



## [Emigration in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries]

Voluntary emigration became very popular in Lochs towards the end of the 19th and particularly during the early years of the 20th century. Employment with the Hudson Bay Company of Canada was popular earlier on. John Macleod 'Iain Sheoc', 8 Calbost, 1842-1924, was there for some years before he got married in 1867.

Large numbers of Lochs men went to the sheep farms of South America in the early years of the 20th century. Rev. Donald McCallum the Parish Minister at Keose at that time was a recruiting agent for emigrants to South America. Other popular destinations for emigrants were South Africa, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and U.S.A.

No doubt the impact of education played a major part in the desire of the young people to travel. It is said that some parents were afraid that education would probably give wings to their children. It seems that was a correct assessment. The voluntary schools of the 19th century, both Gaelic and English, influenced people's outlook on life in many ways in Lewis, but it was compulsory education which came with the 1872 Act followed by the opening of five public schools in the district of Paic about 1880 that opened up the full potential of the people. These educational opportunities coincided with the restlessness and the determination on the part of the young people to seek opportunities to improve their lot in the world.

Also, the independent way of life of the crofting community as crofter/fishermen encouraged enterprise and initiative. They built and owned their own homes and boats, and they always worked in teams under an appointed leader such as a Skipper or village Grazing Constable, and later on a Grazing Committee. By the end of the 19th century they were fully bi-lingual and reasonably well educated, and therefore the whole world was their oyster. Their character was shaped by their religion and their independent way of life.

The following is a list of Calbost people who emigrated to various countries:

| Croft | Name               | Born | Father   | Destination   |
|-------|--------------------|------|----------|---------------|
| 1     | Kenny Dan Macleod  | 1915 | John     | Australia     |
| 1     | Duncan Macleod     | 1917 | John     | Australia     |
| 2     | Alexander Kennedy  | 1863 | Roderick | South America |
| 2     | Margaret Kennedy   | 1896 | John     | U.S.A.        |
| 2     | Cathie Kennedy     | 1900 | John     | U.S.A.        |
| 2     | John Angus Kennedy | 1900 | Donald   | U.S.A.        |
| 2     | Chrissie Kennedy   | 1902 | Donald   | U.S.A.        |
| 2     | Margaret Kennedy   | 1904 | Donald   | U.S.A.        |
| 2     | Dolina Kennedy     | 1908 | Donald   | U.S.A.        |
| 3     | Murdo Kennedy      | 1891 | Murdo    | South Africa  |
| 3     | Kenneth Macleod    | 1880 | John     | South America |
| 3     | Johnnie Macleod    | 1883 | John     | South America |
| 3     | Norman Macleod     | 1885 | John     | South America |
| 3     | Kirsty Macleod     | 1956 | Neil     | U.S.A.        |
| 3     | Catriona Macleod   | 1961 | Neil     | U.S.A.        |
| 4     | Donald Mackenzie   | 1856 | Norman   | U.S.A.        |
| 4     | Donald Mackenzie   | 1872 | Calum    | South Africa  |
| 4     | Allan Mackenzie    | 1876 | Calum    | Rhodesia      |
| 4     | Duncan Mackenzie   | 1878 | Calum    | South Africa  |
| 4     | Norman Mackenzie   | 1881 | Calum    | U.S.A.        |
| 4     | Johnnie Mackenzie  | 1886 | Calum    | South America |
| 4     | Matilda Mackenzie  | 1888 | Calum    | U.S.A.        |
| 4     | Roderick Mackenzie | 1876 | Roderick | U.S.A.        |
| 4     | Johnnie Mackenzie  | 1878 | Roderick | South Africa  |
| 5     | Roderick Smith     | 1902 | Angus    | Canada        |
| 6     | Marion Macleod     | 1837 | Norman   | North America |
| 6     | Johnnie Macleod    | 1892 | Kenneth  | U.S.A.        |
| 6     | Bella Macleod      | 1894 | Kenneth  | U.S.A.        |
| 6     | Donald Macleod     | 1896 | Kenneth  | Australia     |
| 6     | Hector Macleod     | 1876 | John     | U.S.A.        |
| 6     | Donald Macleod     | 1877 | John     | U.S.A.        |

|         |                      |      |            |               |
|---------|----------------------|------|------------|---------------|
| 6       | Johnnie Macleod      | 1887 | John       | U.S.A.        |
| 6       | Allan Macleod        | ?    | Johnnie    | Australia     |
| 6       | Mary Bell Macleod    | ?    | Johnnie    | Australia     |
| 6       | Kate Macleod         | ?    | Johnnie    | U.S.A.        |
| 6       | Donald Macleod       | 1903 | Angus No 8 | New Zealand   |
| 6       | John Macleod         | 19   | Donald     | Australia     |
| 6       | Donald A. Macleod    | ?    | Donald     | Australia     |
| 7       | Peter Mackay         | 1879 | Calum      | South America |
| 7       | John Angus Mackay    | 1917 | Kenneth    | Australia     |
| 8       | Iain Macleod         | 1842 | Jock       | Canada        |
| 8       | Neil Macleod         | 1876 | Iain       | Canada        |
| 8       | Murdo Macleod        | 1876 | Kenneth    | Canada        |
| 8.      | Donald Macleod       | 1892 | John       | U.S.A.        |
| 8.      | James Macleod        | 1900 | John       | U.S.A.        |
| 8.      | Jock Macleod         | 1906 | John       | U.S.A.        |
| 8       | Neil Macleod         | 19   | Donald     | Australia     |
| 8       | Donald A Macleod     | 19   | Donald     | Australia     |
| 9       | John Murdo Morrison  | 1898 | Iain       | Australia     |
| 9       | Murdo Morrison       | 1888 | Neil       | U.S.A.        |
| 9       | Angus Morrison       | 1892 | Neil       | U.S.A.        |
| 9       | Anna Morrison        | 1892 | Neil       | U.S.A.        |
| 9       | Angus Morrison       | 1884 | Angus      | South America |
| 9       | Christy Morrison     | 1910 | Murdo      | New Zealand   |
| 10      | Donald Finlayson     | 1890 | Alastair   | Australia     |
| 11      | Johnnie Nicolson     | 1901 | Murdo      | U.S.A.        |
| 11      | Ian Nicolson         | 1906 | Murdo      | U.S.A.        |
| 11      | Anna Nicolson        | 1939 | Angus      | U.S.A.        |
| 12      | Roderick Mackenzie   | 1881 | Donald     | U.S.A.        |
| 12      | Catrina Mackenzie    | 1886 | Donald     | U.S.A.        |
| 12      | Peggy Mackenzie      | 1896 | Donald     | U.S.A.        |
| 12      | Anna Mackenzie       | 1896 | Donald     | U.S.A.        |
| 12      | Annabella Mackenzie  | 1905 | Alastair   | U.S.A.        |
| 12      | Katie Mary Mackenzie | 1911 | Alastair   | U.S.A.        |
| 12      | Dolina Mackenzie     | 1922 | Alastair   | U.S.A.        |
| 13      | Neil Macleod         | 1905 | Norman     | Australia     |
| 13      | James Macleod        | 1885 | Donald     | Canada        |
| Westend | Donald Mackenzie     | 1930 | John       | U.S.A.        |
| Buala   | Peggy Ann Morrison   | ?    | Angus      |               |

A few of these returned but most of them never returned not even for a holiday. Some of them made good, but not all of them, and the same can be said about their friends and relatives that stayed in Britain.

We would welcome any information on the above people.

[ends]

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