

**Sir Jock McEwen** (1894-1962). Poet, politician and laird of Marchmont. Born in Edinburgh, Jock McEwen was the eldest son of Robert Finnie McEwen who acquired Marchmont in 1912. He fought in the First World War, initially with the Cameron Highlanders and then the Royal Flying Corps. Shot down behind enemy lines he spent the last two years of the war as a PoW. His younger brother Jim was killed in October 1916 and is memorialised at Polwarth Kirk. After the war Captain McEwen joined the Diplomatic Service and served in London, Athens and Rome.

On the death of his father in 1926, Jock McEwen became laird of Marchmont, and in 1931 he was elected as the Unionist Member of Parliament for Berwick and Haddington. He served as Assistant Government Whip 1938-39, Under-Secretary of State for Scotland 1939-40, and under Winston Churchill as a Lord of the Treasury 1942-44. He was Chairman of the Conservative Members' Committee in the House of Commons, now known as the 1922 Committee, 1944-1945. He lost his seat in 1945 when his war-time conversion to Catholicism was flagged up by his opponents.

He published several volumes of poetry, translated widely from French and wrote a play about James IV and the Battle of Flodden which was broadcast on national radio. He was appointed to the baronetcy in 1953 and became Sir Jock McEwen of Marchmont and Bardrochat (in Ayrshire). He died in 1962 aged 67 and was succeeded as baronet by his elder son Jamie who lived at Bardrochat. He was survived by his wife Bridget (nee Linley) and his children, Jamie, Robin, Kisty, Rory, Eck, David and Johnny.

Further information in Wikipedia [here](#)