff Substitute and member of the licencing board. Alexander received the MBE in the New Year's honours list 1935.

5. John Maclennan Grandfather

John Maclennan was born 1881 6 Marvig, by 1901 he was boarding with his brother Alexander and his wife and brother Donald at Sunnyside House, Scotland Street and was a general merchant. John married Mary Janet Macgregor 10th January 1907 at the Alexandra Hotel, Glasgow, and Banns read at the United Free Church (the certificate states master grocer).

By 1911 John was living at Matheson Road with wife and his first two children Alexander Kenneth b. 1907 and Elizabeth Murray (after her Grandmother) b. 1910, Kenneth
Maclennan (Father) was born 13\textsuperscript{th} January 1913. John became a fish merchant and reading reports from the newspapers he had vehicles working out of Marvig.

6. Kenneth Maclennan Father

Kenneth Maclennan married Helena Whitaker at St Columbus Stornoway 7\textsuperscript{th} October 1936, she was living at 46 Bayhead, her maternal grandparent’s property and employed as a clerk in the ministry of labour. Kenneth was living at 5 Westview Terrace and employed as a haulage contractor. Kenneth and Helena Maclennan had 3 children, Fred, Michael and John.

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