

## Dedication

In memory of our dear daughter Ishbel, who passed away at the early age of 15 ½ years.



*Marbh-Rann do Ishbel NicLeoid,  
Marybank, Steornabbaigh.  
(a dh-eug, 16.1.63)*



Sud a bhuille, sud a bhuille.  
Sud a bhuille a bha cruaidh  
Nuair a chaidh mi gu do leabaidh  
Bha thu aig do dhachaidh bhuan

Sud tha duilich leinn a chreidsinn  
Is gun again ach thu fhein  
Ach ged's diomhair e ri thuigsinn  
B'e sud bh'ann ach ruintean Dhè.

B'e tu aileagan ur broilleach  
'S bha thu tlachdmhor annad fein  
'S feadh 'sa dh'fhàgair sinn air thalamh  
Bidh ar fadachd as do dheigh.

'S chan 'eil taobh a ni mi sealltainn  
Nach 'eil cuimhneachain mo ghràidh  
'S chan eil seomar ni mi fhuasgladh  
Anns nach fhaic mi larg do lamh.

'S dh'fhàg thu cruaidh air ar cridhe  
Is gun annad ach am paiste  
Ann a greadhnachas do bheatha  
Chaidh do ghearradh a measg chaich.

Nuair thainig teachdaireachd le cumhachd  
Bha thu umhail dh'an a bhàs  
'S nuair bu mhotha bha ar suil ruit  
Chaidh do spionadh as ar làmh.

'S nuair a chi mi do cho-aoisean  
'S na bha ionmhuinn leat a ghraidh  
Bho'na rinn thu fhein an taghadh  
Bheir mi suil orra gu bràth.

S'nis ged dh'fhàg thu sinne cianail  
Ann an so an gleann nan deòir  
'Se ar n'urnaigh is ar guidhe  
Fathast gun coinnich sinn an glòir.

By Catriona Campbell

Sore the blow, sore the blow  
That has left us heavy-hearted  
When I stood beside your bedstead  
You had gone from us forever!

For us it is hard to credit  
since you were our only child  
But though difficult to unravel  
The decree was sure divine.

Thou, the darling of our bosom  
oh so winsome in your traits  
Thus while on the earth we travel  
Our hearts for you shall ever ache.

Gaze we in what ere direction  
Tokens of our love we spy  
And every room door that we open  
Shows the imprints of thy hand.

Oh! The soreness of our heartache  
Since we deemed you but a child  
In the fullness of your vigour  
Cut away from all around.

When the message did summon  
Then you bowed your head in death  
And when we did most regard you  
You were plucked from our embrace.

When we meet with your co-ages  
Whom you did esteem my love  
For your sake we will regard them  
Above others in the town.

Although sadly thou has left us  
To traverse this vale of tears  
We would pray the Lord to grant us  
That in heaven we all appear.

Translated by Rev. K. Nicolson

## The Genealogy of Croft 8 Calbost

John Macleod 'Seoc mac Aonghais Bhàn', who was born in Carloway in 1808, was the first crofting tenant on croft 8 Calbost. According to strong Lochs tradition he was one of three brothers who came from Garenin, Carloway to Lochs early in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The oldest of the three brothers was Alistair Macleod, born in 1796, he settled at 1 Calbost. Calum Mor Macleod born in 1798, settled at 35 Gravir on his father-in-law's landholding. His wife was Henrietta Maclean, daughter of Angus Maclean 'Aonghais Ruadh', who came from Carloway / Shawbost area. The third brother was John Macleod 'Seoc Mac Aonghais Bhàn', who settled at 8 Calbost.

There is also a strong tradition in Lochs indicating that at least one of the brothers, Seoc Macleod, 8 Calbost, or perhaps all three of them changed their name from Macphail to Macleod. That belief was perpetuated by the Marvig satirist Robert Finlayson, 2 Marvig, in Gaelic verse aimed at his neighbour Kenneth Macleod, 'Coinneach Sheoc', 3 Marvig, who was the son of Seoc Macleod 8 Calbost. Part of the satirical composition reads as follows;

"Ged a their iad Macleoid ruit  
se be choir a bhi ort ach Macphail".  
(Although they call you Macleod  
your proper name is Macphail).

Reference is also made in the same song to 'Fionnladh Mor a Muile', who resided in Garenin. The writer enquired in Carloway and confirmed that there was also a tradition in Carloway of three brothers who went to Lochs and that they changed their name from Macphail to Macleod. I also talked to Finlay Macleod, 15 Borrison, a nephew of Fionnladh Mor a Muile, who was known locally as 'Philip'.

Apparently Fionnladh Mor a Muile Macphail resided at 1 Garenin. He married in 1849 and died in 1897 and his patronymic's was 'Fionnladh mac Aonghais Bhàn' and that indeed would seem to make him a brother of Seoc Mac Aonghais Bhàn', 8 Calbost.

On the other hand the parents of Alistair Macleod, 1 Calbost, and his brother Calum Mor Macleod, 35 Gravir, are given as John and Margaret Macleod whereas the parents of Seoc, 8 Calbost is given as Angus 'Aonghais Bhàn' and Annie Macleod.

We conclude that the three men who came from Carloway to Lochs were not, after all, three brothers but probably two brothers and a nephew who were brought up in the same home. Philip from Borrison says Aonghais Bhàn was lost in a snow storm coming from the moor. As to the confusion in the surnames, the fact is that surnames were not in common use until the first lotting about 1814 when the crofters' names were noted in English. Before that it was patronymics that were in common use.

Seoc Macleod, 8 Calbost, was married three times. He was first married at Carloway, to Ann Maclean, daughter of Kenneth Maclean in 1833. Ann gave birth to her first child Kenneth in 1838 in the open at 'Clach Mor a Ghò' just above the Calbost pebbly beach where the Calbost boats are drawn up on the beach. Apparently she was making her way home from the beach, probably having landed there from a boat trip. Ann died at that time probably due to her traumatic experience in childbirth without any medical assistance. The child, Kenneth, survived and in due course he set up home at 3 Marvig.

### 8, Calbost 'Original Crofter'

Jock Macleod	1808 - 1866
Ann Maclean 1 <sup>st</sup> wife	1802 - 1838
Kenneth	1838 - 1919
Ishbel Macarthur 2 <sup>nd</sup> wife	1816 - 1851
John	1842 - 1924
Angus	1846
Donald	1849
Ishbel	1851
Christy Macritchie 3 <sup>rd</sup> wife	1811 - 1895
No issue	

### 'Seoc Aonghais Bhàn'

Son of Angus Macleod, Garenin
Daughter of Kenneth Maclean, Calbost/Gravir
Cottar at 8 Calbost, moved to 3 Marvig
Daughter of Iain Mor Macarthur, 8 Cromore
Crofter at 8 Calbost
Crofting tenant at 5 Torostay, Cromore
Crofting tenant at 15 Cromore
Died young
Daughter of Donald Macritchie, 9 Gravir

The second wife of 'Sheoc' died when the family of four boys were still very young. It is probable that she and her child died due to complications at the time of Ishbel's birth in 1851. Oral tradition relates that the three young boys had a very difficult time.

Our Ceilidh House host, Angus Morrison, 9 Calbost, a neighbour and contemporary of Donald, referred to them often.

### 8, Calbost 'Cottar'

Kenneth Macleod	1838 - 1919
Mary Macmillan	1841 - 1908
Duncan	1865 - 1896
Johnnie	1867

### 'Coinneach, Seoc'

Son of Jock Macleod, 8 Calbost
Daughter of John Macmillan, 17 Crossbost
Died young
Subsequently tenant at 3 Marvig

Roderick	1869	?
Donald	1871 - 1893	Died young - fever
Ann	1874	Died young - T.B.
Murdo	1876	Emigrated to North America
Christy	1878	married John Macleod, 1 Calbost
Roderick	1881	Died about 20 years old
Mary	1883	became Mrs Campbell at Stornoway
Roderick		Died young.

Like many other families in the area the scourge of pulmonary tuberculosis decimated this family. Ann was said to be a particularly beautiful young woman with long fair hair.

Being a landless cottar, the family moved to 3 Marvig where they acquired a croft after Kenneth's cousin, John Maclean 'Iain Dhomhnuill Choinnich', whose grandfather was a brother of Ann Maclean, 'Choinnich Sheoc's' mother, moved to Stornoway.

Kenneth Macleod's wife Mary Macmillan, 17 Crossbost, had two other sisters married in Calbost, Catherine, 1830, was married to Angus Macleod, 1 Calbost, and Jessie Macmillan, 1825, was married to Roderick Kennedy 'Sen', 2 Calbost. Another sister Christy, 1820, was married to Lachlan Maclean, 10 Crossbost. There were also three Macmillan brothers married in Crossbost, Angus, 1821, at 6 Crossbost, Roderick, 1832, at 17 Crossbost and Norman, 1841, also at 17 Crossbost.

That Macmillan family of Iain Bård 1788 were evicted from Lemreway in 1843 with seven young children aged between 2 and 22 years old. They settled at 17 Crossbost. Iain Bard, the father, was a brother of Angus Macmillan 'Saighdear' who settled at 4 Lemreway when that village was repopulated in 1857.

#### **8, Calbost, Crofter**

John Macleod	1842 - 1924	Son of Jock Macleod, 8 Calbost
Mary Macmillan	1840	Daughter Donald Macmillan, 14 Gravir
John	1868 - 1940	Tenant at 8 Calbost
Donald 'Mor'	1870 - 1897	Died on yacht at Ullapool, young man
Angus	1872 - 1912	Cottar at 8 Calbost
Donald 'Beag'	1874 - 1957	Cottar at 8 Calbost
Neil	1876 - 1922	Emigrated to Vancouver, Canada
Malcolm	1878 - 1879	Died about 1 year old
Ishbel	1880 - 1962	married Murdo Nicolson, 11 Calbost
Peggy	1882 - 1973	married Donald MacLennan, 18 Marvig

#### **'Iain Sheoc'**

John Macleod 'Iain Sheoc', 1842, the head of the above family engaged as a very young man to serve as a servant 'sgalag' for a family from Lemreway. The duties of a 'sgalag' were varied and onerous and there were no set hours. The wages at best were small and the bed was hard. Iain worked hard for a year doing agricultural work, peat cutting, great line fishing etc. His intention was to emigrate to Labrador 'An talamh fuar', at the end of his period of service and therefore he was happy to leave his wages accumulating until the end of his service. When eventually it was time to leave, he asked for his wages and was promptly told that he did not contract for any wages when he came therefore there was no money due to him. "Cha do cuir thu ceann air tuarasdal air a thàinig thu". That was a valuable lesson for the young Calbost lad on the eve of his departure to Canada. Eventually he returned from Canada and in later years he used to say he was never without money since that time.

When Alasdair Louis Macleod, 9 Marvig, found himself in similar circumstances, he left quietly in the small hours of the morning, taking with him one of his employer's cows. No one came for the cow!

Mary Macmillan 'Bean an Sheoc', 8 Calbost, was a first cousin of Anna Chisholm 'Bean Dhomhnuill Thormoid', 12 Calbost. Their respective mothers were sisters.

See note under 12 Calbost

#### **8, Calbost, Cottar**

Angus Macleod	1872 - 1912	Son of Iain Macleod, 8 Calbost
Annabella Maclean 1 <sup>st</sup> wife		Daughter of Donald Maclean, 29 Leurbost
Donald		Emigrated to New Zealand / ret. to 6 Calbost
Ishbel		Married in Glasgow
Alastair		Tenant at 20 Marvig
Effie Macleod 2 <sup>nd</sup> wife		Daughter of Norman Macleod, 9 Garyvard
Angus 'Mor'		Settled in London
Annabella		Infant
Angus 'Beag'		Killed Second World War - Far East

#### **'Aonghais, an Sheoc'**

When Annabella, the first wife of the above Angus Macleod, 1872, died the three young children were brought up by their aunt, Catriona, wife of Norman Morrison, 20 Marvig. Subsequently, Angus Macleod, the head of the family, died as a young man of about 40 years of age and the widow Effie Macleod and her two boys moved to Stornoway, leaving a substantial white house which was eventually taken over by Donald Macleod, a brother of the original head of the family as follows;

<b>8, Calbost, Cottar</b>		<b>'Domhnuill an Sheoc'</b>
Donald Macleod	1874 - 1957	Son of Iain Macleod, 8 Calbost
Anna Macarthur	1892 - 1936	Daughter of Calum Macarthur, 8 Tolsta Chaolais
Neil		Emigrated to Australia
Donald Angus	died 1980	Emigrated to Australia
Mary Bell		Mrs Alex Campbell, North Tolsta
Calum	1930 - 1940	Accidentally drowned aged 10 years
Donald John		Settled in Glasgow
Mary Ann		became Mrs Allerdyce, Perthshire

Anna Macarthur died shortly after her last child was born, leaving Mr Macleod with a very young family in the depression years of the mid 1930s. A few years later he suffered another severe blow when Calum, his 10 year old son, was lost to the sea and his body was never recovered. He was out searching for the family cow on a very stormy day when he was seen near the sea, probably trying to recover some flotsam. He was warned off and he left but probably he returned. His grieving father and all the villagers searched the shores daily for a long period. Even long after the event his father could be seen going round the shores, but in vain.

<b>8, Calbost 'Crofter'</b>		<b>'Iain Ruadh, Iain Sheoc'</b>
John Macleod	1868 - 1940	Son of John Macleod, 8 Calbost
Ishbel Nicolson	1873 - 1942	Daughter of Kenneth Nicolson, 11 Calbost
Donald	1898 - 1977	Emigrated to U.S.A. 1920 / returned 1958
James	1900 - 1986	Emigrated to U.S.A. raised family in San Francisco
Johnnie 'Ruadh'	1904 - 1937	Bachelor, died age 32
Iain 'Ban'	1906 - 1945	Emigrated, U.S.A. returned bachelor died age 37
Murdo	1908 - 1994	Settled 8 Calbost / moved to 69 New Valley
Angus	1916 - 2002	Settled 8 Calbost / moved to Park House, Marybank

Angus, the youngest son of the above family of 'Iain an Sheoc' is the writer, and also succumbed to pulmonary tuberculosis, as did many young people in Calbost, all of whom were carried away with that dreadful disease which visited almost every croft in Calbost. It was fortunate for me at the age of just over 20 years to be in Glasgow where I got hospital treatment and surgery and a complete cure.

<b>8, Calbost, Crofter</b>		<b>'Dan Iain Ruadh'</b>
Donald Macleod	1898 - 1977	Son of John Macleod 8 Calbost
Peggy Macleod 1st wife		From Coll, Back
Jack		Sea Captain
Bobby		Settled in U.S.A.
Cynthia 2 <sup>nd</sup> wife		From U.S.A. Settled in U.S.A.
Ishbel Mackenzie 3rd wife		Daughter of John Mackenzie, 28 Crossbost
No issue.		

Donald Macleod, 1898, the head of the above family spent about 40 years in U.S.A. then returned and married Ishbel Mackenzie, 28 Crossbost. He lived at 8 Calbost before moving to 28 Crossbost.

<b>8, Calbost, Cottar</b>		<b>'Mhurchaidh Iain Ruadh' 'Peter'</b>
Murdo Macleod	1908 - 1994	Son of John Macleod, 8 Calbost
Ina Morrison		Daughter of Calum Morrison, 43 Gravir
Calum Iain		Emigrated and settled in Sydney, Australia

The above family moved to 69 New Valley in the late 1950s

<b>8, Calbost, Crofter</b>		<b>'Aonghais Iain Ruadh' 'Ease'</b>
Angus Macleod	1916 - 2002	Son of John Macleod, 8 Calbost
Annie Macinnes	1923 - 1997	Daughter of Angus Macinnes, 8 Gravir
Ishbel	1947 - 1963	Died at the age of 15 ½ years
Elizabeth Ann	1963	Mrs David McGowan at Grangemouth
Iain Angus	1964	Marine-Chief Engineer at sea

The family of Angus Macleod, 1916, moved to Park House, Marybank in Stornoway.

<b>8, Calbost, Crofter</b>		<b>'Iain Angus'</b>
Iain Angus Macleod	1964	Son of Angus Macleod, 8 Calbost and Marybank

Rochelle Vinter	1966	From Durban, South Africa
Jamie Calum	1994	
Matthew Cameron	1998	

Croft 8, Calbost was never confined to one family until 'Domhnuill an Sheoc' died in 1957. At times there were three dwelling houses on it.



Circa 1930s. Before crofts were numbered in the 1880s, the villages were divided off into districts and the name given to the area of croft No 8 was 'Creag a Choin Dubh' and the area of croft No 9 'Glac na Sioman'.

This, the earliest photo available of the area, is in the 1930s. The dwelling house of John Macleod 'Iain Ruadh', 1868-1940 of 8 Calbost can be seen in the foreground which was probably the first purpose built white house in Calbost (about 1896).

Prior to that there were two thatched houses converted to white houses on crofts 6 and 11. Almost all white houses at that time were roofed with canvas and coal tar.

Behind John Macleod's house is the weaving barn built in 1924. Prior to that, the big wooden loom was in the kitchen cum living room ever since the house was built, when Mrs Macleod was the weaver and raised six sons in this house.

In earlier times, the dwelling house of Kenneth Macleod 'Choinneach Sheoc' 1838-1919, was on this site before he moved to croft 3, Marvig towards the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The children were born to this family here.

**Next are the ruins** of the dwelling house of Iain Sheoc Macleod, 1842-1924, built about 1865. Iain and his wife Mary had a family of eight here. The byre part of the house was still in use and most of the gable at the east end is still standing.

A wooden weaving shed was built incorporating the old stone gable end in the mid 1930s. Between this and the footpath that was built in the late 1920s, may be seen the barn of Iain Sheoc, later used by his son Donald.

**Next is the white house** originally built by Angus Macleod 'Aonghais an Sheoc', 1872-1912, in about 1900. Six children were born to this family here.

When the widow moved to Stornoway, the house was taken over by Angus's brother Donald 'Domhnuill an Sheoc', 1874-1957. He married about 1921 when he gave up full time deep sea sailing. He raised a family of four sons and two daughters there.

**John Morrison** 'Iain an Mhurchaidh's dwelling house may be seen further along on croft No 9. At that time, there were 5 separate houses on croft 9.

**John Macleod** 'Seoc Mac Aonghais Bhàn' from Garenin, born 1808 in Carloway was the first crofting tenant on croft No 8. He raised a family of five here.

**Circa 1960s** also shows a progressive change in the landscape of croft 8 Calbost from the previous page showing photo of the 1940s.

Angus Macleod acquired the croft in 1965. By that time, the dwelling house of Iain 'Ruadh' Macleod was de-roofed and abandoned and he heightened the walls and re-roofed it and used the upstairs as a garage. Murdo 'Peter' Macleod's house in the centre of the photo was re-modelled by the new crofter and a private water supply taken in from 'Loch na Learg' at the top of the croft.

**Left** - The walls of the abandoned dwelling house of Donald 'Cruaidh' Macleod were falling down and the local authority had placed a demolition order on it, and the new crofter was obliged to render it safe. After consultation with the former family, the site was restored into a caravan site.

**Croft No. 9** By that time there was no one living permanently at croft No. 9 and the ruins of some of the former houses on that croft may be seen.



Circa 1980: Croft at 8 Calbost  
Developed as Tourist self catering units with the crofter Angus Macleod standing to the right.



Two young Royal Naval Reserve Recruits at the time of their bi-annual training spell at the Naval Base on the English Channel.

John Alex Macleod 'Ron' 1907 1 Calbost and Murdo Macleod 'Peter' 8 Calbost 1908-1994.

Service in the Royal Navy Reserve was regarded as a bi-annual holiday to the South of England. It was also convenient for a cheap fare to the south in order to secure work in the Merchant Navy.



Two Calbost emigrants to U.S.A. in the 1920s are clowning with a lady emigrant from Marvig in California. Jack Macleod 1906-1945, 8 Calbost, the driver; Iain Mor Nicolson, 1906, the pretend groom; Margaret Finlayson or Southard from 8 Marvig (Maraid Sheonnaidh Ruairaidh).





Dan Macleod 1898-1977 son of 'Iain Ruadh an Sheoc', 8 Calbost, playing the piper in California. Other pipers in the village of Calbost were James Macleod, Dan's brother from 8 Calbost; Peter Kennedy, 2 Calbost; Norman Macleod and Johnnie his brother, sons of 'Iain an Choinneach' 3 Calbost.



Elizabeth Ann Macleod, 1963, and Iain Angus Macleod, 1964. The family of Angus and Annie Macleod, 8 Calbost and Park House, Marybank. The last children to be partly brought up in Calbost.



Generations of Calbost boys enjoyed fishing off the sea rocks or with their seniors in boats, like Iain Angus Macleod, 8 Calbost, seen here with a big fish half his own size at 'Mol a Ghò', the pebbly beach where the Calbost boats were hauled up, seeing as the village did not have a suitable anchorage.



'Mol a Ghò', Calbost, was the scene of feverish activity at one time when the Tacksman, Robert Weir, operated a fishing and white-fish salting station there as well as kelping station. The ruins of the kelping kilns may still be seen at 'Eilean a Ghò'. Also, during the whole time that the village was occupied by the crofters, inshore fishing was carried on from the 'Mol' and smaller boats may still be seen on the 'Mol'.



The wedding of Angus Macleod, 1916, 8 Calbost, and Annie Macinnes, 1923, 8 Gravir, at the Free Church Seminary, Francis Street Stornoway on 19<sup>th</sup> June 1946.

The officiating Minister was Rev. Murdo Macleod, Free Church Gravir. He was born at 10 Balallan. Best man was Murdo Macleod 'Peter', brother of the groom, and the bridesmaid was Chrissie Macinnes, sister of the bride.

The flower girl was Sandra Stewart and the pageboy was her brother Iain Stewart both from Plantation Road Stornoway, (family of Seonag Alex Morrison, 2 Glen Gravir).

The reception was at 8 Gravir, the home of the bride and the dance was held in the old Gravir School nearby. This was the last traditional rural wedding in South Lochs. After the Second World War the traditional Lewis rural weddings were abandoned in preference to formal and expensive weddings in hotels.



**1992:** A group of former Calbost people on the occasion of the annual theme day outing, usually celebrated by the people of Pairc in one or the other of the villages, or former villages of Park each year. The group are seen here blending in with the items of antiquity in the Calbost Collection of Antiquities.

**Front left:** Peggy, daughter of Maggie and Murdo Macfarlane, 2 Calbost and Inverness.

**Merag:** Daughter of 'Calum Alastair' Morrison, croft 9.

**Murdag:** Daughter of 'Aonghais Alastair' Finlayson, croft 10.

**Bellann:** Granddaughter of 'Calum Alastair' Morrison, croft 9 and her husband behind her; Norman Martin from Airidhbhruch and Angus Macleod, 8 Calbost.



18 year old Royal Naval Reservist Recruits.

**Left:** Angus Macleod, 8 Calbost and John Kennedy, 14 Calbost, proceeding to a Naval base in the English Channel for their initial six week period of training. Royal Naval Reservists were called up for a few weeks training every two years.



#### **Harvesting the Oat Crop**

Above is Mrs Ishbel Macleod, 1873-1942, the writer's mother, harvesting the corn at 8 Calbost in the 1930s? She is seen here tying a sheaf with a band of the oat stalks.

The oat crop was harvested in Lewis with the sickle and was made into sheaves in the usual way and set up on the plots in small stooks, 'adagan', of twelve sheaves each as above.

When the corn was dry enough, it was gathered together into larger ricks, 'torran', on the plots. Eventually, the whole crop was taken into the walled enclosure, 'iolainn', and built up into larger stacks, 'cruachan', for the winter.

One stack at a time was taken into the barn as needed during the winter.

#### **Latha Frasaidh**

Sometimes a whole stack was thrashed in the stack yard, 'iolainn', in one operation. At other times, the oats were thrashed in small portions as needed, using a 'maide-treasaigh' by hand on each single sheaf.

A 'maide-treasaigh' was a three foot long rounded piece of wood.



Famous Lewis Step Dancer Demonstrates the Balallan Shuffle

Innocently caught on camera by Dr Will Maclean, the humorous designer of the Cuimhneachain nan Gaisgeach Memorial Cairns, is Angus Macleod, Park House, Marybank as he emerges from one of the low doors of the Pairc Deer Raid Cairn.



John Macleod, 1868-1940. 'Iain Ruadh an Sheoc' of 8 Calbost, who was married to Ishbel Nicolson 1873-1942, daughter of Kenneth Nicolson, 11 Calbost.

They raised a family of six sons. Iain Ruadh is the grandfather of Iain Angus and Elizabeth Ann (in the picture below).



A peat cutting team of three irons in the mid 1930s in 'Rubha na Creaga Mor', Calbost, from where all the peats were carried home in bags and creels on your back. It was about 1942 before the Calbost people were able for the first time to use lorries or tractors to carry their peat supplies home, when the Calbost / Gravir road was opened.

Left: Ishbel (Nicolson) Macleod 1873-1942 wife of John Macleod 8 Calbost. Next to her is Iain 'Ruadh' her husband. Then Ina Morrison and her father Malcolm Morrison, 9 Calbost.

On the extreme right is Roderick Finlayson 'Ruairidh Diry', 13 Calbost. The writer was his team mate.

Round the peat iron the group is seen here enjoying the customary midday break with a picnic lunch. Note the modern facility of a Primus paraffin stove in the forefront in place of the traditional peat fire.



Annie Macinnes, 1923, wife of Angus Macleod, 8 Calbost, and mother of Iain Angus, 1964, and Elizabeth Ann, 1963, cutting peats at Calbost in the 1980s with the usual peat cutting picnic.



A view of the buildings on Croft 8 Calbost surrounded by trees, as it was in the 1980s and 1990s.



Two of a second generation of American / British emigrants returned to their grandfather's family home at 8 Calbost.  
Chris and Patrick de Carlo are the family of Jeanette, the daughter of James Macleod, 1900-1986, who emigrated on the 'Metagama' in 1923.  
Seen here with their great-uncle Angus Macleod, 8 Calbost and Park House, Marybank, sitting in front of leabaidh-an-teine.





Angus and Annie Macleod, 8 Calbost and their daughter Ishbel in the 1950s when Ishbel was about five years old.  
Annie is the daughter of Angus Macinnes, 8 Gravir.

The family settled in Marybank, Stornoway, where Ishbel grew up as an only child to the age of fifteen and a half, when she died suddenly without warning, apparently as a result of suffocation through an epileptic fit - only the fourth convulsion during her lifetime - and therefore not taken too seriously. When her mother went to wake her for school, she had passed away.



Jack Macleod, son of Dan Macleod, 1898, 8 Calbost and California. Jack lived at 8 Calbost for a while before moving back to California where he was a Sea Captain. He died early.



Neil Macleod 1876 - 1922 Son of 'Iain Sheoc' Macleod 8 Calbost. Neil emigrated to Canada early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century and worked in mines in British Columbia among other places. He died in 1922 as a result of a fire in his lodgings. His gold pocket watch and other personal belongings came home to his parents.



John Macleod 1904 - 1937 'Fin' son of Iain Ruadh an Sheoc 8 Calbost and his brother Murdo Macleod (Peter) 1908 - 1994.



Donald Macleod, 1902-1995, known as 'Domhnall Yoe' born at 8 Calbost and raised at 20 Marvig. He died at 6 Calbost.

Son of Angus Macleod 'Aonghais as Sheoc' and Annabelle Maclean of 29 Leurbost. Donald was a carpenter and he emigrated to New Zealand. He returned about 1931 and married his first wife Betty Finlayson of 8 Marvig. They had a family of two sons and a daughter. John and Donald Angus emigrated to Australia and Katie Bell remained in Lewis.



Donald's sister Ishbel 'Bheag', 1904-1935. Ishbel was lame as a result of an accident as a young girl in service in Glasgow when a window she was cleaning gave way, throwing her to the street. Subsequently, she married William Rose in Glasgow but was only married for seven months when she died at the early age of 31 years. Previously, she worked as an assistant to the Calbost tailor, Roderick Finlayson at 10 Calbost. Their parents died when the family of three (including Alastair) was still very young, the mother in about 1908 and the father in 1912 and the three children were brought up by their aunt who lived at 20 Marvig, Mrs Norman Morrison



Alastair, the third member of the family, born in 1907-died 1976. Brought up by his Aunt Catriona Maclean/Morrison at 20 Marvig.

Married Peggy Chisholm, 8 Lemreway, they had a family of one daughter Annabella, now Mrs A Macdonald, living in Spean Bridge, Inverness-shire. Alastair was a Royal Naval Reservist and served throughout the Second World War in the Royal Navy.



**Circa 1965:** A family reunion of the surviving four members of the family of John and Ishbel Macleod, 8 Calbost and their families.

**Left Back:** Angus Macleod, born 1916, holding his son Iain Angus, born 1964; Calum Iain, born 1948, son Murdo Macleod 'Peter', born in 1908; James Macleod, born 1900, on his first visit home from California U.S.A. since he left on the '**Metagama**' in 1923 at the age of 22 years; Colin Macleod, son of James on holiday from California with his father, Donald Macleod 'Dan', born 1898. He emigrated to North America in 1920, worked in California, returned in 1958 and settled at 28 Crossbost eventually.

**Front Row Left:** Annie Macleod, born 1923, wife of Angus Macleod, 8 Calbost and Park House, Marybank is holding their daughter, Elizabeth Ann, born 1963; Kennina, wife of Murdo Macleod 'Peter', 8 Calbost and 69 New Valley; Murdo Macleod himself; Ishbel Macleod, 28 Crossbost, wife of Dan Macleod, 8 Calbost.

The other two members of the family of John Macleod 1868-1940, 'Iain Ruadh', 8 Calbost, and his wife Ishbel Nicolson, 1873-1942, both fell victim to the dreaded scourge of pulmonary tuberculosis. John 'Fin' at the early age of 32 years in 1937, and Jack 'Lerag' after returning from several years in California U.S.A. passed away in 1941 at the age of 37 years.

Angus, the youngest of the family was fortunate to survive T.B. because of the advances in medicine and prolonged treatment and surgery in Glasgow. Earlier on, that disease devastated many of the families of Calbost.



Neil Macleod, born 1922, son of Donald Macleod 'Domhnuill Cruaidh', 8 Calbost and his brother Domhnuill Angie, born 1924. 'Domhnuill Cruaidh an Sheoc' their father, 1874-1957 was a deep sea sailor all his life. He married Ann Macarthur from Tolsta-Chaolais about 1921 and they had a family of six, two girls and four boys.

Neil was the oldest and in 1938 he went to the Gravesend Nautical School at the age of 16 years. At the outbreak of the Second World War he joined the Merchant Navy and subsequently served as Boson..

Donald Angus (above) also joined the Merchant Navy at the age of 16 years when he was working on a Coal Hulk in Stornoway Harbour. He made up the ships complement and served at sea for the rest of the war. After the war both Neil and Donald Angus emigrated to Australia where Neil became a Building Contractor.

Mary Bell the 3<sup>rd</sup> member of the family married Alex Campbell 17 North Tolsta, Lewis.

Calum was lost, presumably drowned at the age of 10 years when he went too near the sea in search of some flotsam that was coming ashore. (There is a note on Calum under the heading 'Calbost Fishing Boats').

Donald John settled in Glasgow

Mary Ann (Mrs Allerdyce) settled in Perthshire.



**1945:** Dwelling house of the family of Donald Macleod, 8 Calbost. Their thatched barn may be seen behind the house and beyond that on croft 9 may be seen Angus 'Derrick' Morrison's house.

The newly constructed vehicular road may be seen in front.



Macleod, 8 Calbost Boat on Calbost Bay in the 1930s.

Neil Macleod, 3 Calbost, on the oars.  
 Angus Macleod, 8 Calbost, with the gun.  
 Mabel Dixon  
 Christy Bheag Glady  
 The Maclean girls, 4 Calbost



Left - Matilda Mackenzie, 12 Calbost  
 Baby  
 Peggy 'Diry' Finlayson, 10 Calbost  
 Christy 'Bheag' Mackenzie, 12 Calbost  
 Flora Smith, 5 Calbost  
 Floraidh Mhor Mackenzie of 4 Calbost



**Back Row**

Christy-Maggie Morrison 43 Gravir, Christy Morrison 42 Gravir  
 John Nicolson 11 Calbost, Calum Eachainn 43 Gravir  
 Angus Nicolson 11 Calbost, Joan Morrison 43 Gravir

**Front Row**

Angus Macleod, 8 Calbost, Murdo Macleod - Groom, 8 Calbost  
 Kenina Morrison - Bride, 43 Gravir; Peggy Mackenzie, 7 Marvig  
 Young attendant, Irene Morrison and Sandra Stewart