

## LETHEN IMAGES

Images dated 1884 (Lethen Estate, Ardclach Parish): Mr James Mann and family at Cairnglass [1. Mann, Cairnglass]; Mrs Murdoch and family at Lynemore [2. Murdoch, Lynemore]; The Free School maintained at Knockandhu with teacher and pupils [3. School, Knockandhu]; Mr John Rose at Daltra [4. Rose, Daltra]; Mr Donald McQueen at the Carpenter's Shop near Dulsie Bridge [5. McQueen, Dulsie]; James Falconer and Alexander Cattanach tying a salmon fly at Dunearn Lodge [6. Falconer & Cattanach, Dunearn]. Contributed, with notes, by Sarah Brodie.

### 6. Falconer & Cattanach, Dunearn



**Caption: Lethen. Jamie Falconer having made a Salmon Fly, sets its wings in order to the admiration of Cattanach who is going to use it. 1884. At the door of Dunearn Lodge.**

Notes:

**James Falconer** (c.1813-1892) – born Ardclach Parish (baptism unrecorded) son of James Falconer & Janet Murdoch, and died at Newton of Belivat, Ardclach 31 Dec 1892.

James Falconer Gamekeeper at Dunearn Lodge & Catherine McPherson, both residing in this parish m. 27 Oct 1847 Ardclach  
Catherine (1819-1889) was born at Balnuilt, Ardclach daughter of John McPherson & Isabel Fraser.  
The couple had no children.

From estate papers, Dunearn Lodge was built c.1841 at Balnuilt.

James Falconer Senior had the lease of Lower Remore from 1825, having been tenant of Ardclach farm for some years previously.

He was born in 1775 at Wester Logie, Ardclach (son of Hugh Falconer & Helen Rose, who had moved there from Foynesfield, Auldearn in the early 1770s) & married in 1805 Janet Murdoch, born 1783 at Tomcork, Edinkillie (eldest child of John Murdoch & Mary Mitchell, and sister of David Murdoch whose widow & children are pictured at Lynemore in 1884)

Their first 3 children were born at Logie 1806-1810, and no further children are recorded in Ardclach OPR until 1821, when they were living at Ardclach farm.

Ardclach Churchyard [MNFHS, 2010]:

(250) In memory of James Falconer, Farmer, Lower Remore, who died 28<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1841, aged 64 years. Also his wife Janet Murdoch, who died at Lower Remore 10<sup>th</sup> April 1857 aged 63 years. Also their sons, Hugh Falconer, Farmer, Lower Remore, who died 18<sup>th</sup> July 1848, aged 58 years. William Falconer, Farmer, Lower Remore, who died 8<sup>th</sup> April 1854, aged 28 years. Catherine Macpherson died at Newton of Belivoat 7 March 1889. Erected by James Falconer, Remore.

While the dates read quite clearly on the tombstone, they are difficult to reconcile with information from estate records, census & death certificates.

James senior appears to have died c.1838, as his heirs are listed as tenants of Lower Remore from crop 1838 [Lethen Rental 1829-40]. He is not listed at Remore in the 1841 census.

Janet Murdoch died at Lower Remore 14 April 1857 aged 73 [death certificate]

The son Hugh appears to be alive & well at Lower Remore in the 1851 census. Hugh pays rent in March 1852, but his brother William pays the rent in March 1853 [Estate Papers/Collection of Rents]

The son William died at Lower Remore 28 March 1855 aged 27 (?) [death certificate]

From estate records, James Falconer (c.1813-92) had the lease of Lower Remore from Whit. 1852 at £45, until Whit. 1877 when James McDonald became tenant. But he doesn't appear to have ever resided there.

His widowed mother, with 4 of her unmarried children, is there in the 1851 census.

A grieve appears to be running Lower Remore farm in the 1861 census, while Jamie Falconer's Aunt Deborah Falconer nee Dunbar (1792-1868), widow of Hugh Falconer (1777-1836), is living in a house at Lower Remore with an unmarried daughter.

Jamie's sister Ann Falconer (c.1830-1887) had married in 1856 John Brodie Cobban (1831-1917), whose father was then tenant of Upper Remore farm. Ann & John B. Cobban with 4 of their children are in a house at Lower Remore in the 1871 census, while their other 3 children were with their uncle Jamie Falconer at Balnuit.

James Falconer is Gamekeeper at Dunearn Lodge in 1851 & 1861 census; and Farmer at Balnuit nextdoor in 1871 & 1881 census.

(By the 1881 census Alexander Cattanach is Gamekeeper at Dunearn Lodge, though it appears from the 1884 photograph that Jamie Falconer still played a role)

Estate records show that James Falconer had a lease of Balnuit from Whit. 1859 at £16 (where his widowed mother-in-law died in 1860, and his sister-in-law resided in the 1861 census)

He also had a lease of nearby Reiroppie from Whit. 1860 at £11, and Knockandhu from 1877 at £15, and Tomlachlan from 1878 at £35, all of which he held until 1886. At which date he probably retired from farming & gamekeeping, and moved to the house at Newton of Belivat.

He is listed as Retired Farmer at Newton of Belivat in the 1891 census, with niece Rose Catherine 'Katie' Cobban as housekeeper.

T.D. Brodie had Newton of Belivat in his own hands from 1885. He sublet the land, excluding buildings, to John Mann Cairnglass from 1887. John Mann got a new lease in 1891 of Cairnglass & Newton of Belivat "excluding all buildings and garden ground on Newton of Belivat", which were sub-leased by James Falconer from Mr Brodie".

*[Jamie Falconer was a 1<sup>st</sup> cousin of the Murdochs pictured with their mother at Lynemore in 1884]*

*[another connection between the photographs is that Jamie Falconer's sister Rose Falconer (1821-1879) married in 1852 William McGlashan (1814-1892), brother of Mrs James Mann nee McGlashan at Cairnglass]*

Notes:

**Alexander Cattanach** (1840-1909) – born at Lynchat, Alvie son of Alexander Cattanach & Grace McKay, and died at Newton of Belivat, Ardclach 27 Jan 1909.

He married in Edinburgh in 1863 Jane McPherson (c.1844-1930) who was working as a domestic servant there, and according to the census a native of Kingussie.

Alexander was a gamekeeper residing at Gaick near Kingussie at the time of his marriage. By the 1871 census he was gamekeeper at Glenfyne Lodge, Argyll, with his wife and two sons John (b.1864 Kingussie) & Alexander (b.1866 Kingussie).

Some time before the 1881 census he had taken over James Falconer's job as Gamekeeper at Dunearn Lodge. He was still gamekeeper at Dunearn Lodge in the 1901 census, but had retired to Newton of Belivat sometime before his death in 1909.

Alexander's son John Cattanach (1864-1926) followed in his father's footsteps and was Under Keeper on the Coulmony part of the estate, living at Daltulich Bothie in the 1891 census. In December 1892 John married Jamie Falconer's niece, Rose Catherine Cobban (1868-1947).

Ardclach Churchyard [MNFHS, 2010]:

(1) In loving memory of Alexander Cattanach who died at Newton Belivat, 27<sup>th</sup> January 1909, aged 68 years. Also his wife Jane Macpherson who died at Grantown-on-Spey, 28<sup>th</sup> August 1930, aged 86 years. His grandchildren; Jeannie Cattanach died at Coulmony, 22<sup>nd</sup> February 1906, aged 1 year, and 9 months. Alexander James Cattanach died at Rehairie, 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1912, aged 17 years. And his son John Cattanach died at Grantown-on-Spey 21<sup>st</sup> April 1926, aged 62 years. And Rose C. Cobban wife of the above died at Grantown-on-Spey 17<sup>th</sup> September 1947 aged 79 years.