

# Seanchas Ìle

## MACLAGAN MANUSCRIPTS

### LEGENDS: Place Legends

From Mrs McLean, Bruichladdich, Islay (Anonymous) V20/3409

Slochd a mhort is on the farm of Ardnave in Islay and is so called, it is said, because that at one time long ago, when a great battle was fought near there, a great number of those who fled were overtaken, and having been put to death, were thrown on the top of one another in a hole there. It is said that human bones have frequently been found in this slochd.

Tobar-a'-choin. This is the name of a well that is at Baile-Charra, near the marsh between the farms of Balole and Gortantaoid. Here it is said the piper's dog that went in to Bolsa cave came out with all the hair off it's skin, and ever since then the well has been called Tobar-a'-choin.

From John Gillespie, Port Charlotte, Islay (Anonymous) V15/2322

There were at one time great big men in Islay, the biggest men in the world. It was they who put up all the standing stones that are on the island. These stones were put up to mask the places where they used to take their food when they would be out hunting, and every place whose name begins with Dùn was a dwelling place. Of course they had houses in these places, but they have tumbled down long ago.

From Mrs McNicol, Conispie, Islay. (Anonymous) V15/2341

Kilchoman, Kilchearan, and Kilinalin are names of three burying places in Islay. Kilchoman is still largely used, Kilchearan, very rarely, but Kilinalin never, nobody knows for how long a time back. Kilchoman is also the name of the parish in which two of these burying places are situated; Kilinalin being in the adjoining parish of Killarrow.

Mrs McNicol says the way these names originated was as follows:- three sons of the King of Denmark died in Islay, and were buried there in three different places. Their names were Coman, Ciaran, and Ailean. Where Coman was buried got the name of Kilchoman; Ciaran, Kilchearan; and Ailean, Kilinalin