



Bill Livingstone: His Life and Music



Michael Grey
The Piobaireachd Society Conference
Stirling, Scotland
28 March 2026

Me and Bill

Over 40 years teacher, mentor, friend

- General Motors Pipe Band and “The Mason’s Apron” medley
- Capt. John MacLellan summer school in Kingston, Ontario
- My first private lessons at 16
- 78th, Toronto Police
- A great and true friend



Oban, 22 Aug 2023 - M Grey, B Livingstone, Craig Turnbull, Mike Cusack, Lillian Livingstone

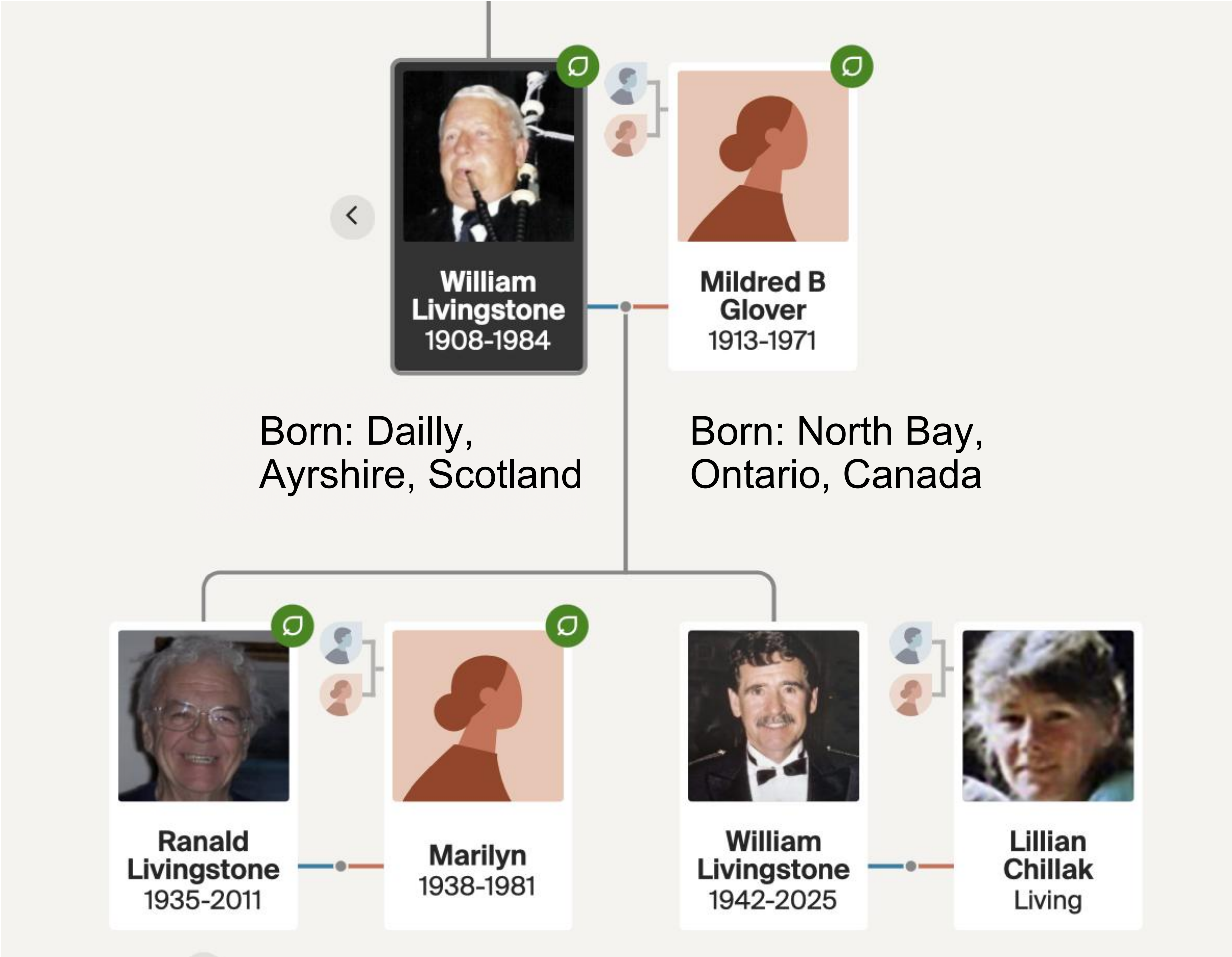
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Bill's Family Background

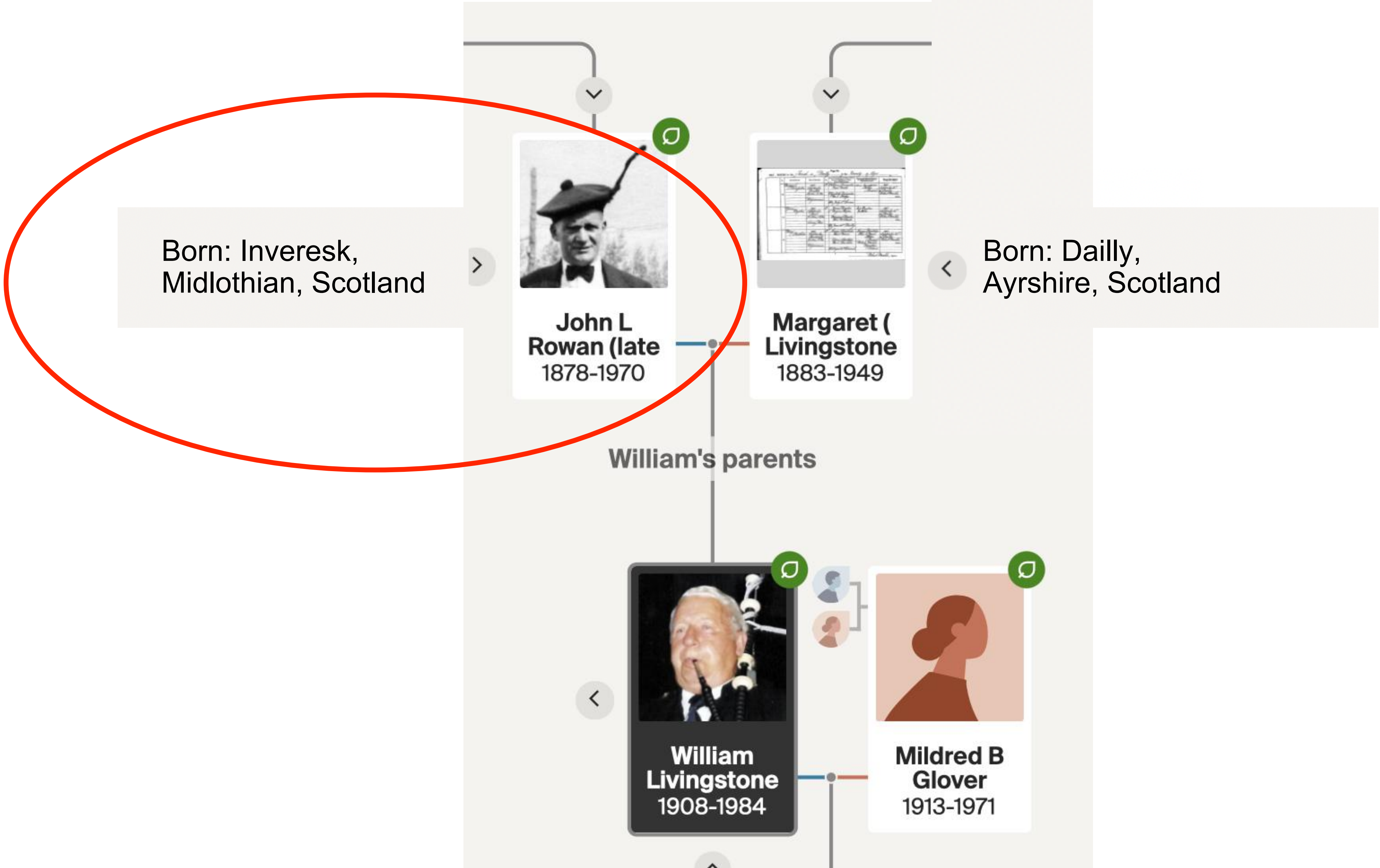
- Born: 20 March 1942
- Copper Cliff, Ontario, Canada
- Pictured: Bill, aged 8. Note Royal Canadian Air Force tartan bag cover and 3/4-sized pipes
- Death: 22 February 2025



Bill's Family Background



Bill's Family Background



Bill's Family Background

Ayr
Prison
Records,
1900

Reg. No. and Sex.		Date of Admission.	Committing Magistrate or Court.	Previous Imprisonments in any Prison.		NAME.	Age.	Height.		Where Born.	Prisoner's Home.	Religion.	Health as reported by Medical Officer.	Offence.	Particulars of Trial.			Sentence if Convicted.			Liberated or Removed.			Remarks.
M.	F.			No.	Last Day No. in this Prison.			Ft.	In.						Date.	Court.	Where.	Fines L S D	Yes	No	By	By	Date.	
		1900																						
596	261	May 2		13	15	Rose Ann Chestnut & Robertson	57	5 1 1/2	Ireland	None fixed	do	do	do	Drunk & Incapable	May 4	Police	Quarrier	7 6	4	1	May 11	Sent to hospital	S.	
				14		Patrick Nixon	41	5 5	do	do	do	do	do	Breach of Peace	"	J.P.	Beith	10	5	1	"	"	S.	
597	262	"				Brigitte Ferguson & Taylor	65	4 9	West Hillside	Salisbury	do	do	do	Theft	"	J.P.	Salisbury		14	1	"	"	S.	
						Patrick Bonner	38	5 6	Ireland	Kilmarnock	do	do	do	Assault	5	Police	Kilmarnock	3	30	1	June 4	"	S.	
598						Hugh Sinclair	42	5 4 1/2	Glasgow	Dumbarton	do	do	do	Theft	"	Sherriff	Kilmarnock		10	1	"	"	S.	
	263	"		3	20	Ellen Cameron & McPherson	71	4 10	Olton	None fixed	do	do	do	Begging	"	Police	Quarrier	5	5	1	"	"	S.	
	264	7		10	20	Rose Ann Ward & Cummings	38	4 9	Dumbarton	do	do	do	do	Drunk & Incapable	7	"	Salisbury	2	23	1	16	Commo. & Manfriso	S.	
	265	"		62	17	Agnes Douglas	34	5 3	Glasgow	do	do	do	do	do	"	"	Ayr	10 6	4	1	May 14	Sent to hospital	S.	
599				3	27	William Briggs	72	5 6	Salisbury	do	do	do	do	do	"	"	Salisbury	1	14	1	"	"	S.	
600						John Dolan	39	5 10 1/2	Newcastle	do	do	do	do	Begging	"	"	Salisbury	5	4	1	May 14	Sent to hospital	S.	
601						Andrew Hill	17	5 4 1/2	Ayr	do	do	do	do	Assault	"	"	Ayr	15	10	1	8	Forc. Entry	S.	
602				2	30	Alexander Boyd	28	5 10	Ireland	do	do	do	do	Breach of Peace & P.	"	"	Kilmarnock	7 6	5	1	12	Sent to hospital	S.	
603						James Munro	54	5	Liverpool	do	do	do	do	Begging	"	"	Ayr	15	10	1	17	"	S.	
604				2	31	Patry	47	5 6	Highgatehouse	Ayr	do	do	do	Assault	"	"	"	15	10	1	7	Forc. Entry	S.	
605						James McNeilly	32	5 5 1/2	Ireland	None fixed	do	do	do	Breach of Peace	"	"	Kilmarnock	7 6	5	1	12	Sent to hospital	S.	
606			Police Ayr	3	20	David Brown	40	5 5 1/2	Stewarton	Ayr	do	do	do	Assault	"	"	"	1	1	1	10	To Court	S.	
	266			3	21	Maggie Duncan & Morgan	40	4 11 1/2	Ireland	Stewarton	do	do	do	Breach of Peace	4	Police	Stewarton	2	30	1	June 6	Sent to hospital	S.	
	267			5	22	Elizabeth Lamson & Park	34	5 3	Monkirk	Monkirk	do	do	do	Mal. Inf. & B. of P.	"	J.P.	Gumrock	1 10	15	1	May 22	"	S.	
607			Shy Kilmarnock	4		James	26	5 9	Govan	None fixed	do	do	do	Theft	"	"	"	1	1	1	8	Forc. Entry & Stealing	S.	
608				1		Alexander Mackie	34	5 9 1/2	Dumbarton	Ballochmyle	do	do	do	Assault & B. of P.	7	J.P.	Gumrock	2 10	21	1	14	Forc. Entry	S.	
609			8 May Ayr			John Rowan	22	5 5	Midlothian	New Dumbarnock	do	do	do	Deserting & High. & Begging	"	"	"		1	1	11	To Regional	S.	
610						Richard Munro	16	4 10 1/2	Partick	Ayr	do	do	do	Deserting & R. S. F.	"	"	"		1	1	9	To Regional	S.	
611				2	11	Patry McAllister & John Brown	35	5 7 1/2	Belfast	None fixed	do	do	do	Assault	8	Police	Ayr	12 6	4	1	15	Sent to hospital	S.	
612						Duncan Buchanan	35	5 6 1/2	Stirling	Stirling	do	do	do	Riotous Conduct	"	"	Kilmarnock	10	4	1	15	"	S.	
613				6	12	James Swan	62	5 7 1/2	Salisbury	None fixed	do	do	do	Drunk & Incapable	"	"	Salisbury	5	5	1	12	"	S.	
	268			84	23	Ellen Fothergill & Blair	35	5 2	Greenbank	do	do	do	do	do	"	"	Ayr	1 1	15	1	23	"	S.	
	269			1		Anderson & Mc Mahon	35	4 11 1/2	Gumrock	do	do	do	do	Breach of Peace	"	"	Salisbury	5	5	1	"	"	S.	
	270			11	24	Agnes Guthrie & Graham	28	4 10 1/2	Partick	do	do	do	do	Mal. Inf. & B. of P.	"	"	Glasgow	1	5	1	12	"	S.	
	271					Elizabeth Shannon	14	4 6	Kilmarnock	Kilmarnock	do	do	do	Theft	"	"	Kilmarnock		30	1	18	Sec. for Scotland	S.	
614				2	27	Frank Marshall	29	5 7 1/2	Kilmarnock	None fixed	do	do	do	Breach of Peace	"	"	"	5	3	1	"	"	S.	
615				2		John McFinnis	51	5 6	Glasgow	do	do	do	do	Drunk & Incapable	"	"	Anderson	5	3	1	"	"	S.	
616						Alexander Wilson	30	5 7	Stewarton	do	do	do	do	do	"	"	Gumrock	5	3	1	"	"	S.	
617				2	28	James Mc Dade	32	5 8	Stewarton	Monkirk	do	do	do	Obstructing Police & B. of P.	"	J.P.	"	1 10	20	1	28	"	S.	
618				3	29	George Park	60	5 5 1/2	Monkirk	do	do	do	do	Breach of Peace	"	"	"	1	14	1	22	"	S.	
619						John Armour	44	5 7	Cathie	None fixed	do	do	do	do	"	"	"	15	10	1	18	"	S.	
620						Patrick Shields	32	5 7	Ireland	do	do	do	do	Wife Assault	"	Sherriff	Kilmarnock	3	30	1	June 7	"	S.	
621				1	30	James Leach	25	5 7	Darvel	New Milton	do	do	do	Day Proaching	"	"	"	1 11 2	7	1	May 15	"	S.	
622				2	31	Hugh	40	5 6	do	do	do	do	do	do	"	"	"	1 11 2	7	1	15	"	S.	
623						David Ross	22	5 6	Dryghorn	Dryghorn	do	do	do	Deserting his Wife	"	"	"		30	1	June 7	"	S.	
624				1	32	Daniel Smilie	19	5 2	Dalry	Dalry	do	do	do	Assault & Mal. Inf.	"	J.P.	Beith	10	5	1	May 18	"	S.	
625			Shy Ayr	10	33	Hugh Ballcocher	45	5 5 1/2	Londonderry	None fixed	do	do	do	Robbery & Mal. Inf.	"	"	"	1	1	1	14	Forc. Entry & Glasgow	S. & Convicted	
626				40	34	James Irvine	34	5 1	Ayr	do	do	do	do	Sleeping Out	9	Police	Ayr	1	14	1	23	Sent to hospital	S.	
627				5	35	Samuel Copeland	23	5 1	do	Ayr	do	do	do	Drunk & Incapable	"	"	"	7 6	5	1	9	Forc. Entry	S.	
628						Alexander Kennedy	23	5 5 1/2	do	do	do	do	do	Assault	"	"	"	10 6	4	1	16	Sent to hospital	S.	
	272			6	36	May Ann McEugene & Caldwell	40	5 5 1/2	Centon	None fixed	do	do	do	Breach of Peace	"	"	Large		20	1	16	Commo. & Manfriso	S.	

Bill's Family Background



John	Rowan	22	5	5	Midlothian	Newburnrock
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Deserting Seaforth Highlanders

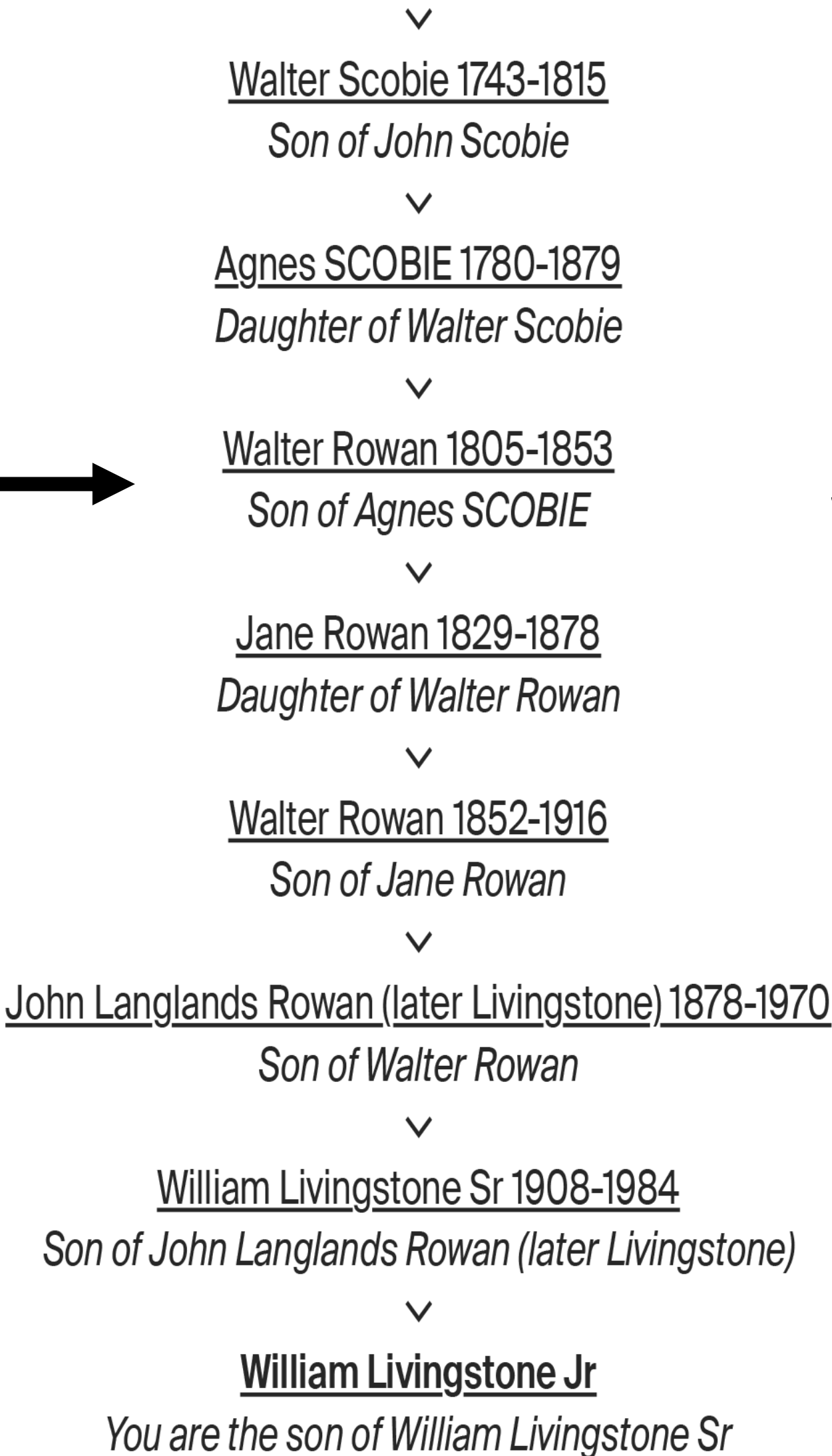
WAR OFFICE, JANUARY 1, 1901.

DESERTERS AND ABSENTEES FROM HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE.

OFFICE NO.	NAME.	REG. NO.	CORPS.	AGE.	HEIGHT.	COM-PLXN.	HAIR.	EYES.	TRADE.	ENLISTMENT.		PARISH AND COUNTY IN WHICH BORN.	DESEPTION OR ABSENCE.		MARKS AND REMARKS.	
										DATE OF	PLACE OF		DATE OF	PLACE OF		
1	Ablett, Geo. Francis	5573	1st Royal Scots	23	5	4	fresh	dark	blue	carman	5 Feb. '96	Woolwich	West Ham, Essex	21 Dec.	Belfast	dots front & back rt frm
2	Abrahart, H.	14526	Army Med. Corps	20	5	4	pale	lt brn	blue	porter	5 Sept. '90	London	Battersea, London	21 Dec.	Aldershot	scs rt flank & lt hip
3	Annetts, Albert	6160	Oxfordshire L.I.	18	5	4	fresh	lt brn	grey	labourer	17 Sept. '00	Caversham	Christ Ch., Reading	21 Dec.	Oxford	
4	Arnold, John James	11994	Royal Artillery	21	5	5	fair	brn	blue	labourer	28 Aug. '00	London	London	19 Dec.	Woolwich	sc lt cheek
5	Atkins, Frank	7960	4th Royal Fus	19	5	5	fresh	brn	blue	carman	27 Mar. '00	London	Abbotts Langley*	20 Dec.	Dover	*Herts
6	Backman, Charles	—	Roy. Engineers	26	5	7	fair	brn	blue	machinist	10 Dec. '00	8th Shields	Tyne Dock, S. Shields	10 Dec.	en route*	*to Newcastle-on-Tyne
7	Bain, John	23787	Royal Artillery	21	5	8	fresh	flaxen	blue	groom	9 Nov. '97	Dover	Tain, Ross-shire	16 Dec.	London	sc back rt frm
8	Bales, A.	14661	Army Med. Corps	19	5	3	fresh	dk brn	brn	labourer	25 Oct. '00	Guernsey	Gt. Yarmouth, Nrfk	1 Dec.	Aldershot	heart dots & dagger lt frm sc lt lip
9	Bell, Richard	4923	8th Hussars	18	5	5	fresh	dk brn	dk blu	barber	3 Apr. '00	Belfast	Shankhill, Belfast	17 Dec.	Dundalk	sc rt eyebrow
10	Binns, Herbert	13074	Army Med. Corps	20	5	8	fresh	brn	grey	mason	9 Feb. '00	Hallifax	Oxenhope, York	16 Dec.	Aldershot	
11	Birchell, E.	5858	R. Sussex Regt.	20	5	5	sallow	brn	dk brn	cork cutter	22 Feb. '99	Kgsta-o-T	Peckham, Surrey	20 Dec.	Shorncliffe	sc back head
12	Bishop, Edward	5390	3rd Worcestr R.	21	5	6	dark	brn	brn	groom	8 Nov. '98	Birmingham	Birmingham	22 Dec.	Aldershot	TB rt frm sc lt buttock
13	Blake, J.	4248	Royal Artillery	21	5	10	fresh	brn	grey	labourer	30 Apr. '00	Winchester	Burley, Hants	22 Dec.	Portsmouth	
14	Bliss, H. J. C.	3803	Roy. Engineers	20	5	6	fresh	dk brn	grey	painter	26 Feb. '00	Chatham	Enfield, Middlesex	21 Dec.	Aldershot	star breast American coat-arms rt fm
15	Brereton, John	2533	4th K. R. Rifles	19	5	4	olive	dk brn	brn	labourer	8 Jan. '00	Bradford	Bradford, Yorks	18 Dec.	Cork	sc lt eyebrow
16	Brinklow, George	558	1st R. Nth. Res. R.	35	5	3	dark	dark	brn	labourer	15 Mar. '00	Warley	Camden Twn, Mddx	23 Dec.	Woking	2 scs forehead
17	Brown, Charles	—	Bedfordsh Rgt.	22	5	3	sallow	black	brn	seaman	15 Dec. '00	London	Holloway, Middlesex	20 Dec.	London	snake star & rt frm peacock & lt
18	Brown, George	7802	R. Highlanders	20	5	6	sallow	dark	brn	labourer	30 Apr. '00	Kirkcaldy	St. Paul's, Edinbro'	15 Dec.	Montrose	vae 3 lt 2 rt
19	Brown, Henry	—	Highland L.I.	18	5	6	fresh	brn	grey	labourer	18 Dec. '00	Hamilton	Govan, Lanark	19 Dec.	Hamilton	
20	Brown, Hy. Jackson	6438	Durham L.I.	21	5	4	fresh	dk brn	hazel	blacksmith	3 Aug. '98	Newest-o-T	St. Mark's, S. Shields	20 Dec.	Newest-o-T	sc over lt cheek bone
21	Burgess, William	6335	Royal Artillery	24	5	7	fair	flaxen	blue	seaman	22 Nov. '00	Hull	Nova Scotia	17 Dec.	Scarboro'	anchor & heart rt frm
22	Butler, J.	14307	Army Ser. Corps	21	5	3	fresh	brn	brn	carriage wnit	1 Feb. '99	Maldstone	Marylebone, Londn	21 Dec.	Aldershot	scs back & buttock love dots lt frm
23	Butler, R.	6838	Roy. Engineers	18	5	8	sallow	brn	grey	fitter	10 Oct. '00	Pontefract	Thorne, Yorks	22 Dec.	Chatham	sc bridge nose & outside rt elbow
24	Butter, James	7348	Durham L. I.	18	5	4	fresh	brn	blue	labourer	7 Dec. '00	Liverpool	Liverpool	22 Dec.	Newest-o-T	sc lt knee JH lt frm
25	Caffrey, Patrick	15115	Roy. Horse Art.	23	5	8	fresh	brn	blue	grocer's ast	27 Apr. '00	Dublin	Cellbridge, Kildare	20 Dec.	New bridge	
26	Carpenter, Joseph	1135	2nd R. Lncs Rs.	33	5	5	fresh	black	grey	labourer	24 Apr. '00	Ashton-u-L	Islington, London	24 Dec.	Aldershot	heart anchor & cross chest
27	Carvey, Charles	3571	E. Surrey Regt.	28	5	3	fresh	lt brn	grey	carman	16 July '91	Kgsta-o-T	Kensington, Middsx	11 Dec.	Kgsta-o-T	circle & dots rt frm dots & lt
28	Cave, Thomas O. G.	5119	Res. R. Drag. G.	37	5	10	fresh	brn	grey	groom	20 Apr. '00	Birmingham	Audley, Cheshire	23 Dec.	Nowbridge	
29	Chilton, Harry	6806	E. Surrey Regt.	19	5	6	fair	brn	grey	brickmakr	5 Dec. '00	London	Southall, Middlesex	9 Dec.	Kgsta-o-T	sc lt shoulder mole lt ribs
30	Chudley, Ernest G.	6256	Dorset Regt.	19	5	3	fresh	dk brn	grey	labourer	7 Dec. '00	Poole	Stoke-in-Leighhead*	11 Dec.	Dorchester	*Devon
31	Clare, Frederick	1263	R. Eastn. Res. R.	38	5	7	pale	dark	grey	labourer	24 Apr. '00	Walsley	Clerkenwell, London	22 Dec.	Warley	woman rt frm

Bill's Family Background

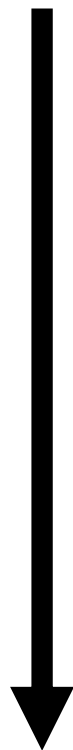
Born Glasgow, died
Dailly, Ayrshire



3rd Great grandfather

Bill's Family Background

Clackmannanshire



↓
James Douglas 3rd of Mousewald 1616-1647
Son of Margaret Hamilton

↓
Margaret Douglas 1636-1709
Daughter of James Douglas 3rd of Mousewald

↓
Isobel Lambert 1676-1750
Daughter of Margaret Douglas

↓
John Scobie 1707-1800
Son of Isobel Lambert

↓
Walter Scobie 1743-1815
Son of John Scobie

↓
Agnes SCOBIE 1780-1879
Daughter of Walter Scobie



Bill's Family Background

▼
Sir Claud Hamilton Lord Paisley, Dean of Dunbar, Canon of Glasgow 1543-1621
Son of Lady Margaret Douglas Baroness of Hamilton, 2nd Countess of Arran, Duchess of Hamilton & 1st Duchess of Chatel

▼
Margaret Hamilton 1585-1623
Daughter of Sir Claud Hamilton Lord Paisley, Dean of Dunbar, Canon of Glasgow

▼
James Douglas 3rd of Mousewald 1616-1647
Son of Margaret Hamilton

▼
Margaret Douglas 1636-1709
Daughter of James Douglas 3rd of Mousewald

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Isobel Lambert 1676-1750
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Son of Isobel Lambert

▼
Walter Scobie 1743-1815
Son of John Scobie

▼
Agnes SCOBIE 1780-1879
Daughter of Walter Scobie

▼



11th Great-grandfather

Bill's Family Background



11th Great-grandmother

▼
Lady Margaret Douglas Baroness of Hamilton, 2nd Countess of Arran, Duchess of Hamilton & 1st Duchess of Chatel
1515-1583
Daughter of Lady Catherine Stewart

Bill's Family Background



14th Great-grandfather

▼
King Robert III Stewart King of Scotland 1337-1406
Son of King Robert II Stewart King of Scotland

▼
King James I Stewart King of Scotland 1394-1436
Son of King Robert III Stewart King of Scotland

▼
King James II Stewart King of Scotland 1430-1460
Son of King James I Stewart King of Scotland

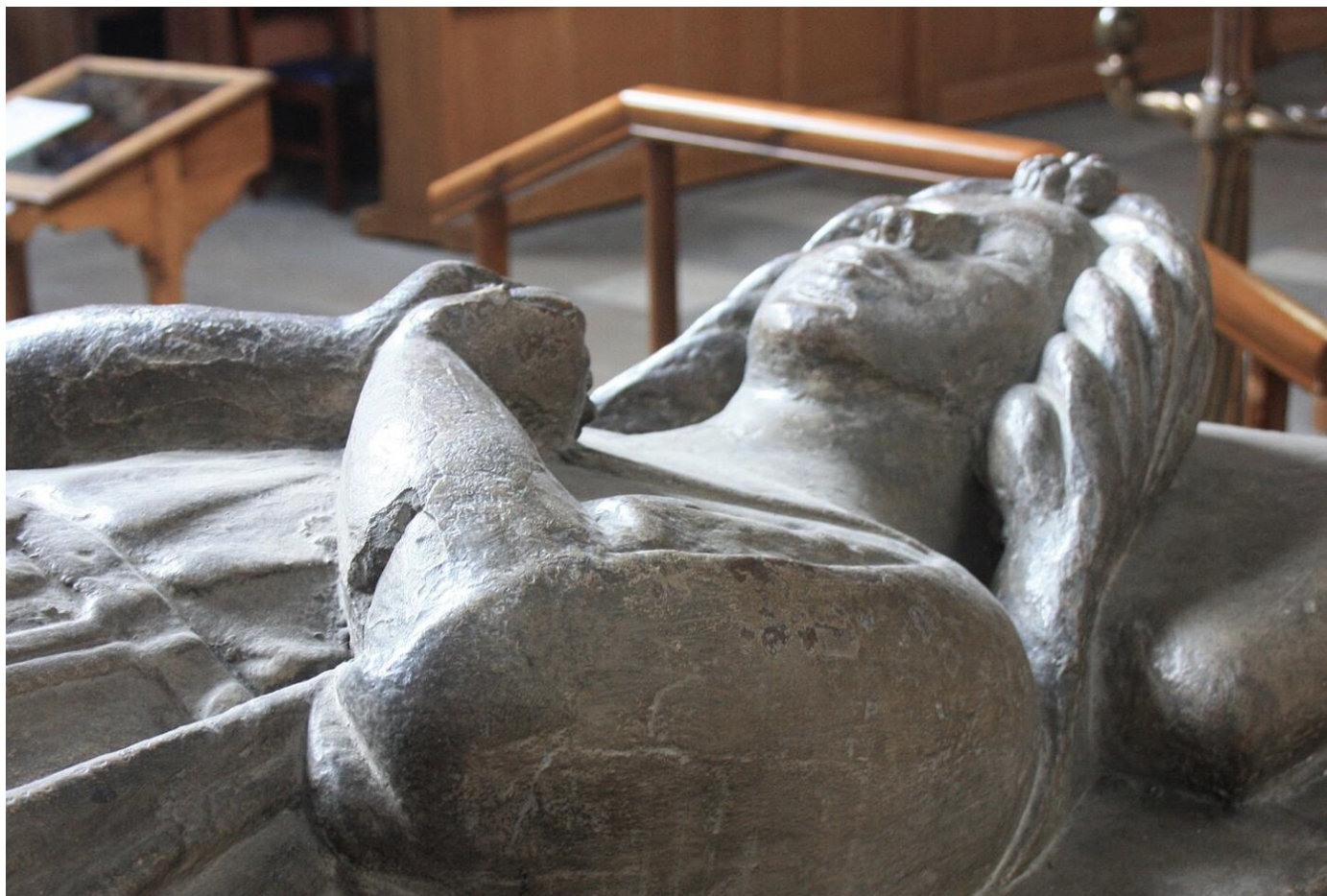
▼
King James III Stewart King of Scotland 1452-1488
Son of King James II Stewart King of Scotland

▼
King James IV Stewart King of Scotland 1473-1513
Son of King James III Stewart King of Scotland

▼
Lady Catherine Stewart 1491-1555
Daughter of King James IV Stewart King of Scotland

▼
Lady Margaret Douglas Baroness of Hamilton, 2nd Countess of Arran, Duchess of Hamilton & 1st Duchess of Chatel
1515-1583
Daughter of Lady Catherine Stewart

Bill's Family Background



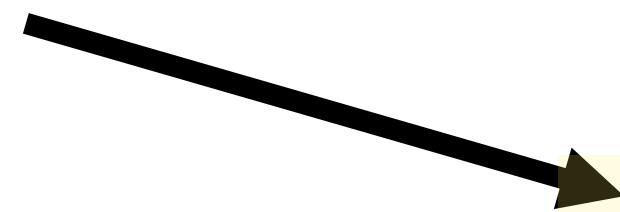
20th Great-grandmother



Bill's Family Background



22nd Great-grandfather



King Robert I Bruce King of Scotland 1274-1329
Son of Isabella de Clare



Bill's Family Background



28th Great-grandfather

King William I "The Conqueror" King of England 1028-1087
28th great-grandfather



King Henry I Beauclerc King of England
Son of King William I "The Conqueror" King of England



Robert FitzRoy 1090-1147
Son of King Henry I Beauclerc King of England



William FitzRobert 1116-1183
Son of Robert FitzRoy



Amice FitzWilliam 1160-1225
Daughter of William FitzRobert



Gilbert de Clare 4th Earl of Gloucester and Hertford 1180-1230
Son of Amice FitzWilliam



Isabella de Clare 1226-1264
Daughter of Gilbert de Clare 4th Earl of Gloucester and Hertford



King Robert I Bruce King of Scotland 1274-1329
Son of Isabella de Clare



Saint Laurence O'Toole ☆

BIRTH 1128
DEATH 14 NOV 1180

26th great-granduncle

🏷 Add tags

II. *Var.* I.

Bill Livingstone's Piping Teachers & Influencers¹⁸



~1946

His father



1956 &
1969-1979

John Wilson



1972-1979

John MacFadyen



~1975-1982

Donald Macleod



1973-1997

Andrew MacNeill



~1981-1991

Capt John A MacLellan

Teachers

Bill Livingstone, Senior (1908-1984)

- From the ages of 4 to 27
- “Old Bill”: taught by Davie Hendry, Ayrshire piper (who also taught Gordon Walker’s teacher, David Kay, Cumnock)
- A forthright personality and passionate piper, a good player to his last day
- Not a piobaireachd player but loved the music

It was here, at the kitchen table, that I had my first lessons on the bagpipe. My dad was teaching my brother Ranald, who, at the time was eleven, and I was four. The two of them would sit at the kitchen table, music book opened, sounding away on the practice chanters. Family lore has it that I was a most annoying kid at these times, wanting to get in on the strange but enticing action.”

~ Bill Livingstone, 2017



Teachers

John Wilson (1906-1979)

- 3 months tuition in 1956
- Re-engaged following law school: 1969
- One of the great “between the wars pipers”
- The “Baldooser” - jig in Willie Ross’ book was his uncle
- Lost parts of his left hand in an accident aged 12

“... John Wilson seems to have been moulded by Roddie Campbell to be more generously minded about stylistic issues, never single-mindedly insisting that a ‘style’ would prevail.”

~ Bill Livingstone, 2017



Teachers

John MacFadyen (1926-1979)

- From a piping family of the Inner Hebrides (Mull, Tiree): all siblings outstanding pipers: Duncan, Freena, Iain.
- Master piper: winner of all the top prizes including the Bratach Gorm in London five years in succession from 1966-1970
- He published two outstanding collections of light music (1966 and 1973)
- Partner with Donald MacLeod in the Grainger & Campbell bagpipe business

“John MacFadyen is instrumental in changing my piping and making me whatever piobaireachd player I am.”

~ Bill Livingstone, 1993



Teachers

Donald Macleod (1916-1982)

- Lewis-born master piper and composer
- A main pupil of Willie Ross, 27 years a pupil
- Like his teacher, Ross: 8-time winner of the Northern Meeting Clasp
- His legacy includes 6 books of music, a volume of ceol mor and 221 tutorial recordings

“As a teacher ... he was in a league of his own. He was the best pure teacher of piobaireachd I ever had ... he used his knowledge of the Gaelic language and song to extract the full beauty of the melody.”

~ Bill Livingstone, 2017



Teachers

Andrew MacNeill

- Helensburgh-born, a sheep farmer resident on the Isle of Oronsay - among others things: known as one of the finest sheep dog experts in Scotland
- Pupil of Robert Reid
- WWII interrupted his planned runs at the medal
- Bill said, “a very fine player”

“[following Cowal games, 1973] Andrew struck up a correspondence with me which involved the exchange of cassette tapes where he would play tunes on the practice chanter as he had been taught them by Robert Reid, with full and colourful descriptions of Reid, his prickly personality and single-minded devotion to his Cameron teaching.” ~ Bill Livingstone, 2017



Andrew MacNeill (second from left) at Luss Highland Games in July this year. The others in the photograph are left to right Pipe Major Angus Macdonald, John Patrick and Charlie Cochrane.

Teachers

- In 1946 he attended the Pipe Major's course under Willie Ross and graduated with a Distinguished Certificate.
- Took over the Army School of Piping from Willie Ross in 1959
- His most notable competitive achievement was to win the four major former winners' events at Oban and Inverness in 1958 – a feat not accomplished before or since.
- A master composer of piobaireachd

“Bill, you asked for tuition but I think with your excellent bagpipe and technique you will just take from the listening.’ And that is how our lessons went.”
~ Bill Livingstone, 2017



willam john livingstone

Re: John MacLellan recordings

To: Michael Grey

Mike I think these are the tunes to include:

Beloved Scotland
Black Donald's March
Praise of Morag
Prince's Salute
Charade
Pass of Crieff
MacLeod of Colbeck
Gathering of the McNabs
Patrick Og

Also not included in this catalogue is the Harp Tree while at the Kingston School.

Bill

II. *Var.* I. Doubling



John Ban
Mackenzie



Angus
Mackay



Donald
Cameron



Sandy
Cameron



Roddie Campbell



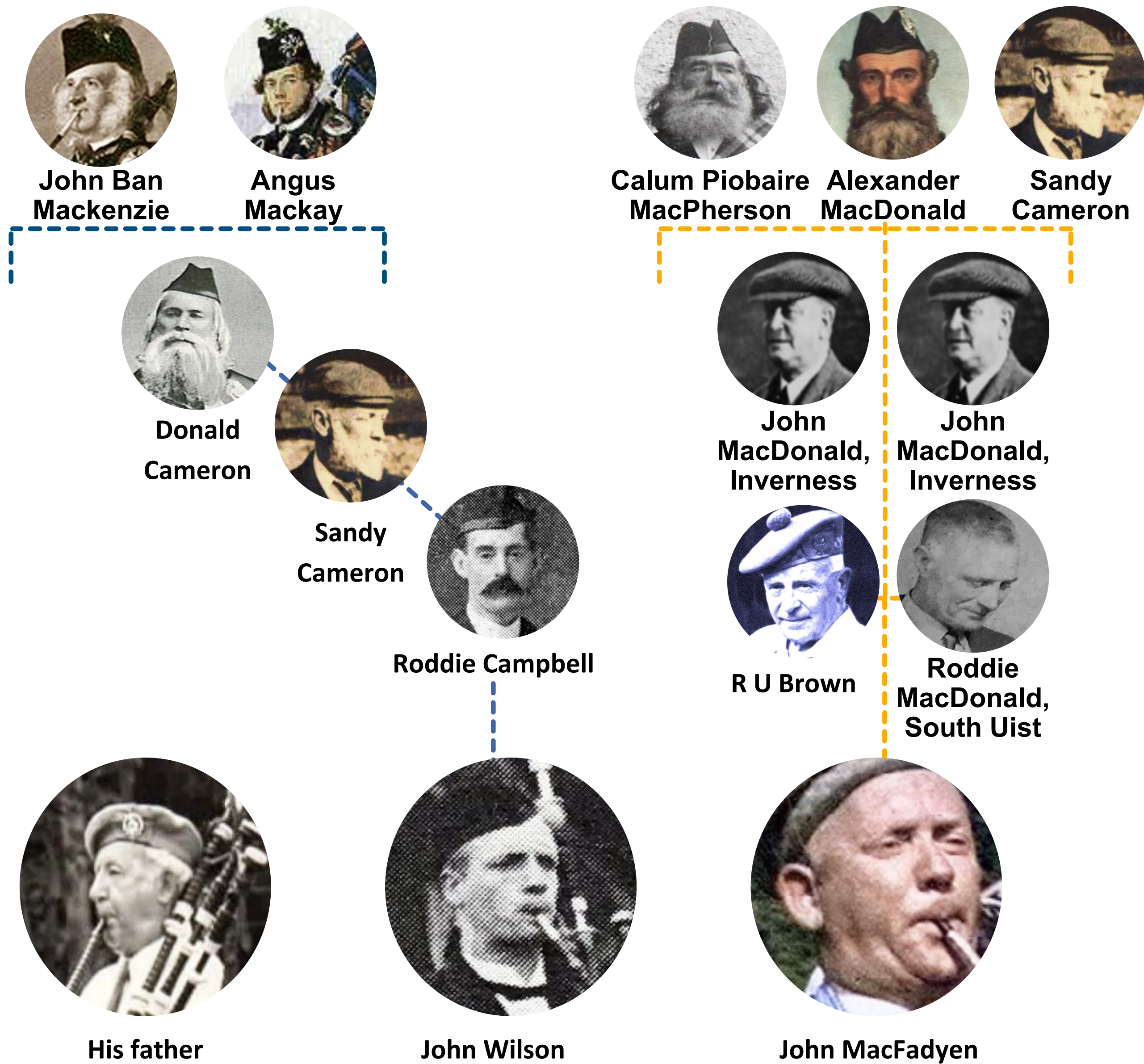
His father



John Wilson

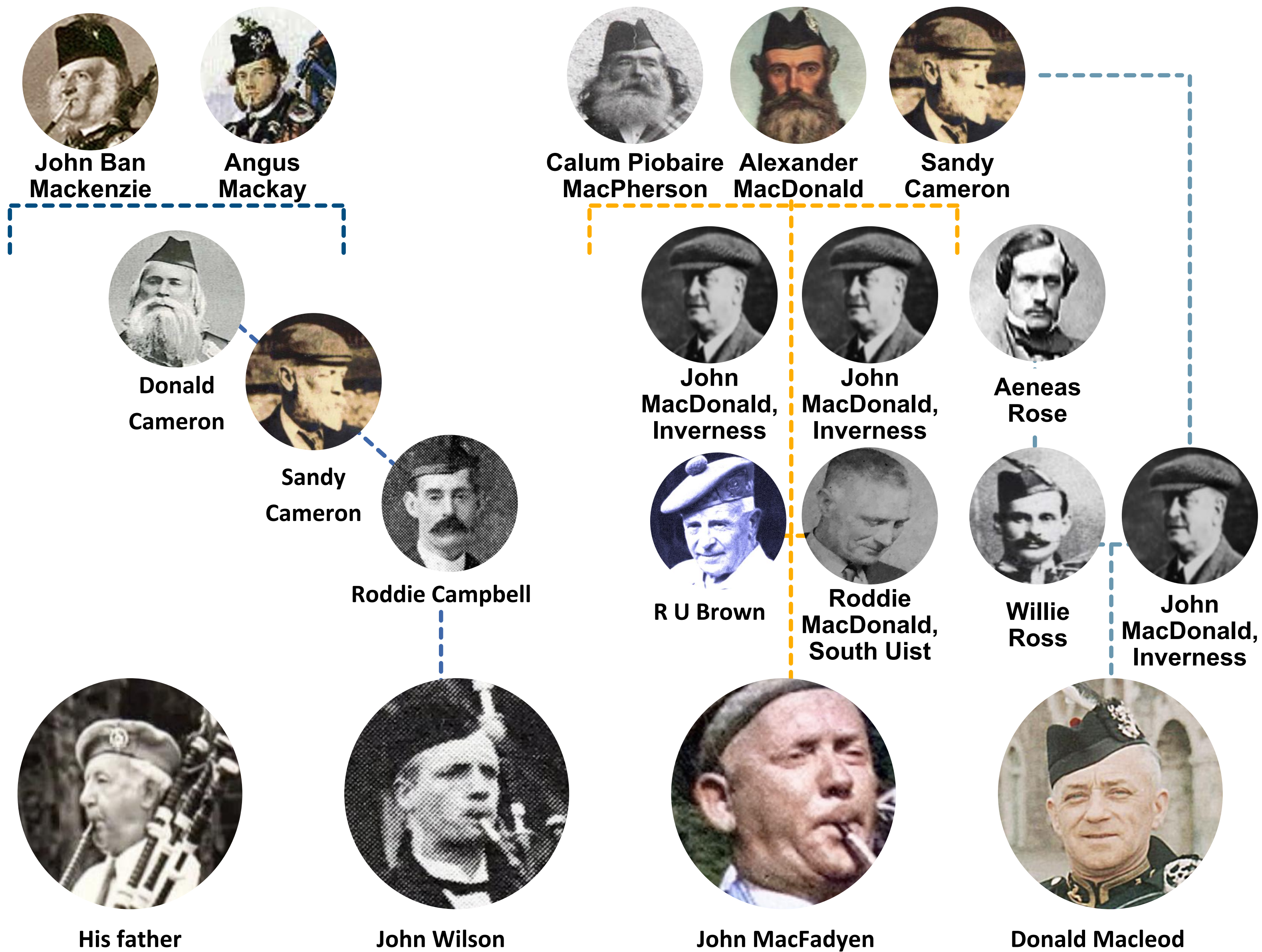
Bill Livingstone

"If I have seen further it is by standing on ye
shoulders of Giants"
~Sir Isaac Newton, 1675



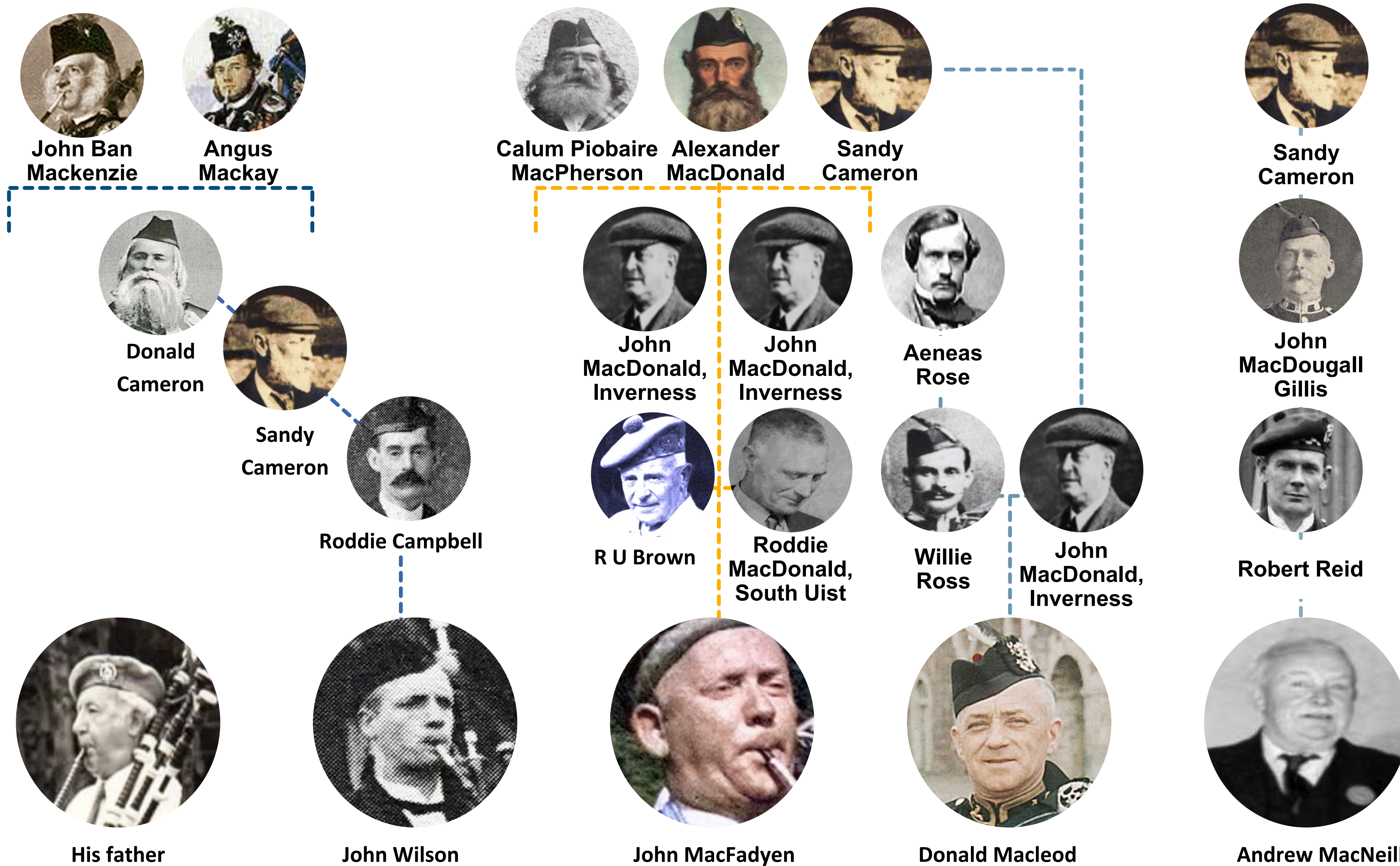
Bill Livingstone

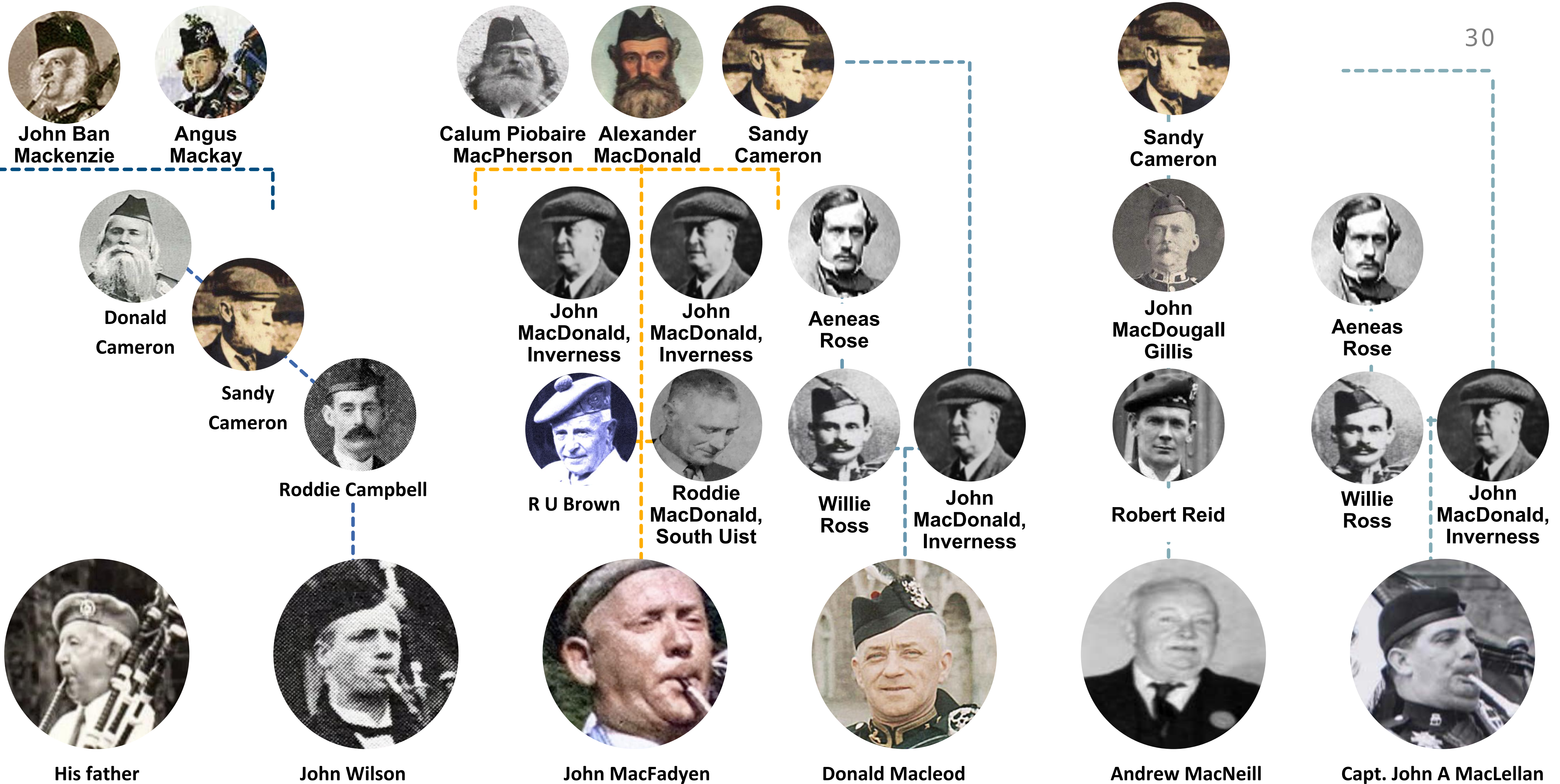
"If I have seen further it is by standing on ye
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~Sir Isaac Newton, 1675



Bill Livingstone

"If I have seen further it is by standing on ye
shoulders of Giants"
~Sir Isaac Newton, 1675





III. Var. I. Doubling

Prizes Include:

A formidable competitor

- 11 times - The Open Piobaireachd (North American Championships) Maxville, Ontario
- The Gold Medal (The Northern Meeting, Inverness) - 1977
- March (The Argyllshire Gathering, Oban) - 1977
- Strathspey & Reel (The Argyllshire Gathering, Oban) - 1978
- The Piobaireachd Society (Canada) Gold Medal for Piobaireachd - 1978
- The Gold Medal for Piobaireachd (The Argyllshire Gathering, Oban) - 1979
- Gold Clasp (The Northern Meeting) - 1981 & 1984
- 15 times - Bar to The Piobaireachd Society (Canada) Gold Medal (former winners)
- The Glenfiddich piobaireachd winner - 2002



IV. Var. II.

Inverness “Tape Scandal”

TOP PIPERS SLAM “TAPE SCANDAL”
The very foundations of world piping were racked by a ‘bugging scandal’ at Inverness yesterday. For on Day Two of the Northern Meeting the man who was announced as second in the Gold Medal piobaireachd competition was disqualified after the judges had listened to a taped playback of the man’s tune.

This is the program of the competition where my 2nd prize in the Gold Medal contest was withdrawn.

Piping Competitions

THURSDAY and FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12th and 13th 1974

In the CALEDONIAN HOTEL BALLROOM and Dr BLACK HALLS
Riverside Entrance

THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Competition “A” Piobaireachd — Gold Medal 9.30 a.m.: Dr Black Hall JUDGES — General F. M. Richardson Capt. John MacLellan Mr Seumas MacNeill	Competition “D” Piobaireachd — Gold Clasp 9.30 a.m.: Dr Black Hall JUDGES — Major James Campbell Mr John MacFadyen Lt.-Col. D. J. S. Murray
“B” March 9.30 a.m.: Caledonian Hotel Ballroom (Played in reverse order) JUDGES — Lt.-Col. D. J. S. Murray Mr John MacFadyen Capt. I. C. Cameron	“E” Strathspey and Reel 9.30 a.m.: Caledonian Hotel Ballroom JUDGES — Major G. B. Murray Capt. D. R. MacLennan Mr Seumas MacNeill
“C” March, Strathspey & Reel — Silver Star Not before 3 p.m.: Caledonian Hotel Ballroom JUDGES — Major G. B. Murray Capt. D. R. MacLennan Capt. I. C. Cameron	Junior 2 p.m.: Dr Black Hall “H” under 15 “G” under 18 JUDGES — N. A. MacDonald, Esq. P/M R. Hill
	“F” Jig 3 p.m.: Caledonian Hotel Ballroom JUDGES — Capt. I. C. Cameron Lt.-Col. D. J. S. Murray Mr John MacFadyen Capt. John MacLellan

Competitors must present themselves 30 minutes before each competition

Prizes and Regulations

The various Prizes and Trophies are shown on the back page with the Regulations governing each Competition.

Presentation of Prizes

All Prize-winners and Spectators who can do so are requested to attend at the close of the final day for the Presentation of Prizes at approximately 5 p.m. in the Caledonian Hotel Ballroom.

PRICE 10p

Inverness “Tape Scandal”

In Bill’s own words (courtesy of Allan Hamilton’s “Piper’s Persuasion” series)



Prizes

The Northern Meeting “Tape Scandal”

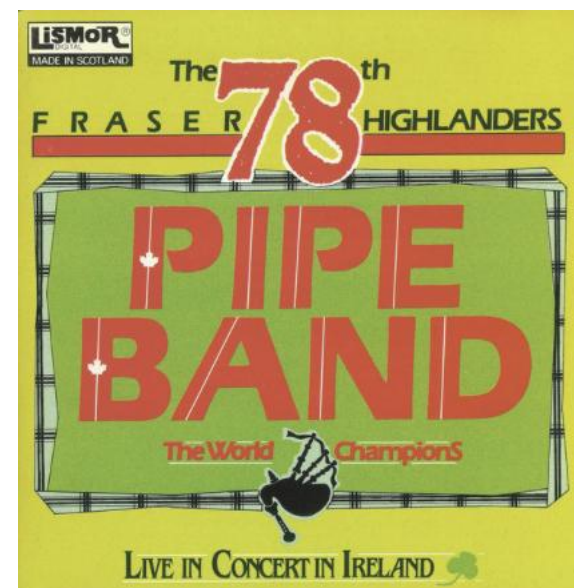
Knowing the tone of my comments to Gen. Richardson, it's a delicious irony to hear him speak in the newspaper report of the “sporting way” in which I took the news. Still, I did manage to keep my head down during the entire imbroglio and for this I thank John MacFadyen, my tutor at the time, who called me aside that morning and gave me succinct advice: “Keep your bloody mouth shut.” I did. How right he

V. *V*ar. II. Doubling

78th Fraser Highlanders Pipe Band

Founding P/M, 29 years leading the band

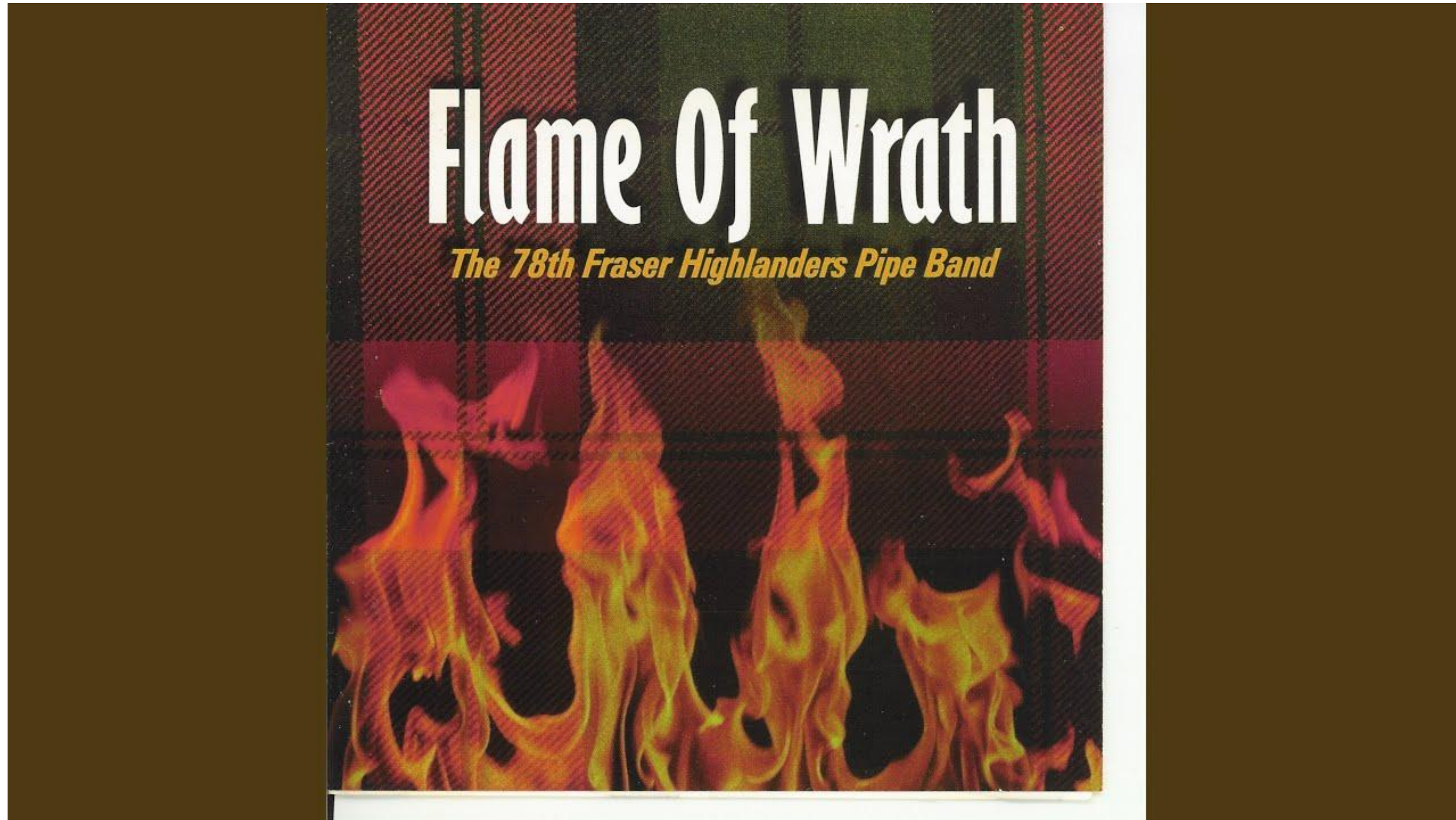
- The 78th Fraser Highlanders Pipe Band, based in Ontario, Canada, is one of the most influential pipe bands in modern history.
- Founded in 1981 by Bill Livingstone, the band quickly rose to prominence, becoming the first non-Scottish band to win the Grade 1 World Pipe Band Championships in 1987.
- Known for their innovative musical arrangements and integration of current Irish and Scots traditional folk music the band helped redefine competitive standards.
- “Live in Ireland” (1987) is the biggest selling “pure pipe band” album ever



VI. Taorluath

“Pipe Band Piobaireachd”

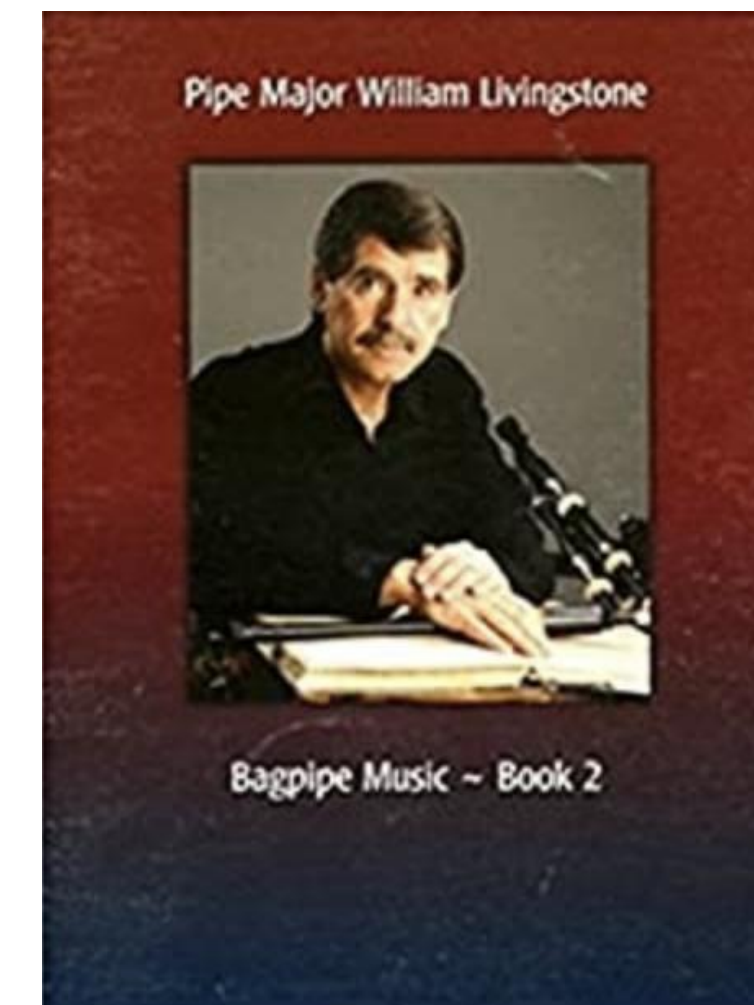
A Flame of Wrath for Squinting Patrick



VII. Taorluath Doubling

Composing

- Two books of music
- Contributor to many other collections
- A broad catalogue of high quality pieces of music includes pipe band suites and most pipe tune types
- His hornpipes, especially, are widely played in competition including: “Captain’s Pledge”, “Lillian Livingstone”, “Michael Grey” [!]



Composing

This piobaireachd composed for his older brother, Ranald, following is passing in 2011

For Ranald

William Livingstone

I. Urlar



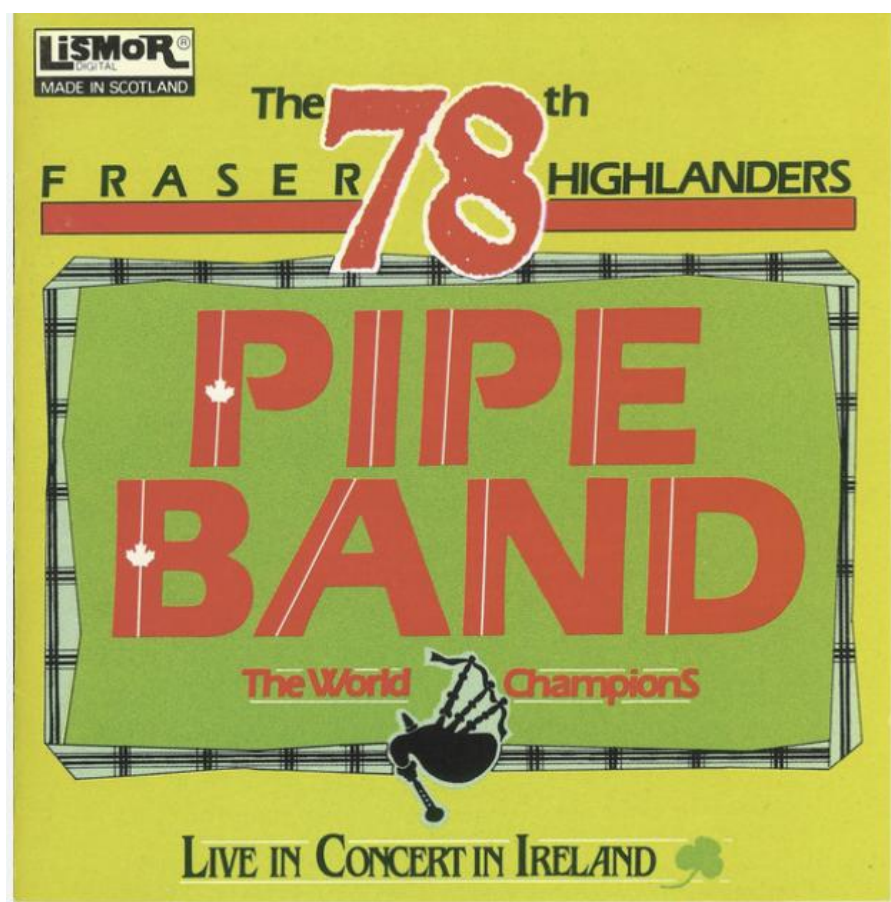
Discography: 78th Fraser Highlanders



1984



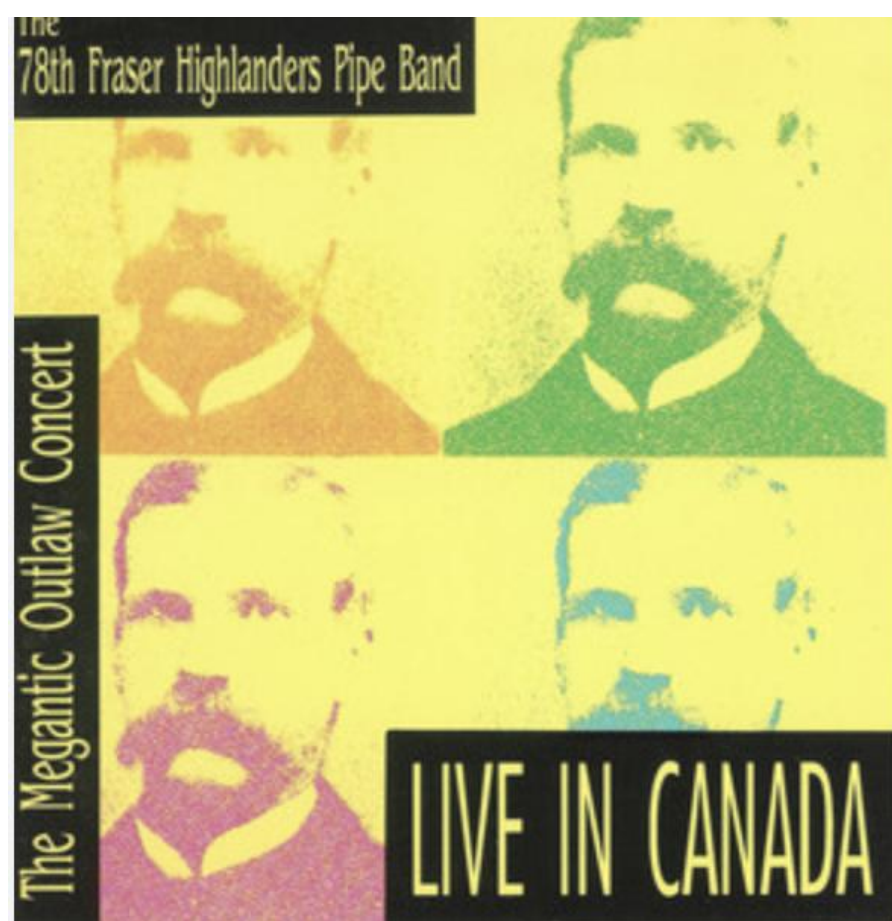
1986



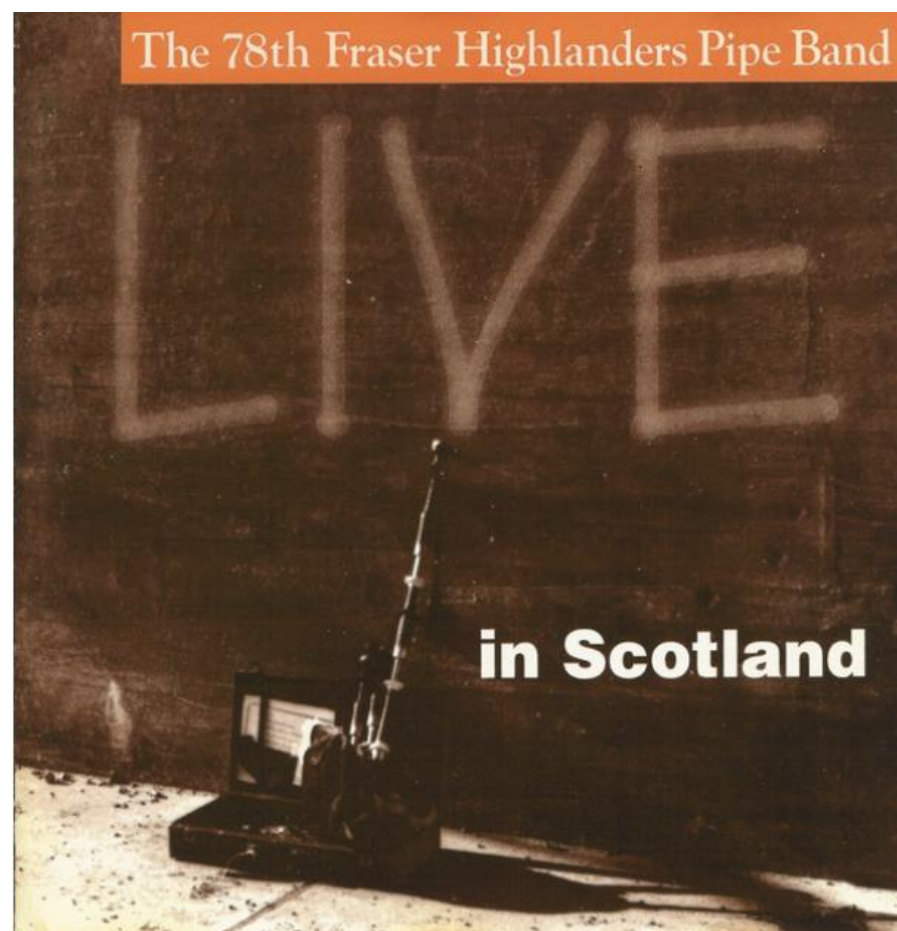
1987



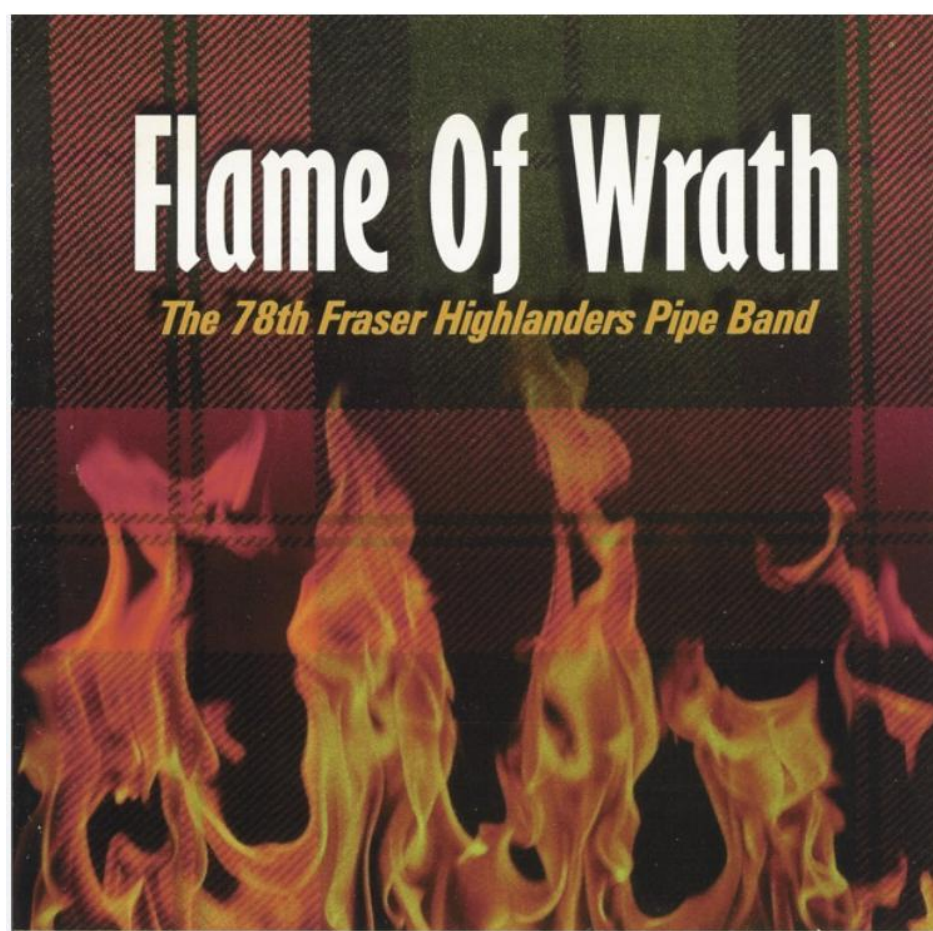
1990



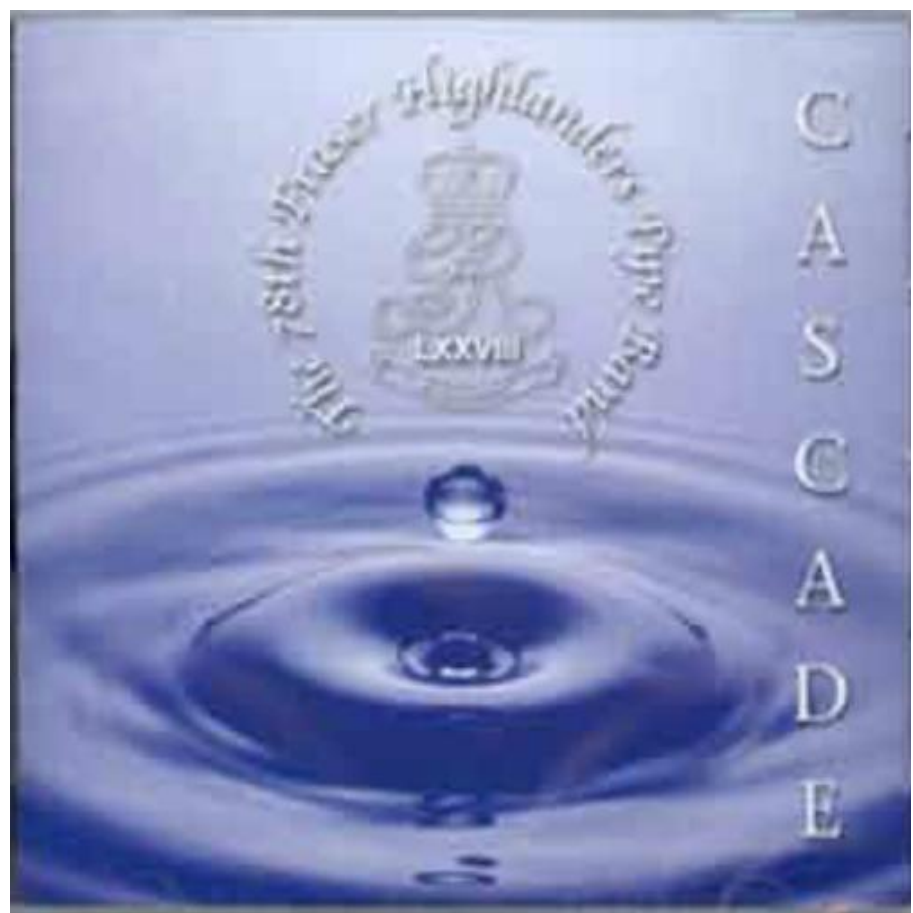
1992



1994



1998

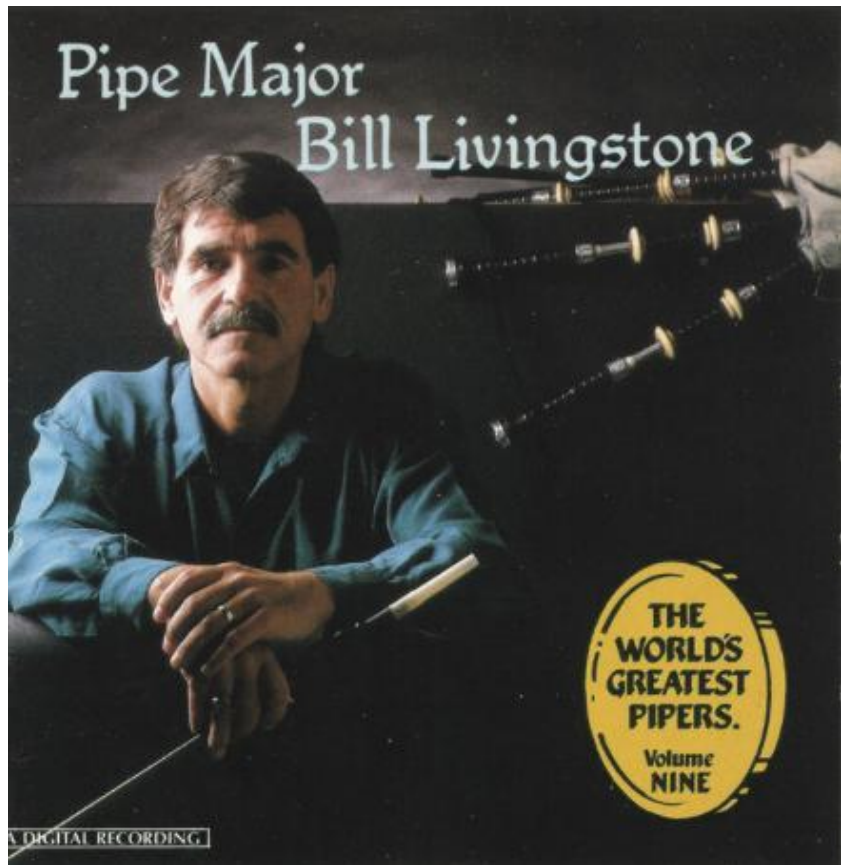


2003

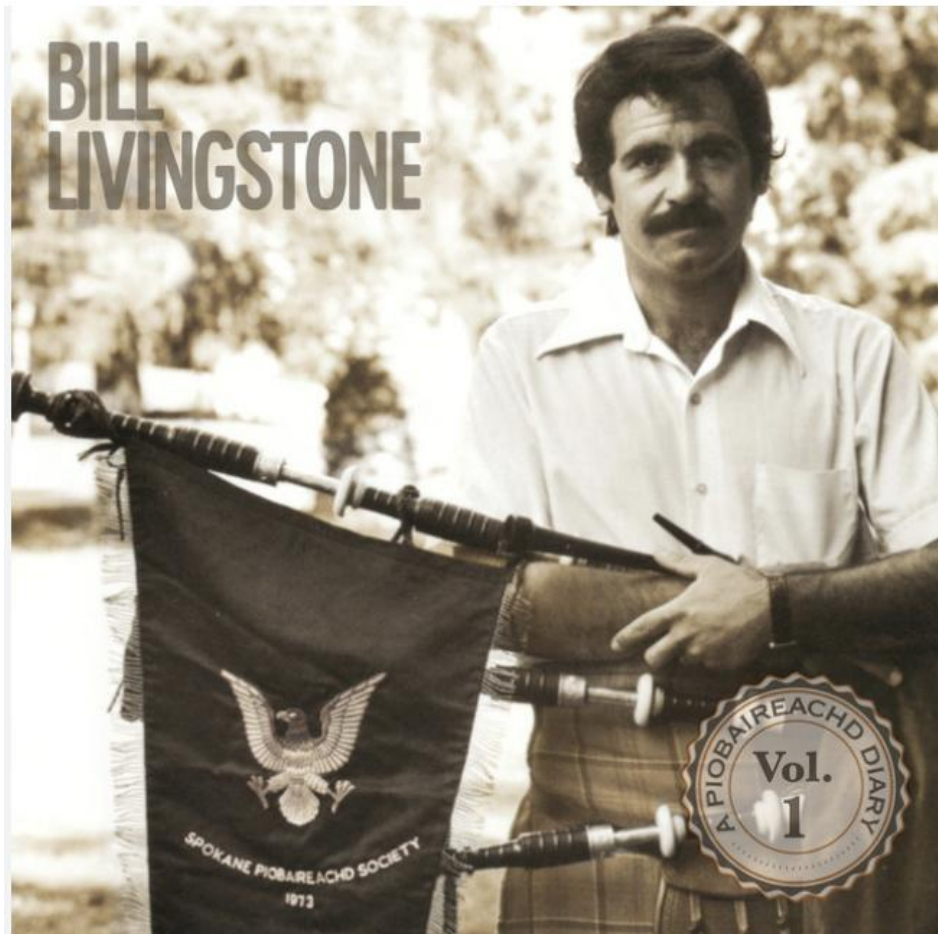
Discography: Solo



1979



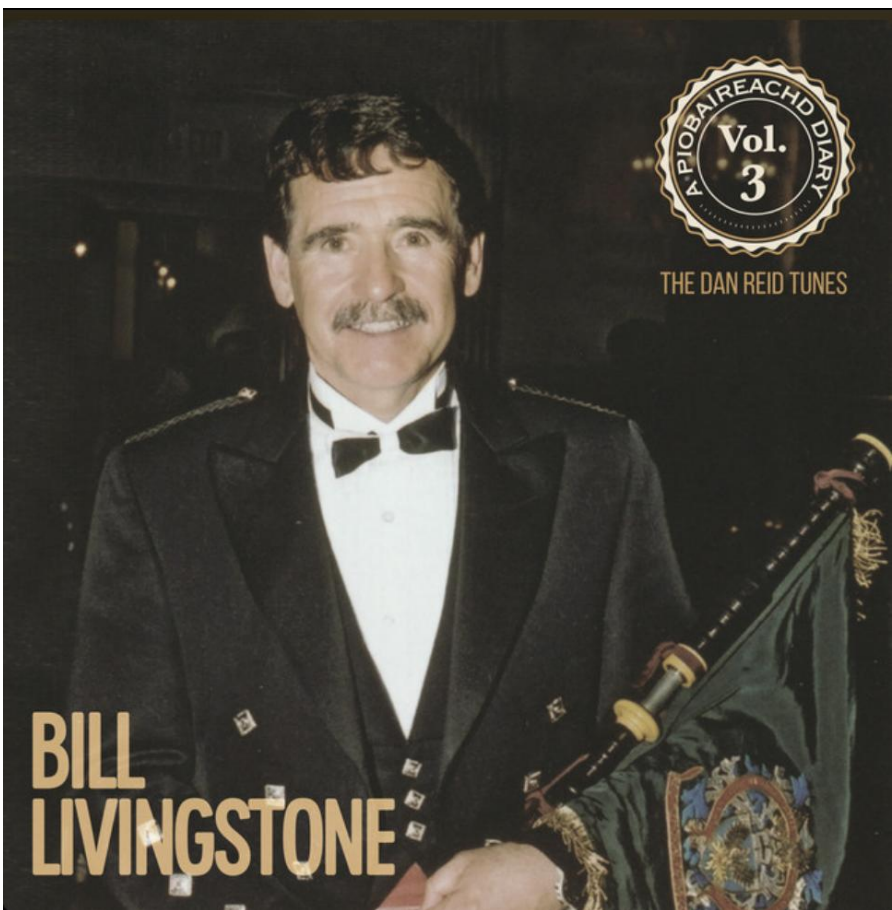
1991



2005



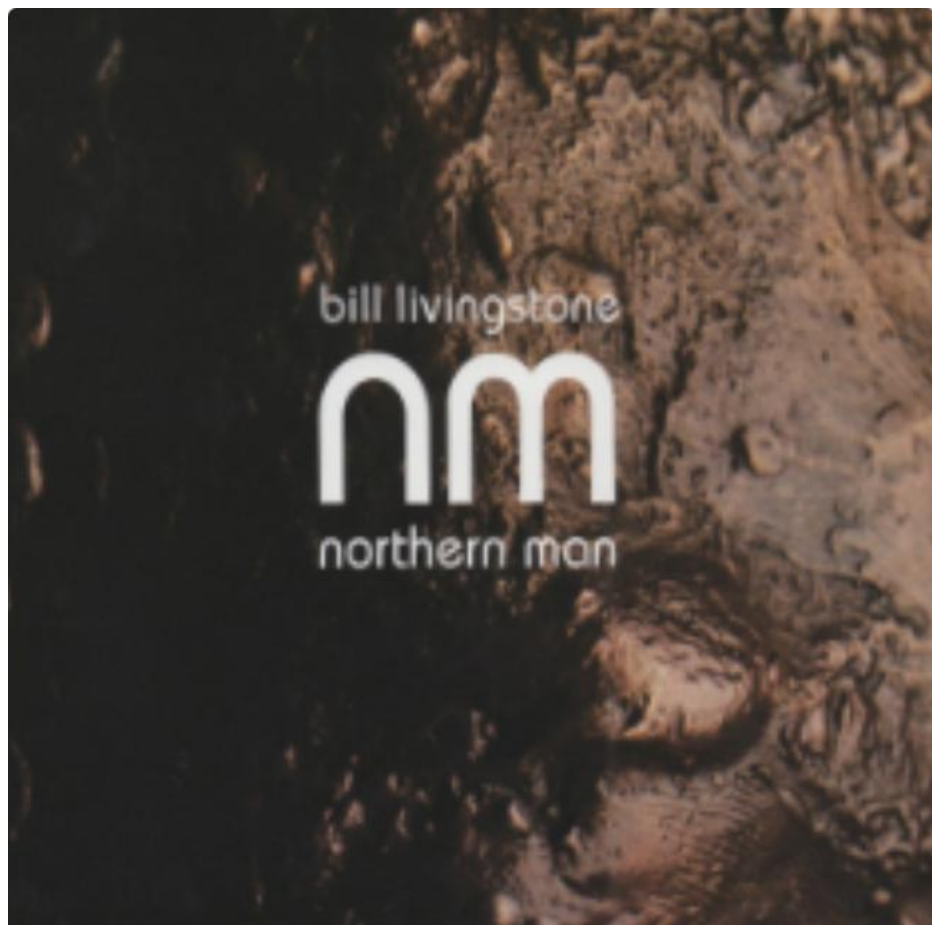
2005



2005



2005



2009

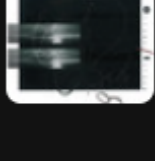
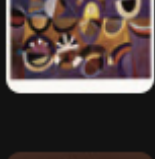
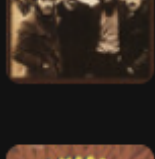
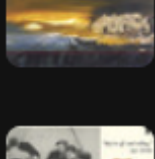


2025

VIII. Crunluath

Other Musical Interests

- 3  Van Morrison, The Chieftains
- 4  Bird on the Wire
Leonard Cohen
- 5  Farewell to Erin
The Bothy Band
- 6  Fionnghuala
The Bothy Band
- 7  Once in a Lifetime
Talking Heads
- 8  Canan Nan Gaidheal
Catherine-Ann MacPhee
- 9  When You Were Sweet ...
The Fureys
- 10  Alasdair Mhic Cholla Gh...
Capercaillie
- 11  Helpless
Neil Young
- 12  Take Me to Church
Hozier

- 13  Bean Phaidin
Planxty
- 14  Blue Rondo à la Turk
The Dave Brubeck Quartet
- 15  Oh Mo Dhuthaich
Capercaillie
- 16  A Thousand Curses On Love: The Gre...
Bill Livingstone
- 17  Mo Ghile Mear ("Our Hero") (with Sti...
The Chieftains, Sting
- 18  Idir Eatarthu / Between Worlds
Micheal O Suilleabhain
- 19  Take Five
The Dave Brubeck Quartet
- 20  Up On Cripple Creek
The Band
- 21  Brown Eyed Girl
Van Morrison
- 22  Cille Pheadar
Margaret Stewart, Allan MacDonald
- 23  Bye Bye Love - Original Recording R...
The Everly Brothers

My self-education on the piano began in 1955 when I got hold of records by the amazing Little Richard singing “Tutti Frutti” and “Long Tall Sally”a wonderful madman ...a bluesy rock ’n roll man...pounding out the most compelling barbaric rhythm imaginable.”
~ Bill Livingstone, 2017

IX. Crunluath Doubling

Home Life

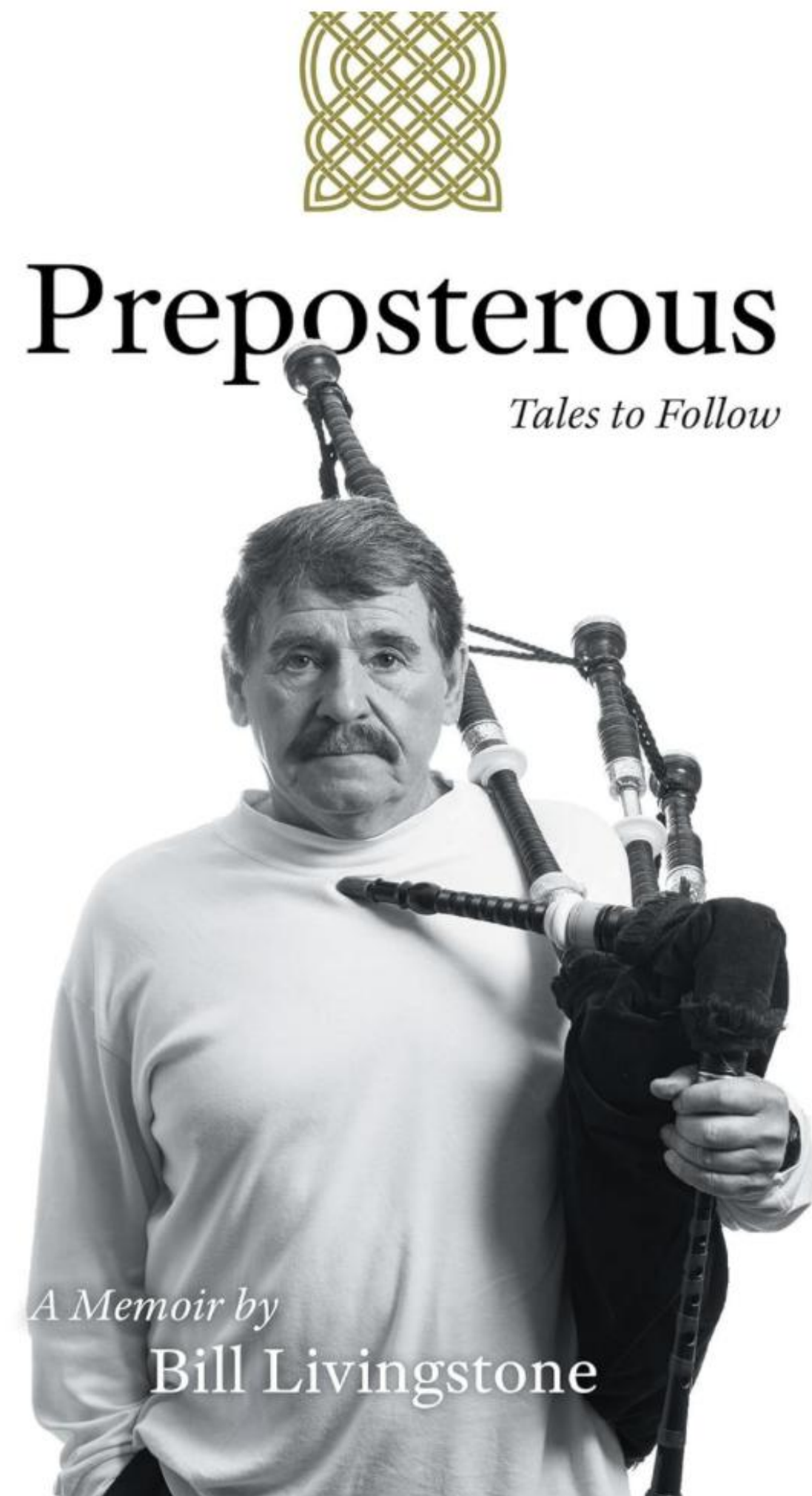


Bill & Lillian, 2003

X. Crunluath a mach

Preposterous: Tales to Follow

His memoir published in 2017



“Enthralling and candid. Once I started reading it, I didn’t want to put it down” -

Roddy MacLeod MBE

“It’s filled with gossip, insight, history, laughter, tragedy and a little bit of payback - all packaged with Bill’s delightful gift for language.” -

Jim McGillivray

“I found it fascinating. I couldn’t put it down.” -

Stuart Liddell

[Available on Amazon Kindle](#)

Urlar

His Teaching

- Like many, a selective teacher
“there’s not much I can do with the ham-fisted”
- His pupils include: John MacKenzie (Ontario), Andrew Hayes, Sean McKeown, Ian K MacDonald, Alistair Murray, Austin Diepenhorst, James MacHattie, Bruce Gandy - and me.



L-R, Bruce Gandy, John Walsh, MG, Bill, Leith Assembly Rooms, 11 August 1988

“Tag Team Concert Solos”



willam john livingstone

Re: Dewey

To: Michael Grey

March 21, 2023 at 4:44 pm



Stories of kitties passing are so sad. It's happened to us so often that I want to forget it. At least now Mike you'll have room in your home and your heart for our two beauties if they outlive us. Meanwhile the B-D tributes are pouring in from folks I don't really know. Pretty wonderful. I'm sorry for Dewey leaving you...they sometimes just go.

It's lovely here. Boozy lunch at Tapas restaurant...owner remembers us very well....eating while watching a 180 degree view of the rolling Caribbean...almost mystical.

Bill



Thank you