

An Drochaid - The Bridge

Comhla ri Cheile - Together with Accord

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Spring Newsletter

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Frae the Chair



Frae the Chair

“The best-laid schemes o' mice an' men gang aft agley” - Robert Burns

I've gleaned through various analyses, parallels and derivative works on our poet Burns' missive “To A Mouse”. My favourite is “No business plan survives first contact with a customer”. Which I learned, quite painfully, through the \$5.2 Billion mistake of Iridium. They had ‘out of this world’ aspirations for global communications. Unfortunately years of my hard work and investment

rode that ‘bye-bye’ rocket to oblivion.

Nowadays I pass on my costly wisdom about this to aspiring business analysts using the paradigm of a “Drunken Stagger”. We achieve a mission through strategy. We use strategy to frame benchmarks for our goals. We align tactics with strategy and use objectives to measure success of those tactics in achieving goals.

But then customers happen; competition happens; life happens; corona virus happens; a plough happens. The virus itself has no malevolent intent upon us, we're merely the soil it is ploughing through and growing upon to sustain itself.

The “Drunken Stagger” is all about course correction while being true to one's self. It's about leaving the pub quite pickled with the goal of walking home. Though there's a meander to the left and the wind blowing you to the right, you correct your course and eventually get home. Stay true to your mission, to your values and you will arrive.

“Steadfast and True” comes to mind but I'm not sure where this comes from. But it is what we would have as Scots if we distilled all that we are into a single motto for our clans and history. I truly believe that the core of everything we are as Canadians springs from this fundamental heart-line of Scottish culture and heritage.

We've suffered hardship, oppression, famine, disease and ruin from a foreign power but, despite them, we survived. This is how it will be with the current crisis. We'll delay, postpone and maybe even cancel events for this year but we'll come back. And be stronger for it!

We'll celebrate our victories and our heroes. We'll adapt and course correct. We'll find our way home and bring the rest of our Canadian kin with us to the warmth of our hearth.

Please enjoy this edition not just as a diversion from the dismal news we're subjected to but also as a beacon, a bridge over these troubled waters that we cross together. I'm truly looking forward to seeing and greeting everyone at upcoming games, festivals and CASSOC events. Social distance optional.

Yours Aye,

William Robert Petrie - Clan Gregor

chairperson@cassoc.ca

Editor's Note

As editor as well as chairperson, I was amiss with the December edition in not providing a 'From the Editor' and what would normally be in its content. For now I'd like to keep to just providing a Chairperson message. However I'd like also to convey our gratitude to our previous editor Chris MacDougall for the wonderful editions he provided and helping us move forward with the publication.

William Robert Petrie - Clan Gregor

editor@cassoc.ca

To a Mouse, on Turning Her Up in Her Nest With the Plough, November, 1785

Robert Burns

Little, cunning, cowering, timorous beast,
Oh, what a panic is in your breast!
You need not start away so hasty
With bickering prattle!
I would be loath to run and chase you,
With murdering paddle!

I'm truly sorry man's dominion
Has broken Nature's social union,
And justifies that ill opinion
Which makes you startle
At me, your poor, earth-born companion
And fellow mortal!

I doubt not, sometimes, that you may steal;
What then? Poor beast, you must live!
An odd ear in twenty-four sheaves
Is a small request;
I will get a blessing with what is left,
And never miss it.

Your small house, too, in ruin!
Its feeble walls the winds are scattering!
And nothing now, to build a new one,
Of coarse green foliage!
And bleak December's winds ensuing,
Both bitter and piercing!

You saw the fields laid bare and empty,
And weary winter coming fast,
And cozy here, beneath the blast,
You thought to dwell,
Till crash! The cruel plough passed
Out through your cell.

That small heap of leaves and stubble,
Has cost you many a weary nibble!
Now you are turned out, for all your trouble,
Without house or holding,
To endure the winter's sleety dribble,
And hoar-frost cold.

But Mouse, you are not alone,
In proving foresight may be vain:
The best laid schemes of mice and men
Go often askew,
And leave us nothing but grief and pain,
For promised joy!

Still you are blessed, compared with me!
The present only touches you:
But oh! I backward cast my eye,
On prospects dreary!
And forward, though I cannot see,
I guess and fear!

Benefits and Offers

A reminder about ongoing benefits as well as offers from our members and others.

Communication

Your reach can extend to over 2000 enthusiasts in our member groups and beyond through our online availability

Advertising

Post your upcoming calendar for events in our quarterly newsletter as well as online. If you've an online presence we'll include the appropriate links.

Highland Games, Festivals and other events

As part of CASSOC support a voice for all our members at events so that you are represented even if not present.

CASSOC Members Binder

Your group is represented in this membership binder with such as organization information, tartans, septs and contact details that is available for us and all members to display at events. This is a terrific draw for booth visitors and a starting point for engagement with those new to Scottish heritage.

National Representation

You are part of the national voice for clans and societies in promoting all of our interests with local, provincial and federal contacts as well with international entities such as the Scottish Clan and Ancestry Forum and Scottish North America Leadership.

Special Events and Offers

To provide awareness of Scottish culture and specifically clan groups, CASSOC organizes events such as the annual Kilt Skate. Support and awareness is also provided to other events provided by you as a member. We also provide the means for specific offers such as the discounts that follow.

Burnett's & Struth - We're pleased to announce the continuing member benefit of a 15% discount with Burnett's and Struth Scottish Regalia Ltd. For further details on how to use this discount, restrictions and locations, please visit their [member page](#) on our CASSOC website.

St Hilda Sea Adventures - Provide small ship cruising and wildlife holidays on the beautiful West Coast of Scotland. The cruises, among the breathtakingly beautiful islands, sea lochs and mountains of the Inner and Outer Hebrides, are truly unforgettable adventures for all ages. Members of CASSOC receive a 15% discount during enquiry or booking with the code SHSA-CASSOC.

Pipers and Speakers

The following are affiliated with our membership and available for bookings.

More details are available on the CASSOC website.

Piper	Locale	Contact Info
Tait Leslie Goss	Kitchener/Waterloo	Meg Leslie (Mom/Manager) 519-501-0680 megtleslie@gmail.com
Ron Freeman	Hamilton	905-577-0608 ronald.freeman@hwcnc.org
Rory Sinclair	Toronto	http://www.caledoncounty.com rorygus.sinclair@outlook.com
Steven Sirbovan	Orillia/Barrie/North Toronto	thebagpiper@live.com
Jamie Douglas	Durham Region	416-930-7552 jd_piperboy@hotmail.com
Iain Dewar	Durham Region	idewar@rogers.com
Mike Chisolm	Greater Vancouver Area	604-628-8140 http:// bagpipervancouver.com
Callum Gauthier	Ottawa / Rideau River / Toronto	613-620-1014 Callum.gauthier5@gmail.com

Speaker	Topic(s)	Contact Info
Christine Woodstock	Scottish Genealogy	Genealogytoursofscotland@gmail.com
Rory Sinclair	Scottish History and Culture	http://www.caledoncounty.com rorygus.sinclair@outlook.com

Games and Festivals

As of publication, check the CASSOC [website](#) for the latest listings.

Note : Cancelled/postponed is indicated if known. Please verify status with organizers.

Date	Event, Location and Info
Apr-02	Glenmorangie Whisky Dinner, St-Andrew's Toronto (Cancelled)
Apr-04	Tartan day - St Andrew's Toronto (Cancelled)
May 16-18	Victoria Highland Games Victoria, BC http://www.victoriahighlandgames.com/ (Postponed)
Jun 5-7	Conference & Family History Show Ontario Ancestors Hamilton, ON http://conference2020.ogs.on.ca/
Jun-13	Georgetown Highland Games http://www.georgetownhighlandgames.com/ (Pending)
Jun 20-21	Manitoba Highland Gathering Winnipeg, MB http://www.manitobahighlandgathering.org/
Jun 26-27	Caledonia Celtic Festival Caledonia, ON http://www.caledoniacelestialfestival.com (Pending)
Jun-27	Kingsville Highland Games Kingsville, ON https://www.kingsville.ca/en/explore-and-play/kingsville-highland-games.aspx#
Jul 30-Aug 1	Glengarry Highland Games, Maxville, ON http://www.glengarryhighlandgames.com/
Aug-02	Montreal Scottish Festival & Highland Games Verdun, QC http://www.montrealhighlandgames.com/
Aug 7-9	Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games http://www.fergusscottishfestival.com/
Aug 7-9	Margaree Highland Games Margaree Valley, NS http://www.margareehighlandgames.com/
Aug 7-14	Clan MacKenzie Gathering Inverness, Scotland http://clanmackenziesociety.co.uk/events/gathering-2020/
Aug 28-29	Cobourg Highland Games Cobourg, ON http://www.cobourghighlandgames.ca/

Editor's Note about this edition

As we're wrapping up this edition, there's regular incoming updates on postponements, cancellations or other changes in plans for our community. Please check for the latest updates and we all wish you the best of health and safety throughout these times.

We've pulled back on articles such as those about Scottish storytellers Mairi Campbell and David Francis since the Toronto Storytelling Festival in March was cancelled. We've also backed away from travel and promotional entries that we felt were no longer relevant for this edition.

Lastly, as we see our festivals and games fall away this year, we're looking at ways to help keep the spirit of them going well. Perhaps some 'Memories of the Past' features in our upcoming editions? Keep your pictures handy and watch for a call for entries if this occurs.

Your Aye,

William Robert Petrie - Clan Gregor

editor@cassoc.ca

Scottish Canadians by Mark Connolly

Scottish Canadians: From the Plains of Abraham to the first two prime ministers & universal health care

By Mark Connolly of myorigins.co.uk

The earliest Scots in Canada were among the first Europeans to arrive. The Kingdom of Scotland established the colony of Nova Scotia in 1621 and among the colonists of New France were Scots traders, merchants, soldiers and farmers- including Abraham Martin dit l'Écossais, whose name lives on in the famed Plains of Abraham. These early Scots were in some



ways very different from the far greater numbers who would arrive later on. If you are one of their descendants, you are much more likely to be of the Roman Catholic faith and have a strong French and native background. The Scots played both a leading role in defeating French power in Canada and in protecting the culture of their former allies from extinction in North America. The French defeat on the Plains of Abraham came on the 13th of September 1759. Scots Brigadier-General James Murray accepted the capitulation of the French forces five days after the battlefield death of English General James Wolfe. After the defeat, Murray – who became the first British governor of Quebec – refused attempts to wipe French culture from the North American map. His counterpart, Major Jean-Baptiste-Nicolas-

Roch de Ramezay (Ramsay), was of Scottish descent. Ramezay's family emigrated from Scotland to France in the late 15th or early 16th century and settled in Burgundy. At this point all Scots were French citizens; a law that wasn't repealed until 1903. It was a legacy of an earlier Scottish military intervention when the French army was close to total defeat by the English. Henry V's victory at the Battle of Agincourt in 1415 was one of England's greatest military achievements, but for the French it was a disaster that led to near collapse. The Dauphin turned to the Scots under the mutual defence pact known as the Auld Alliance (1259-1560). A Scots Expeditionary Force of 12 thousand men soon boarded ships bound for France. The French appointed the Earl of Douglas as Lieutenant General of the combined Franco-Scottish army; within a few

Scottish Canadians by Mark Connolly

years they had turned the tide. At the Battle of Bauge they defeated the English, while the Garde Écossaise helped Joan of Arc liberate Orleans, Joan of Arc's Scots Guard, by John Duncan. As a result, citizenship and titles were bestowed on the victorious Scots and their descendants. This is how the Bank of France came to be founded by a Scotsman, and how people like the Ramezays gained French titles and lands. Brigadier-



General James Murray no doubt knew this long history. When French defeat came, the Scots didn't seek to put the boot in, instead their commanders and soldiers helped lay the foundations of Canada and its French/English duality. Later Scottish arrivals were staunchly protestant but as in the past even the poorest among them shared an educational level that made the Scots the world's most literate people well into the 19th century. Despite their relatively small numbers, their ability to read, write, endure and adapt, propelled them through the ranks wherever they went.

The Kingdom of Scotland however was a fading memory; the English – rather than the French – were their allies and the Scots were now front-and-centre in an emerging British Empire rather than a supporting cast to a fading French one. Long famed as plucky underdogs, the Scots who consistently refused to

bend the knee (most famously to the Roman and Norman conquerors of the rest of Britain) were now junior partners in Britain Inc. They made up just 10 percent of the British population, but effectively ran an empire within an empire, from Canada's Hudson Bay to Bengal and the East India Company. Half their entire population left home in the 19th century, fanning out across the nascent empire, staffing and administering every branch office, while remaining strangely happy to leave England's name prominent on the office door. Perhaps the clichéd imperial cry of 'Make the World England' provided a cover of plausible deniability while Scots made huge fortunes excelling in something they had always fought so hard to prevent from happening to themselves.

In their education system at least, they exported via the Empire to Canada and the

Scottish Canadians by Mark Connolly

globe something of a saving grace- the idea of education for all and success through meritocracy rather than birth right. It's an idea, unfortunately, which is still a long way off from being applied remotely equally to the native populations of Canada, America and Australia.

While Canada's issues with its First Nations are still a great distance from resolution, the country as a whole remains the most socially mobile member of the English speaking world. Outside of Quebec, distinctive Scottish values dominate Canadian education, politics and social outlook. By contrast the greatest contribution of the Scots to neighbouring America were the ideas and manpower for the American Revolution; in both countries though philanthropy by the rich was championed by Scottish Americans and Canadians.

Canadian author, Ken Mcgoogan, believes five 'Scottish' values form the foundation of modern Canada – audacity, independence, perseverance, democracy and pluralism. Mcgoogan explains their "leaders included John A. Macdonald, Canada's first prime minister, and George Brown, who established Canada's first national newspaper before becoming a father of Confederation. Mcgoogan adds: "No matter where you enter the history of Canada –

through exploration, politics, business, education, or literature – you find Scots and their descendants playing a leading role." In more recent times, Tommy Douglas from Falkirk was crowned the "Greatest Canadian" for his key role in creating public health care in Canada.

The Scots remain the third largest ethnic group in Canada. However the term ethnic would be abhorrent to most of them. Scottish values are a state of mind- it is why their natural successors are to be found in the New World where the disgraceful concept of ethnic purity is a blatant oxymoron. As the late Scots author and poet William McIlveney once said to a cheering crowd, the Scots see themselves as a 'mongrel nation'. In the most simple of terms, they may be mainly white, but from their earliest history to the current day they have provided sanctuary and refugee status to countless people escaping persecution elsewhere. That is about as Canadian a concept as you can get; in a world at risk of descending back into tribalism, now is not the time to forget the road map the Scots gave us, least we take a backwards detour.

Originally posted at <https://myorigins.co.uk/scottish-canadians>

About the author : Mark Connolly provides your ancestors tales through records, DNA analysis and a family history book.

Visit <https://myorigins.co.uk/> for details of his range of services and testimonials

Declaration of Arbroath - 700th+1 Anniversary

Originally a mid-April meeting was scheduled with the Fiona Hyslop, the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Fair Work and Culture, Scottish Government. At this meeting, the executive were to be presented with a replica of the Declaration of Arbroath. This is on hold and we're anticipating that once we've returned to normalcy, similar arrangements will be made. As mentioned in the following, celebrations have been deferred for one year. CASSOC will integrate more extensive participation for our members in this celebration.

Your thoughts and input for how we can do this are always welcome and appreciated.

The updated content from the Arbroath2020.com website

Following recent developments regarding COVID-19 and updated Scottish Government advice regarding events over 500 people, the Arbroath 2020 committee in conjunction with partners VisitScotland and Historic Environment Scotland have made the difficult decision to postpone all of the Arbroath 2020 Festival core programme events until April 2021.

Given the importance of the 700th Anniversary of the Declaration of Arbroath for the community in Scotland and internationally, the committee agreed that postponing the Festival is the best way to maintain its significance, and provide an opportunity to commemorate and celebrate at a later date. It is the intention of the Arbroath 2020 committee that by postponing the date this will provide a platform to celebrate with splendour and as a community together in 2021.

These postponements include: The Community Pageant Procession, the Festival Concert at Arbroath Abbey, the Making of the Pageant exhibition at Arbroath Galleries and Library, the New Scriptorium, the Town Banner Project and Medieval History Live! as well as many of the periphery events.

2020 marks the 700th anniversary of the 1320 Declaration of Arbroath. In this period Arbroath Abbey and the town that grew up around it was right at the heart of Scotland's power and politics. The Declaration travelled to Arbroath gaining support on its way until it was floated off from Arbroath Harbour to the Pope in Avignon on the 6th April 1320.

Now regarded as an eloquent statement on freedom, the document sows the seeds for the first ideas of democracy. This is our starting point for the Arbroath 2020 Festival.

A six month long festival programme of high profile events, specially commissioned cultural and creative projects all supported by an array of activity generated through the community programme. Come and visit Arbroath in 2020, the place to be.

Declaration of Arbroath - 700th+1 Anniversary

Declaration of Arbroath
Arbroath Abbey
Scotland
6 April 1320

*For so long as a hundred of
us shall remain alibe, we
will never, on any conditon,
be subjected to the lordship
of the English. For we
fight not for glory, nor
riches, nor honours, but for
freedom alone, which no
man gibes up, except with
his life.*

These inspirational lines were included in the Scottish Declaration of Independence sent to Pope John XXII by Robert the Bruce and "The whole community of the realm of Scotland", enunciating a constitutional monarchy.

Caledonia Celtic Festival

CALEDONIA FAIRGROUNDS CALEDONIA ONTARIO

JUNE 26 & 27 2020



WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

FRIDAY NIGHT
THE AMERICAN ROGUES

SATURDAY NIGHT
TARTAN TERRORS



WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

**HIGHLAND DANCING HEAVY COMPETITIONS VENDORS
FOOD TRUCKS MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT GLAN TENTS
HERITAGE GROUPS CELTIC PUB PIPE BANDS & MORE**

\$16 EARLY BIRD
WEEKEND PASS

\$20 AT THE DOOR
WEEKEND PASS

www.caledoniacelticfestival.com

Cobourg Scottish Festival and Highland Games



Cobourg Highland Games Society

COBOURG SCOTTISH FESTIVAL & HIGHLAND GAMES

August 28 & 29, 2020



Join us at Victoria Park in Cobourg for our 57th Cobourg Scottish Festival & Highland Games. Watch for updates on our Facebook page for the Friday Night and Saturday Night Ceilidhs on June 19th & 20th, 2020

Saturday will provide a full days entertainment with the Solo Piping and Drumming, Heavy Event competitions starting at 8 am and the Highland Dancing competitions starting at 9 am.

The Welcoming Ceremonies will begin at approximately 11.45 am with the Mased Bands and Highland Fling. All afternoon the Pipe Band competitions will proceed with Grades 1 to 5, and the remaining Highland Dancing and Heavy Event competitions will continue. If the weather is warm, the kids can enjoy the water park, so bring your towels.

Admission this year will be \$20.00
Children 12 and under Free.

Early Bird Tickets can be had at a 25% discount until June 14th.

Check in frequently on our website and like us on Facebook to keep up to date on fundraising events leading up to the 2020 Games.

Dogs are allowed in the Park on a leash.

Poop and Scoop is mandatory.

Dogs are not allowed on the Beach or in the Water

Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games



**Fergus
Scottish
Festival
& Highland Games**

Fergus Scottish Festival to mark 74th year with a mixture of pomp and flair

The Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games is excited to announce Ashley MacIsaac as its Friday night musical guest.

Visitors to the 74th annual Fergus Festival and Highland Games will be treated to a truly authentic Scottish Festival with a modern twist.

It begins with the formal Tattoo'd in Tradition ceremony hosted by Scottish musician, actor and educator Gillebride MacMillan.

MacMillan is an award-winning Scottish Gaelic singer, educator and author. His warmth and humour as well as his knowledge of all things Scottish have made him a fan favourite in Fergus. It does not hurt that he has a second career as an actor. He appeared as Gwyllyn the Bard in the immensely popular STARZ television series, *Outlander*.

Visitors will be carried away by the skirl of the pipes, the swirl of the kilts, the precision marching, all to the rapid fire of the snare drum and the hypnotic beat of the bass drum.

The tattoo kicks off three days of festivities celebrating the four pillars of The Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games: the heavy athletics (including caber toss, hammer throw and weight throw), pipes and drums, highland dance, and clans

"The massed bands are indeed Scotland Without the Airfare," says entertainment chair Katie Sinclair. The pipes, pomp and pageantry of the tattoo will be followed by a world class fireworks display. "The Friday night tattoo will touch all of your senses. It makes everyone Scottish – even if it is just for a night," she says.

After this, MacIsaac will cap the night off with a performance under the stars. With his most recent album, *Fdler*, he brings traditional Celtic fiddle music into the 21st century, adding a modern flair. MacIsaac earned his chops at an early age, taught by some of the legendary greats of his native stomping ground, Cape Breton. He moved on to headline all over the island in halls, clubs, barns and kitchens. His breakthrough album, *Hi How Are You*, was released in the mid 90's and the accolades and awards rolled in. With the touring, the interviews and the appearances the persona took shape and the legend took hold.

Founded in 1946, the Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games is an annual three-day event that celebrates local Scottish heritage and features world-renowned talent and entertainment in the beautiful town of Fergus, Ontario. It holds the title of the oldest three-day Scottish festival in North America and has attracted over 30,000 visitors.

The festival takes place from August 9 to August 11 this year.

Having MacIsaac and MacMillan is already a lot for one year, but festival organizers say they still have more guests to announce. Up to the minute information on guests can be found by "liking" the Fergus Scottish Festival on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, by subscribing to their e-newsletter, and by checking their website at www.fergusscottishfestival.com.

Kingsville Highland Games

Kingsville Highland Games



Tickets and Information



Competitions



Entertainment



Clans



Sponsors



Volunteers



Vendors



Community

Kilt Skate 2020



Kilt Skate 2020



Kilt Skate 2020



Kilt Skate 2020



Membership, Group News and Updates

Member Groups are encouraged to submit news to this regular column in An Drochaid. Deadline for submissions is the 1st of the month of issue - March, June, September, and December.

Fàilte - Welcome to new members for 2019-2020

A warm welcome to new members Clan Bruce, Clan Forbes, Scotland Shop, Clan MacEwen and Kingsville Highland Games and to returning members Clan MacLellan and New Brunswick Scottish Cultural Association (NBSCA) and the House of Gordon Canada

Soraidh slàn - Farewell

Our regrets and best wishes for departing members Clan Donnachaidh (Robertson), Clan Ross and Guthrie Dance. You are missed.

Member Roll - As of date of publication

CLANS

Clan BELL North America
Family of BRUCE International, Inc.
Clan CAMERON Canadian Branch
Clan CARRUTHERS Society International
Clan CHISHOLM Society - Canada Branch
Clan DAVIDSON Society of North America
ELLIOT Clan Society of Canada
Clan FORBES Society, Inc
House of GORDON Canada
Clan GRAHAM Society Inc
Clan GREGOR Society - Canada Chapter
Clan HUNTER Association of Canada
Clan IRWIN Association
Clan KINCAID Association International
Clan LACHLAN Association of Canada Inc.
Clan LESLIE Society International
Clan LOGAN Society of Canada
The Clan MACALPINE Society
Clan MACAULAY Association
Clan MACDOUGALL Society of North America
Clan MACEWEN Society
Clan MACFARLANE Worldwide

Membership, Group News and Updates

MACFIE Clan Society in Canada
International Association of Clan MACINNES
The Clan MACKAY Association of Canada
The Clan MACKENZIE Society of Canada
Clan MACLELLAN of America
Clan MACLENNAN Canada
Clan MACLEOD Societies of Canada
Clan MACNEIL in Canada Association
Clan MACPHERSON
Clan MACRAE Society of Canada
Clan MACTHOMAS
Clan MUNRO Association of Canada
MURRAY Clan Society of North America
Clan PRINGLE North America
Clan SINCLAIR Association of Canada
The STEWART Society, Canada Branch

Associations

New Brunswick Scottish Cultural Association – NBSCA Scottish Studies
Foundation Ontario Ancestors: The Ontario Genealogical Society
Scottish Studies Foundation
St Andrew's Society of Toronto
Westman Scottish Association

Festivals

CALEDONIA Celtic Festival
COBOURG Highland Games Society
FERGUS Scottish Festival & Highland Games
KINCARDINE Scottish Festival & Highland Games
KINGSVILLE Highland Games

Businesses

Burnett's & Struth Scottish Regalia Ltd.
Taylor's Tartans
ScotlandShop

Clan Bell North America

Pictures from Clan of the Bells
Volume 33 Issue 4
www.clanbell.org



Mike Bell Dundonald Castle, South Ayrshire



Isabelle, Leah, & Christy Humphreys in Oban, Scotland.



Chris, Isabelle & Leah waiting for the Jacobite Train (also known as the Harry Potter train).



Richard Bell and Thea Jilderda Saccasyn at Gilnockie Tower



David Jaeger and bride Gina



Bobby Beal and bride Ashley

Clan Carruthers Society International (Canada)



Clan Carruthers Society International has pleasure in informing that:

As of November 2020, the Chief of Clan Carruthers, Dr Peter Carruthers of Holmains, has been granted supporters to reflect his status by the Lord Lyon. They are two fallow deer rampant Proper

On January 2020, the Carruthers tartan was officially adopted by the Clan Chief, and recognised as such in the Scottish Register of Tartan as STR 11700. This was registered and categorised as Clan/

Family by the Scottish Tartan Register after consultation with the Lyon as it was a new clan tartan for a new Chief. It is listed with the following restriction: Recognised by the Clan Chief, Dr Simon Peter Carruthers of Holmains, Chief of The Name & Arms of Carruthers and is intended for members of Clan Carruthers & other spellings of the Name. It is kindly made available in Canada through McPhails Kiltmakers, Penticton, BC.



The Chiefs Arms with supporters granted by the Lyon, on behalf of the Monarch

It is blazoned:

Gules two chevrons engrailed betwixt three fleur de-lis Or; Above the Shield is placed a helm befitting his degree with a mantling Gules doubled Argent, and on a wreath of the liveries is set for crest a seraphim volant Proper and in escrol over the same Motto "PROMPTUS ET FIDELIS" and on a compartment of heathland strewn with gorse bushes in flower (*Ulex europaeus*), two fallow bucks rampant Proper.



Clan Plant Badge - Yellow Gorse (*Ulex europaeus*)

In the additaments granted by the Lord Lyon to the Chief, which included his Chief's standard and pinsel and also formal recognition of 'a sprig of gorse in flower for the plant badge of Clan Carruthers'.

The gorse is a common plant in Scotland and grows in abundance in Annandale, the home of our Clan. The bright yellow flower reflects the gold charges (engrailed chevrons and fleur d-lis) on the shield of the hereditary arms of the Chief of Carruthers. The spiky leaves of the plant represents the 'prickers' or 'lang spears' as used by our Reiver ancestors

Is Your Kilt Inside Out? *by Donna Fawcett (reprinted from the Clan Davidson—NA January 2020 Newsletter)*

I have been a kilt maker (among other things) for nigh unto twenty years. Sewing is a family trade. My grandmother was a professional tailor. My mother made all our clothes and quilts. I dove into kilt making (after a stint of wedding dress making) when my daughters decided they wanted to Highland dance. I saw the cost of a dancer's outfit and my Scottish DNA jumped to the surface. I figured it had to be cheaper to make a kilt than to buy one. After much research, I stumbled across an old book written by a kilt maker of a bygone era. I waded into the pages with stubborn determination. After many phone calls to my mother, I figured out the meanings of the antiquated terminology and began my first kilt. I still wear that kilt when I'm feeling like I want to be noticed (Dundee District—just for the heck of it).

As I turned my skills toward my daughters' kilts, a local piper noticed and asked if I would make his kilt. I considered that a very high complement as this particular piper was more than a bit particular about everything. If he wanted a kilt of mine, I was thrilled. He brought me his material and then asked if I could do some adjustments on one of the kilts for his local pipe band. I said with excitement, "Sure." And then I saw the kilt. Something wasn't right. I couldn't figure it out. I took the band kilt home after getting the proper measurements and prepared to work on it once I finished his new kilt.

I dug into my book and began to build my friend's kilt and that's when it hit me. The pipe band kilt was inside out. I picked up the band kilt for closer inspection. Sure enough, the twill was going the wrong way. In a plain weave kilt, it wouldn't have mattered but in the machine woven plaid, the twill moves on an angle. The company that had constructed the kilt had laid the material out so the twill went from the left hip to the right knee instead of the right hip to the left knee. I cringed because I knew that I'd have to have a conversation with the pipe band and I hoped they didn't expect me to fix the problem.

We agreed that all the band kilts should be checked and a few were made inside out. Now I realize this isn't a life threatening problem. And, no, I didn't tear them all apart and turn them right side out. But the band made sure from that point on that any kilt purchased was to be inspected and sent back if the material weave was backward.



Some of you may discover that the twill on your kilt goes from left hip to right knee when it should go right hip to left knee. Yes, it's inside out. No, you will not be ousted from the clan. And likely no one will know but you and me so put it on anyway and march out into the public like a good, proud Davidson should!

Clan Davidson Society of North America



The President's Thoughts

John Dawson, President, CDS-NA

I had finished this piece, when Dave Chagnon left me a message that we needed to talk. So, I felt the need to readdress the topic of that conversation. All of you have had some exposure to Dave, at least in his role as Membership Registrar. Many of you have heard or read his stories, and you know he is an artist with malarkey and historical fact, with an ability to blend the two. Whether in person at a Games, on the phone, or in The Sporrán, he has displayed his gift of gab. I would like to recognize Dave for his labour of love as Sennachie, producing an award-winning Clan newsletter for the past 26 years. Dave has actually spoken about this “retirement” idea with me for over 5 years, but I never thought it would occur. From the entire Organization, I would like to express my gratitude to him for doing such an outstanding performance of a thankless job!

We will be not only exploring, but implementing the change of The Sporrán to a quarterly newsletter, with the addition of two, smaller newsletters in spring and fall, between the two “fat-boys” in the winter and summer. The spring edition was an unobtainable goal, partly of my doing. We would like to explore the smaller versions becoming “digital,” rather than via ‘link,’ while still allowing it to work as a printed copy. However, due to some military obligations, it was decided to delay the launch of The Sporrán “lite”. Please be patient, as our goal for this document is to be a “supplement” to the standard editions of The Sporrán, but in a format that can be viewed via digital media.

It seems strange to state that, as a heritage organization, we need to be forward-thinking, but we either do, or we slip into the history we promote. To that end, it is my role to find, recruit and support Tent Conveners/Regional Directors for the purpose of maintaining and even growing our presence across North America. With the help of some great people – our hard-working TCs – we have increased our presence and numbers in many areas. Of course, I am always listening to and watching for members that are willing to be our frontline troops, as well as taking on other volunteer positions. In some ways we are fortunate: our Celtic ancestry is currently popular, and made even more so by semi-associated-genre TV series and fads of fantasy such as Steampunk and renaissance communities.

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Clan Davidson Society of North America

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I have lamented in the past the relationships that TCs develop at Games. We watch members' children grow, and keep up through one or a few visits a year. In the recent past, Janelle and I were going to a bag rock concert. Prior to going, I shared the fact with contacts from the Games community. I know a piper who reached out and told me she would love to go, but hadn't been cleared for driving since she had a stroke. She suggested that she could get a ride to meet us and, perhaps, we could drive her home. When the day came, we picked her up and, as we were driving, she said she would only feel comfortable, and would only ever make, such a "forward" request within the Games community.

I first met Julie when a mutual acquaintance had her stand outside the penthouse of a building and play her pipes across my jobsite for my eight-year-old son. After that, we would see each other at one Games a year – though, sadly, not every year – for the last 14. Other examples of this hit closer to the Clan home, and include current members and members who have passed on. Before Logan was announced as Vice President, I reached out and informed Frank Davis that Logan was the "growth on my back" who, under the pen name the 'Aardvark,' had submitted write-ups for The Sporrán, so many years past. I remember when Rich Halliley, as a Regional Director, would make the trip to Florida to man the tent for us, back when both my sons were excited to attend Games. In 2012, I met a young piper and his mother from Maine at the tent at Loon, for the first time. Seven years later, that young piper, Logan Andrick, has



become a fixture at our Clan tents across New England and beyond, even playing for the Chief at the International Gathering in 2017 and as a guest at my home. These are just a few examples that can be retold by any person who has been a regular at our tents at Highland Games. Why so many examples of these stories about bonds that have formed exist, one might wonder. Dave Chagnon would say that it is our shared ancestral blood calling out! Slainte, sonas agus beartas! (Health, wealth and happiness!)

www.clandavidson.org

Clan Gregor Society - Canada Chapter



Gregors Lessons from the Past

Greetings from Clan Gregor

I trust and pray that you and yours are staying healthy and maintaining a robust sense of optimism during these challenging times. As the world struggles with managing crisis and understanding its long term effects and lessons, many are looking at global events such as The Great Depression, World Wars and Spanish Flue for indications of ways to survive challenges and emerge strong. Sometimes turning to the past can show us the way to the future. Time spent in isolation has me pondering how my Gregor ancestors survived against all odds. Time and time again the evidence points to the strength of the human spirit being the determining factor.

Turning to my library of things MacGregor, I found inspiration on page 117 of WH Murray's Rob Roy, in which he deals with the reality of starvation on top of the many years of privations experienced by his Clan as outlaws.

Rob was home in time to guide his family through a four year emergency named the 'The Hungry Years'. The twenty-five years of his life had been blessed with good harvest weather, interrupted by a few bad years widely dispersed. From 1696 to 1699, four bad seasons came in a row. The crops were blighted by rain-storming summers, early bitter frosts, and autumn blizzards, accompanied by foot-and-mouth disease (then call Murrain) among the cattle. The effects were heightened by an increase in population following three decades of good weather and the consequence was the heaviest mortality of the century.

Rob knew, perhaps for the first time, the passion of protective will. His life had not been narrowly self-centered; he had been brought up to think of his people, who were not apt to think for themselves, but his brothers and sister had been older than he, and his father masterful; no young or weak members of family had relied on him for help and protection. The land's grim challenge would come as if it were a new thing, and stirred him as never before. He felt now that the lives of his wife Mary and son James were in his hands; at whatever cost he must save and shelter them. And since Mary would feel no differently about him and her son, the pair worked as one.

In MacGregor country as elsewhere no corn grew. In the few places where it did, the yield was too small to leave seed for the spring sowing. Sheep and cattle died by the thousands. Goat meat was salted down for the first Martinmas, but that could not be

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Clan Gregor Society - Canada Chapter

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done again, for the milk of the reduced stock had become invaluable, and no one had money to buy salt. The people tried to live off cheese, and old stores of oatmeal mixed with blood, but excess caused dysentery and supplies ran out. Failing barley and oatmeal, Rob's family and Clan used every edible weed and berry available, from nettles to brambles, but no winter store could be had from these, nor sufficient meat for everyone from deer, fish, and birds. Nearly half of Scotland's one million people lived north of the Highland Line, and outside the eastern Lowlands most of them starved. Two hundred thousand vagrants were begging from door to door in 1698.

After losing most of their cattle, Rob and Mary relied on ewe's milk for cheese (daily summer yield, one pint), and goat's milk for drink (yield, one quart). They made oon by frothing up boiled milk with a cross-headed stick a yard long, twisted between the palms. The froth was supped off the top with wooden spoons, and again worked up and supped several times. No whiskey could be distilled. Instead hot water was added to buttermilk, which precipitated a white curd that could be hung like cheese in a cloth, while the liquid could be kept for weeks or months while it fermented to the sparkling drink called bland. Another emergency food was everywhere prepared from the stored husks of oats. The husks were steeped in hot water for two days, when the liquor was sieved, stirred, and boiled while it thickened to a paste called sowens. Snails were stored live for winter, when they were made into thick broth. By these and other devices the people managed to survive the first two years. After that, a third or even half the parish populations were dying or emigrating. Sir Robert Sibbald, writing in 1699, describes thin and feeble men with death in their faces begging by the waysides, accompanied by women with empty breasts and starving babies, until they dropped in the streets or lay dead by the bridletracks with grass in their mouths. The heavy death toll was caused not just by starvation but the diseases that found access to weakened bodies – typhus first and foremost in this particular famine, malaria, smallpox which was the main killer of children, and equally with these the influenza viruses.....

Fortune began to smile. In 1700 the run of good seasons returned. Rob's reputation as a man of trust had been tested and proven and his wisdom too in the eyes of his land-owning neighbours and friends who had experienced losses....

I found this account inspiring and hope you do as well. May we each rise up and find ways to help and persevere in tough times. If you have a chance to lighten someone's load in the weeks and months ahead take it. This is the true strength of the human spirit and the passion of protective will.

Wayne MacGregor Parker

Chairman Clan Gregor Society Canada Chapter

Rob Roy –His life and times- WH Murray, 1992 Richard Drew Publishing Ltd

Clan Gregor Society - Canada Chapter

The Pudrac and Puterach

For those of you who are Outlander fans here's one for your interest. Our Vice Chair Peter Lawrie met with Sam Heughan and a film crew recently at Balquhiddy to show him Rob Roy's grave, which turned into a bit more. Here Peter tells his story.

Yesterday (Sunday 22nd September) I met with Sam Heughan and Graham McTavish at Balquhiddy. They had a film crew of 14 with them. I was asked to meet with them at the Pudrac stone (See article by Peter Martin on the Puterach lifting stone in CGS Newsletter 80 - Summer 2014) I explained the standing stone was Neolithic, at least 4000 years old and aligned between Ben Vorlich and the sacred site now occupied by Balquhiddy kirk.

The Pudrac or Puidreag probably took its name from the ancient people of the glen, - hence Balquhiddy in Gaelic is phuidir, the place or dwelling of the Puidir. Thus people of Balquhiddy were known as Pudrach. Auch as Gregor Roy's brother Alasdair Pudrach.

In more modern times it was used for feats of strength by the young men of the district lifting the stone on the flat top of the monolith until a minister had it removed. A replacement weighing around 100Kg was taken from the river in 2011 and has since been lifted by a number of strongmen from around the world. Sam, himself, succeeded in lifting it.

Subsequently we met up at Rob Roy's grave. With Donald MacLaren on one side of Sam and me on the other we were invited to present our different views on whether or not Rob Roy is



actually buried there.

I explained that Coll and Ranald were tacksmen of the kirkton of Balquhiddy. Ranald lived at the inn close to the church until his death in 1786. His mother and two brothers were also in the grave. There is no commemoration of Rob Roy at Glengyle. Dorothy Wordsworth admitted in Note 14 of her 1803 book that her "well educated informant at Glengyle" (That is an incoming capitalist sheep farmer after all the MacGregors had been cleared) was wrong and Rob Roy was actually buried at Balquhiddy. Also that Sir Walter Scott reported in the introduction to his novel "Rob Roy" in 1817 that Rob Roy

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Clan Gregor Society - Canada Chapter

was buried at the Balquhiddier kirk.

Then they switched to Donald's evidence which was "It was a MacLaren kirk and the MacLarens of the day would not have allowed a MacGregor such an important position on the site of the original (pre-reformation) church"

That was it! No evidence, just an assertion.

We also discussed the infamous MacGregor raid on the MacLarens in 1558. I suggested they were encouraged either by Lord Drummond who purchased the Barony from John Ross of Craigy in 1558, or possibly by Grey Colin of Glenorchy - especially as the surviving MacLarens went to him and gave him their calp or allegiance in exchange for protection. A trick he played on many other kindreds.

We then adjourned up the glen to Monachyle

Mhor where soup and sandwiches were on offer. I made a pitch to Sam's producer and business partner Alex Norouzi, of a film about Gregor Roy from 1562, when Grey Colin refused to enfeoff him in Glenstrae to his execution at Kenmore in 1570. Featuring his marriage to Marion Campbell and her song Griogal cridhe lamenting his death and also featuring the evil and manipulative Grey Colin Campbell and a brief appearance by Mary Queen of Scots is a compelling story. He loved it, so I've emailed him some links to information to think about.

It was bucketing down on my way there and on my way home, but fortunately the rain, more or less, stayed off while we were filming. Sam and Graham reckoned it was very atmospheric.

Peter Lawrie



*Peter Lawrie, Sam Heughan and Graham McTavish
from www.glendiscovery.com)*



*CGSCC Chairman accepts challenge to lift MacLaren Chief's lifting stone at the
2018 Locheaned Games.*

Clan Hunter Association



From the Clan Officer, Tom Hunter

Greetings Clanfolk, my goodness this is shaping up to be a very exciting year for Clan Hunter Canada. First we have the Clan Gathering at Hunterston scheduled for September 2020*. We gave you some information about that in our last newsletter and I know some folks are busy making plans for a trip of a life time. However not everyone is able to do that and it remains on their "One Day" list. Which brings me to the next exciting thing happening in Canada, and that is our Clan Chief is visiting us in August and will be attending the Fergus Highland Games. Again of course, Canada is a huge country and not everyone will be able to travel over here to Ontario and join us. But we are trying to make Madam Pauline as available as we can and give everyone as many opportunities to meet her as we can. So we will have an open house in London, and the 3 days of Highland Games at Fergus which will include an opportunity to join with Madam Pauline in a Restaurant in Guelph. Final arrangements are still being worked out so lookout for more information. Something I would like everyone to do is, if you are contemplating being a part of any of these events, would you please let us know here at "Clan Hunter Canada Headquarters". I'm not looking for any definite commitment as yet just a little help in our planning. Could you do that? It's going to be a great year.

One last thought from me. I want to encourage you to attend one of the Highland Games in your area and celebrate your heritage. We will update our website at Clan-huntercanada.com with the Games where you can expect to find Clan Hunter represented. If you want to be one of our representatives that's even better and we want to hear from you.

Tom



Editor's Note: The following announcement by Madam Pauline has been taken from the Clan website

International Clan Gathering at Hunterston Castle - September 2020 -POSTPONED to 2021

Dear Clansfolk,

My thoughts are with you all in these unprecedented and difficult times, please keep yourselves safe and well especially those of you who have existing health conditions and take extra care.

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Like you all, I am following our health officials and government guidelines, to stay well.

In view of the fact that we do not know when this pandemic is likely to end and because of the current uncertainty in each country and how the virus is spreading I am rescheduling the International Clan Gathering till next year for the 3rd to 5th September so that every one may come no matter which country you live in.

If you wish to be refunded please email me at the address below otherwise your payment will be rolled over till next year.

I am available to you all in these trying times so please keep in touch and can be reached through email at

contact@clanhunterscotland.com and Messenger.

There will be updates posted to you all through our social media and by email and through your National Clan Hunter Associations newsletters. Even though our person to person contact is restricted we can all still keep in touch with our social media, email and newsletters.

Yours aye,

Madam Pauline Hunter of Hunterston

Praefectus Venatorus Regis,

Chief of Clan Hunter



Come one, Come all, to the 2020 Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games!

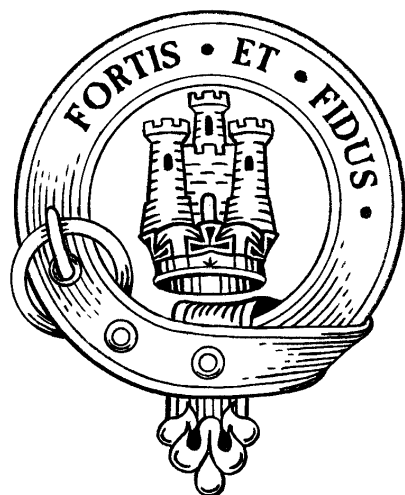
We are so excited to have Madam Pauline joining us this year! Please make every effort to attend.

The parade of clans will be on the Saturday before noon.

There will be a dinner organized for the Saturday evening for all who can attend to meet, chat, and socialize with our Clan chief and fellow clan members.



Clan Lachlan Association of Canada



President's Message

Greetings Clan Members,

I am writing this on March 21, 2020, as we await the unfolding of the COVID -19 virus crisis. We offer the deepest sympathy for those who may have suffered the loss of loved ones.

I want to give some thought to the future Of the Clan Society.

The clan system was operative as a Celtic clan lachlan from about 1200AD to postwar 1920. The era of the Clan Society stretched from about postwar 1945 to about 2010 - 2015 when social media and the internet became the leading features.

(1) Genealogy & Clan Records. The Clan and later the Clan Society had the function of recording the genealogy and tales of the clan through the role of the Sennachie. Today we have the responsibility of maintaining the Clan Lachlan Library. Each generation can add and update individual Family records.

The Library includes all the published genealogy work of Tom McLachlan, the Sennachie for 30 years. It includes all the past issues of the Clan Lachlan magazine from 1979.

(2)Old Castle Lachlan and Kilmorie Chapel are physical icons of Clan Lachlan. The Clan Society has established a restoration project for these icons. The main vehicles for fund raising are the Lachlan Trust of Scotland and the Lachlan Trust of Canada, which by their charters must be independent from the Clan Society.

(3) Kinship. Since about 1745 the members of the Clan have emigrated from their ancestral roots in Scotland and Ireland to Lowland Scotland, industrial England, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa and the United States of America. Many family members have returned to Scotland as ancestral tourists.

The Branch system has been the main vehicle for nurturing Kinship among members of the clan. This has operated from about postwar 1945 to about say 2015. It was based on attendance at Clan Gatherings and Games. This allowed the social Gatherings of some Clan Members.

(4)Future. This Branch system is being replaced by a younger generation using the tools of social media and giving instant communication of video and audio on a one-on-one basis, within a world -wide group. A group of members with common interests can form an "interest group" and the output of the group can be stored in the Lachlan Library for the benefit of future generations. This is an operation of the Society with no need for going through a Branch.

(5) Membership. The basic membership in the Clan Lachlan Association of Canada (CLA) brings membership in the Clan Society and a membership number which identifies your place in the Society data base, the right to make a donation to the Lachlan Trust which qualifies for a Canadian Tax reduction.

(6) Present Status. I am maintaining the legal entities for the Clan Lachlan Society of Canada, and the Lachlan Trust of Canada. Individual memberships in the Clan MacLachlan Society, and Donations to the Lachlan Trust of Canada have Canadian Tax benefits.

We can only hope and pray that our members and families are spared the worst impact of succumbing to this COVID-19 virus. One result is that we all now face a seemingly inevitable worldwide economic recession, and the need to tackle the problem of climate change.

Duncan MacLachlan



John McLaughlin – Contemporary World Music Musician



Album Musicians: John McLaughlin, Shankar Mahadevan, Zakir Hussain

Six years in the making, "Is that So?" is one of John McLaughlin's deepest and most profound musical collaborations with prolific Indian composer and vocalist Shankar Mahadevan. Joining the duo is their life-long friend and musical brother Ustad Zakir Hussain on the tabla, who has been collaborating with John since they founded Shakti in the early '70s, acknowledged by most to be the first groundbreaking crossover East-West musical group. 'The idea for this album appeared in my mind early 2013. Shankar and I had been touring with Shakti and I was constantly inspired by his superb voice and gigantic talent. Even though I had studied the theory and practice of Indian music for years, I remain a 'Western' musician and one aspect of Western music is the magic of harmony', says John. 'From the outset in the early 1970's, I constantly researched the possibilities of integrating harmony into the traditions of North and South India while at the same time keeping as close as possible to the melodic rules of the Raga system. However, the idea I mention above, was to abandon the rules of the Raga system completely and apply my own western harmonic liberty to

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Clan Lachan Association of Canada

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the amazing voice of Shankar Mahadevan. "Before concerts, John and I used to dabble with free improvisations using Indian scales (Ragas) and different harmonies backing them', says Shankar Mahadevan. 'The whole texture, color, feeling and the canvas of the music excited us as harmonic content does not exist in Indian classical music. In the beginning it was just a fun experiment, but it soon became larger than life and we knew we had to record it. When Zakir Hussain, the great tabla Maestro himself agreed to play in the improvisational sections we knew this would take our recording to a new level. We could not have asked for more. Is that So? is a new concept in the meeting of musicians, singers, percussionists and the musical cultures of the East and West and takes us into unexplored musical horizons.

If you wish to listen to some of his latest music in collaboration with musicians from India, you can click on the link below:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=381d_fkYCYc

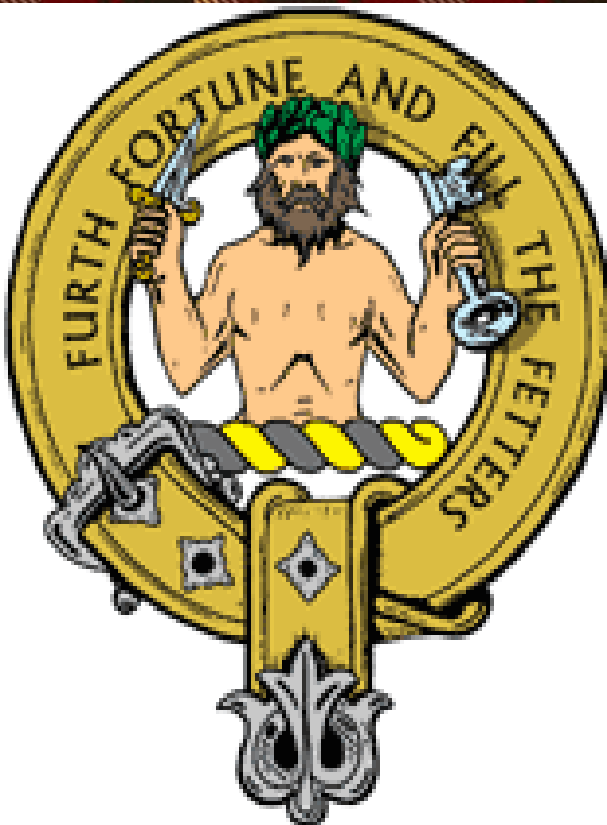
Editor's Note: Bruce Gauthier is thanked for bringing awareness of John McLaughlin and his music.



Murray Clan Society of North America

Spring 2020

By William Murray



A new decade to start our Scottish Highland Games season in Canada. I hope most of you were able to attend the Robbie Burns events near you. April 6 and Tartan day will be upon us very soon and I hope you are able to attend in all your Scottish tartans and kilts and apparel.

The Highland game, festivals and gatherings begin in May of this year with the Victoria Highland Games and Celtic festival, and in June we are at the BC Highland Games and July the Penticton and Kamloops games take place. August the Fergus Highland Festival takes place as well as the Campbell River Highland gathering is held on the same weekend in 2 different parts of the country.

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265K learners

Clan Leslie Society International



**The Honourable Alexander Leslie,
Chief of Clan Leslie**

While 2019 was a relatively quiet year for us, I know that it was 'business as usual' for all the Leslies who supported so many Games and Festivals and who represented our clan. Thank you for all your work.

This year looks as if it will be a busy one for us in Scotland. Brian and Petra Lesslie and David and Leslie Leslie are busy organising our Gathering for this year, to coincide with the Aboyne Games over the first weekend in August. This will be an exciting event and I hear from Brian that one hotel is already full of Leslies! More on this great event as we get nearer the time.

Meanwhile, at the end of last year there was another exciting event. As you may know there is an entity called the Clan Leslie Charitable Trust, which exists to collect and preserve items that belonged to the Leslies. In December a clock came up for auction that is an extraordinary piece of history in itself. It was made in 1626, for the 6th Earl of Rothes, while he was in London. Technically, it is a 'First Period' brass lantern clock and a very early example. It was made by William Bowyer, a well-known clock maker of the time. The 6th Earl also had a high profile role to play in Scottish life, being a leading Covenanter, a movement that opposed having religious beliefs and views thrust upon Scotland by the English king, Charles I. Later, in 1638, he was involved in seizing Newcastle as part of the Scottish Army and went on to London to negotiate with the king. A year or so later, the English gave the Scottish Army £60,000 to go back home! That event was 20 years in the making, as a consultant had spotted it

20 years ago and we had to wait on its sale. The event in August this year, you could say was 25 years in the making. It was 25 years ago that we gathered at Leslie Castle and this time we are celebrating the clan's 950 birthday.

We look forward to seeing you, if not in Scotland, somewhere in North America.

Alex Leslie

Clan Chief, January 2020



Chieftain's Report

Memories



In this first quarter of 2020, we are not only in a new year but also a new decade. As much as we look forward we have the opportunity to look back and assess our status as an organization and as individuals. I am pleased that CLSI membership is growing not only in the US but also Canada, Scotland and Australia. Perhaps the Clan Gathering this summer has something to do with it.

Looking back I'm sure that most of us have a number of memories hopefully mostly pleasant and eventful. Please let me share what I mean on a personal basis. I was born

and raised on a 4 generational farm in Southern Minnesota. It was a diversified, modest farm meaning that there were a lot of livestock and multiple crops grown.

I worked closely with my father and grandfather learning the value of hard work and close family relationships. The hub of the family farming operations was the large barn constructed in the late 1800s and in which the grains were stored to feed the livestock. As the oldest son, I was expected to become a farmer, continuing the operation of the Leslie farm. Much to the disappointment of my grandfather and father, I said that I wanted to become a physician but that I would remain interested in the farm and assist with its management which became the case after my father's death. Much had changed over the years. Diversified farming had disappeared and the farming operation consisted of just growing corn and soybeans as marketable commodities.

There was no need for a large barn any more. It started to deteriorate and I tried to maintain it as best I could since it was such an important part of my lifetime memories. Last summer, I was approached by a neighbor who wanted to buy the building site on which he would build a new home. That would mean the barn would be taken down. It was a difficult decision but I agreed. The barn would no longer be there but I would always have the memories.

Have you enjoyed your family memories? Perhaps CLSI helps in that regard as well as the attendance at Games and Gatherings. Also I hope you share your important family events and memories by contributing an article to the Grip Fast Journal.

Yours Aye

Loren Leslie M.D.

Clan Logan Society International



A year full of surprises

By Steven Logan

The Clan Logan Society of Canada is having a rather busy 2020. This year we celebrate our 5th anniversary as a clan organization. A total of 23 events are planned this year not counting special unplanned events. We are actively looking for Clan Logan representatives across Canada and managed to get one in Ontario, Patrick Dionne-Kuno who is active and participating with us.

Clan Logan's motto is "Hoc Majorum Virtus" which means "This is the valour of my ancestors". We believe there's great valour in promoting our heritage, traditions and ancestry with people we meet in various places. Meeting other Logans and other Scots that have the same values is important.

This year like the last, we have actively participated in events with The Royal Black Watch Regiment of Canada in Montreal. In 2020, we continue our implication with other organizations such as The Montreal Saint-Andrew's Society, The Black Watch Women's Division and Black Watch Veteran's Association.

We attended Burns night events and 2 Kilt-skates in January. In March, we will be in 2 saint Patrick's day parades, one in Ottawa on March 14th and the other one in Montreal, on March 22nd. In April, we plan on attending the "Printemps écossais" exposition at la Place des Arts and participating with the Saint Andrew's Society. we will also be attending the Quebec Thistle awards which acknowledge the contributions of various Scottish organizations who have given and improved our Scottish community. Last year, a painting done by Steven Logan featured on the cover of the booklet given to guests at this event. Clan Logan has activities each month and this doesn't include



Steven Logan with Sasha from the Black Watch Pipes and Drums at the Black Watch Dinner February 15th

Clan Logan Society International

those at The Clan Logan Society International in the USA. In June, we are at the Vista California Highland Games as it is the custom each year to support our American Logans and get our Clan updates.

This year, Steven Logan is Clans Director at The Montreal Highland Games that will happen August 2nd on the Douglas Institute grounds for a second consecutive year and is actively involved in the promotion of these games through various initiatives such as the Wellington sidewalk sales where Clan Logan shares with people locally and hosts. We will also be visible again at the Fergus festival and Highland Games where Clan Logan won best Clan in 2017.

We are trying to build close ties with the many Clans we meet because we want to be part of history again, find and reinstate our Scottish Chief and reach out to Logans across Canada.



Patrick Dionne-Kuno and Meaghan at the Ottawa Burns night on January 25th

Clan MacFarlane Worldwide



Clan MacFarlane Worldwide have been active and steadily growing in numbers. Our Facebook group is currently almost 3,000 members while over half of these are also paying members. CMW delegates plan to host Clan Tents at over 15 games and festivals in Canada and many more in the USA throughout 2020. Games have already started in Florida and California.

Currently CMW is working on launching a completely new website and updating their mission statement, vision statement and taglines to coincide with the new website. These should all be complete this spring sometime.

CMW has a trip planned to Scotland this summer which includes a visit to all of the Clan MacFarlane heritage locations and the Court of Lord Lyon Dr. Joseph J. Morrow, CBE, QC, Lord Lyon King of Arms. The Itinerary also includes Genealogy and Heraldry with Dr. Bruce Durie, and visits to Rosslyn Chapel, Tantallon Castle and Melrose Abbey.

Most societies are aware that despite the popularity of some Celtic and Scottish films and events, and the huge turnout at Highland and Celtic Festivals around North America, many groups and societies are finding it difficult to recruit younger (non-silver haired) members.

San Antonio Highland Games and Celtic Music Festival from April 3rd to 5th this spring will be having a novel recruitment event called "Kilts and Cowboy Boots". You can check it out at the following site.

<https://www.clancolquhoun.com/gathering-3/>

This event will showcase a limited number of Clans through social interaction, quiz show, physical conflict and plenty of food and whisky. Even some dancing! The only Clans that will participate in this test event are Colquhoun, Gregor, MacFarlane and Scott and an optional ticket for this is also required to be purchased. On Friday evening, at the Lion and Rose British Restaurant and Pub, there will be a meet and greet hosted by Sir Malcolm and Lady Colquhoun.

The main feature is a "How Scottish or Nottish are You" team quiz. This will pit teams of 2-3 from each Clan against each other while attempting to correctly answer Scottish based questions that have been provided by the Scottish Banner (to be confirmed). No doubt there will be some drams after the quiz to honor the Clan team with the highest score. It is important to note that all Clan attendees

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from all Clans are welcome to observe these festivities. You just cannot participate in this test event. Saturday is planned to be a really fun day.

All four Clans will have a tent of course, but all four tents will be together and readily identifiable. All will act as one large tent. There will be some athletics around midday that are so avantgarde that the professional athletes will be asked to leave the field to this event. The combatant component consists of a battle between Clan teams that will be coed, amateur, multigenerational, international members of the four Clans. Events to be held are to include tug-o-war, reverse wheat sheaf hurling, tomahawk throwing, maybe knife throwing also and there maybe some new ones on the day. This component will last about an hour, maybe a little longer if they are really good out there! The evening events continue around 7:00 pm at the Pedrotti's North Wind Ranch. There they will be entertained by the Cowboys who

no doubt will be envious of the kilts. The evening will be hosted by Sir Malcolm and Lady Colquhoun of Luss and will include a reception with Hors d'oeuvres and drinks, a performance by the Texas Horse Mounted Drill Team, a Texan BBQ buffet dinner, awards and remarks. The final event of the evening will be some active line dancing. All this is included in the optional ticket which can be purchased at an additional cost, but only if you are a member of one of the four Clans and there will be a cash bar also. I am quoting an article in the Loch Sloy newsletter: "This is designed to be fun. It is designed to show that the usually stodgy, silver haired people the public meets at their various tents are in fact pretty decent people who enjoy life. It is designed to bring different Clan people together in fun. It is designed to show you can learn while having fun, even at your own expense. It is an experiment to see if the public likes this approach". The Clans will all be watching to find out how successful this was after the fact. Hopefully positive updates can be shared in the next CASSOC newsletter.

Editor's Note: As we go to press, a check of the San Antonio Highland Games and Celtic Music Festival site <https://www.sahga.org/> shows that the event has now been cancelled. The hope is that the Kilts and Cowboy Boots will be part of the 2021 schedule.

Clan Mackay Association of Canada

Excerpts from A'Bratach Bhan (The White Banner) - Clan MacKay Association of Canada



Hadrian's Wall - Photograph courtesy of Barbara Mallalieu, Editor of A'Bratach Bahn

Cranberry Pudding

1 1/3 cup flour

1 tsp Baking Powder

½ cup molasses

2 tsp soda

Mix the baking powder, molasses and soda together. Then blend in flour.

Add ¼ cup boiling water and stir well. Add 1 cup cranberries and mix well.

Bake in greased pan at 350 degrees – one hour or steam 2 hours. Serve with a sauce.

Shortcake Stars

2 ¼ cups all purpose flour

1 Tbs Baking powder

½ tsp salt

½ cup cold butter (cut into pieces)

¼ cup milk

2 Tbs. coarse decorating sugar

2 cups sweetened whipped cream

2 ½ cups blueberries and sliced strawberries.

Heat oven to 400 degrees F. Coat baking sheet with cooking spray.

In food processor pulse flour, baking powder and salt until mixed.

Add butter, pulse until butter is the size of small peas.

Add milk, pulse until dough forms.

On floured surface, roll out to ½" thick.

Fold in half.

Roll out to ½" thick. Using 3" star cutter, cut out 16 stars, re-rolling scraps.

Sprinkle with sugar; transfer to baking sheet.

Bake until golden. 10 - 12 mins; cool.

Red Lobster Recipe—Cheese Biscuits

3 cups flour

1 Tbs baking powder

1 tsp salt

¼ tsp cayenne pepper

1/8 tsp black pepper

4 oz cheddar cheese, (cut into ¼ pieces)

1 ¼ cups milk

¾ cup sour cream

3 Tbs butter melted

1 egg

Mix all ingredients together.

Cut out biscuits and place on a 9x5 pan.

Bake 350 degrees – 45 – 50 minutes

Clan MacNeil in Canada Association

Clan MacNeil Report

By Terry Myles



Clan MacNeil is happy to report we are starting off the new year on a high note with our new President Vince MacNeil . Vince is a long time member and our clan genealogist , and lives in Bedford , Nova Scotia . We thank our past President Alene McNeill who had held just about every position on the executive at one time or another . Alene was the rock of the clan in some tough times and kept a very personal touch with all the members . Thanks for your effort , time and commitment to our clan Alene .

At a time when we all struggle with keeping our organizations relevant and strong Clan MacNeil is growing . We try to attend as many Highland Games and Festivals as we can to let members know we are active and try to help answering any questions and give them options on how to explore their MacNeil heritage . We also sell MacNeil merchandise and hand out information about the clan . I think being able to engage people is very important and I try to give some stories about who , where , and why it matters to know where you come from . We plan on attending 7 games this summer in Ontario . The list will be on our website very shortly (www.clanmacneilincanada.ca)

If you can I would love to meet you and say hello at our clan tent . I am always looking for MacNeils to walk with me at the opening ceremonies at the games , the more the merrier ! This year is the 75th anniversary of the Fergus Highland games , they have lots of special events planned and Clan MacNeil will be there in August . It's 3 days of Scottish fun and entertainment , so please come and see us and check out our tent .

Our next clan Gathering will be in August of 2021 on Barra where we will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Clan MacNeil Association of America . If you have never been to the island of Barra you are in for a treat . There is a reason they call it the Jewel of the Hebrides ! The people are super friendly , the beaches are beautiful and so clean and white , the Castle in the Sea , our Kisimul Castle is amazing and gives you a feeling of what it was like to be a MacNeil hundreds of years ago , exploring this one of a kind castle . Then to top it off , Barra is the only airport in the world where you take off and land on the sea bed!

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Clan MacNeil in Canada Association

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*Kisimul Castle on the Isle of Barra Outer Hebrides,
Scotland Seat of Clan MacNeil*

For more information on the Gathering check out the Clan MacNeil of America website and the new Clan MacNeil Global Alliance website . You will find dates , information on accommodations and travel , what to see and do on Barra and even some pictures of Barra .

There is also a tour in the works to visit the island of Colonsay and Gigha as well , which would work in with the Gathering on Barra . We are a small clan but a feisty clan and we welcome and include ALL MacNeil's from where ever you are and

any spellings and sept's names of the Clan MacNeil . If you have any question please feel free to contact myself or any of the executive and we will help you any way we can.

Wear your tartan with pride !

Aye,

Terry McNeill Myles

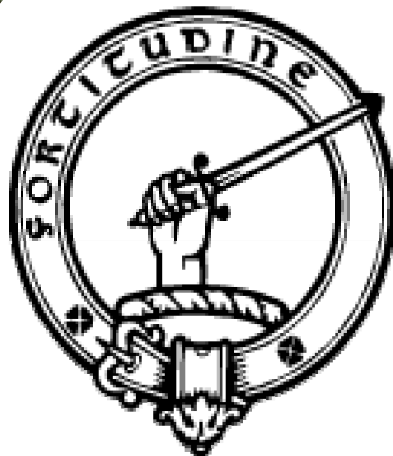
VP Clan MacNeil in Canada

A MacNeil legend has it that every evening , the 35th Chief Rory the Turbulent , would send a herald and trumpeter to the battlements of Kisimul to proclaim to each point of the compass , " Hear , oh ye people , and listen oh ye nations !

The Great MacNeil of Barra having finished his meal, the princes of the world may dine!

"Gotta love the MacNeil's !

Clan MacRae Society of Canada



Clan MacRae Society of Canada hosted many clan tents at festivals in 2019 and expect to host a clan tent at 15 during 2020. Sharon Graves-MacRae our new webmaster who lives near Ottawa created a completely new and updated website in 2019 <https://clanmacraecanada.ca> and currently is also our publisher for the quarterly newsletter called Kintail. Sharon has spent a tremendous amount of time and is also doing a fabulous job working on the online presence for Clan MacRae Society of Canada. Thank you from all of us, Sharon.



Marigold MacRae, the Honorary Commander of Clan MacRae Society Worldwide and also Honorary President of Clan MacRae Society of Canada celebrated her 90th birthday last year surrounded by family and friends.

At Eilean Donan Castle, Marigold MacRae our Honorary Commander of Clan MacRae Society Worldwide celebrated her 90th birthday surrounded by friends and family.

The 2019 Clan MacRae of Canada AGM was held May 2-5 in Nanaimo, British Columbia on Vancouver Island. The Clan even managed to enjoy a dinner with the required wee drams at Canada's only floating pub. Thanks to Gaylle and Allen MacRae for planning a successful AGM. 2020 AGM is also planned to be held in British Columbia with details yet to be worked out.

Clan MacRae Society of Canada



MacRae Society of Canada at their AGM in BC., 2019 having a leisurely day.



Clan Munro Association of Canada



Frae the President's Pen

Dear Cousins,

Wouldn't it be great if we could wake up at the beginning of next month and learn that Covid-19 was just one big April Fool's Joke? Well, the glum reality is that the pandemic is for real and we will have to deal with large scale illness, many deaths and just a bit of pandemonium. I have to say though that in my recent widespread travels, Canada has had the most sanguine approach to the crisis. The US is, well, the US, and Britain, though its collective stiff upper lip is getting a bit quivery, they're great at 'We lived through the Blitz, we can handle Coronavirus!' stoicism. The fact this is the first time since the Middle Ages that English churches have been forced to close is a grim indicator of the virulent nature of this scourge, we are all facing.

Another sad portent is that, as I type, the Scottish Football Association has stopped all club practices. And if that wasn't bad enough, even the pubs right across the UK have been closed. Yes, that's right. We don't even have a bar to go to where we can drown our sorrows. I've learned today, thanks to the wonders of texting, that I am confined to my home, thanks to my acquired vulnerability after more than 40 years of smoking. Hell's Bells, I knew giving up was a good idea last September, but little did I realise it may mean the difference between life and death in the short term.

But we humans are a remarkably adaptable lot and I am confident we will find a way through this challenging time – better and stronger and even, dare I say, happier. The fact the disease does not seem to affect young people and children the way it tackles older people is an interesting aspect of the pandemic. And we will get through this. Well, at least most of us will.

Like many trials, Covid-19 will bring out the best and sadly, the worst in people. At the risk of beginning to sound all preachy, we need to focus on the buoyant aspects of our lives now to lessen the pain and perhaps even rediscover the joys of contemplation, communication and creativity. I'm not going to pretend to know how you derive pleasure in your life, but maybe it's time to discover new ways grow and become more content.

I sincerely hope we all come through this difficult time, healthier and happier.

I wish you and your families a healthy 2020 and as the weather improves, an uplifting spring-time

Yours Aye, John W. Munro

Two Loyalist Ladies

When America's original Thirteen Colonies rebelled in 1776, not everyone agreed. Those who opposed the rebellion were branded as traitors and became known as Loyalists since they remained Loyal to the British Crown. Loyalists were harassed in many ways, some were beaten or killed, and many had all their land and possessions confiscated. They became refugees – the first refugees to come to Canada! About 40,000 travelled north to British North America (now Canada) and about 7,000 settled in what is now Ontario. These Loyalists became the Pioneers and Settlers as they cleared the land and established themselves and their families.



Jo Ann M. Tuskin, U.E. and Helen E. McCuaig, U.E.

In 1789, the Crown acknowledged the sacrifices the Loyalists had made with a 'Mark of Honour': "The Loyalists ... and all their Children and their Descendants ... are to be distinguished by the capitals, U.E., affixed to their names ... for 'Unity of Empire'."

Helen and Jo Ann have provided the documentation to the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada and now have their certificates authenticating their Loyalist status and the right to use the initials after their names. Helen's descent was not through David Munro, as she had hoped, but through Donald Ross. He came from Scotland, settled in the Mohawk Valley of New York, joined the King's Royal Regiment of New York, was wounded at Fort Stanwix, and died in a refugee camp in Laprairie, Lower Canada (now Quebec). His daughter, Mary Ross, married Hugh Munro, son of David Munro and Nancy McKay. They settled near Martintown, Glengarry Co. in Upper Canada, and are Helen's great-great-grandparents.

Jo Ann's family is descended from one of the few women who were acknowledged as a Loyalist in their own right: Catharine Reid Munro Leech. She was a widow with 6 or 7 children when she travelled across Lake Champlain to a refugee camp in Canada. Documents note that "her husband was murdered by the Rebels." Catharine and her family eventually settled near Mallorytown, ON (between Kingston & Brockville).

Several other members of CMAC are descendants of Loyalists, notably the Hon. Capt. John Munro of Matilda, and are working on attaining their certificate.

Clan Sinclair Association



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Join us in Caithness this July 24-27

Dear all,

Christmas now seems a long time ago, but I hope you all had a lovely one. Every second year we try to have a family Christmas combining Penny's family and mine.

This year it did not work as there are now too many grandchildren, dogs, horses, and other plans to make it possible, let alone having a house big enough to accommodate all of us! So, Penny and I went to our own families which meant she was with her daughter Marina and I was in Dorset with Iona. However, we had three days quietly together for 'Twixmas' in an excellent little hotel right on the sea in Devon.

When I last wrote the UK was in a horrible mess politically. However, the recent General Election produced a strong result for the Conservative Party with a big majority in the House of Commons. At last, after three years of 'treading water', the decision was made to leave the European Union. Today, everything is the same as yesterday — the real day of change will be January 1, 2021, following the 11- month transition period. In that time a new trade deal will have to be negotiated so the real discussion is still ahead of us. What will be the consequences of this move?

It has been another good year for the Clan with the hugely successful gathering in Winnipeg and, next year, I look forward to seeing many of you again in Caithness in July. It will be another opportunity to renew and strengthen existing friendship as well as make new ones. Whether you are coming to the Gathering or not, I wish you all a very Happy and Healthy 2020.

Best wishes

Malcolm

The Clan Sinclair international gathering in Winnipeg June 2019



New World's Backbone

written for the Winnipeg Gathering 2019

In this land they call The Rockies

Under cotton beds of cloud
the peaks burst up like folded shields
and the four winds swirl and howl

See the starch that crowns the mountains
Watch the green paved valley floors
Where the fir trees grow by millions
and every smoothed out canyon roars

With a channel blasting rainbows
and boiling frothing foam
Streams that hurry down to the riverbeds below
From any thousand falls of snow

I would still be just an insect
Were I forty metres tall
I could walk this place a lifetime
and never walk it all

In this land they call The Rockies
the spine of grey that never breaks
I will spend my days forever
Exploring emeralds men call lakes

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In memoriam

Alan McKenzie, ACIB, FICB, FlinstD, FSA Scot, (1936 - 2020)

It is with deep sadness that I have to report that our good friend and colleague Alan McKenzie died of cancer on January 2.

Alan joined the Scottish Studies Foundation in July 1986 when he was Senior Vice-President and Secretary of Barclays Bank of Canada.

Over the years in working tirelessly for the Foundation, Alan undertook the roles of Secretary, Treasurer and President and was the first editor of the Foundation's newsletter when, at Alan's recommendation, the decision was made to open the Foundation to general membership. There can be little doubt that it was thanks to Alan's fundraising efforts that the Chair in Scottish Studies was established in 2004.

Alan was extremely proud of his Scottish heritage and was an active participant in many Scots-Canadian events in Ontario and elsewhere in Canada. In 1987 Alan founded the Clan MacKenzie Society in Canada and for many years was Lieutenant to Cabarfeidh (the chief of the Clan, John Mackenzie, Earl of Cromartie).



His achievements in this role included mounting a campaign to restore the Mackenzie castle, Castle Leod, near Strathpeffer in Scotland and in making available an updated and indexed edition of "History of the Mackenzies with Genealogies of the Principal families of the Name," by Alexander Mackenzie MJJ.

Alan was also an enthusiastic amateur actor and appeared on the stage in various roles including George Bernard Shaw's "Joan of Arc," Oscar Wilde's "An Ideal Husband," Terence Rattigan's "The Winslow Boy" and Frank Vickery's "Trivial Pursuits." He was also the director of Norm Foster's "Office Hours."

Alan was born in 1936 at Chester, England, to Maj. William Alexander McKenzie and Ada Ethel May Cross and was educated at Sutton High School, Plymouth, England. In 1958 he married Jill Leach, daughter of Charles Leach and Flora B. Craig. Their four children are: Duncan Stuart,

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Fiona Juliet, Ian Bruce, and Catherine Alison. Sadly Jill passed away in 2006.

In 1953 Alan joined Barclay's Bank in England and emigrated to Canada in 1975 to join the Bank of Montreal in Montreal. In 1978, after a short spell as managing director of a public real estate company in Hong Kong, he rejoined Barclay's Bank in Toronto becoming a governor of the Institute of Canadian Bankers and senior vice-president, secretary and compliance officer of Barclay's Bank of Canada until his retirement in 1996.

All of us on the Scottish Studies Foundation's Board of Directors extend our deepest sympathy and condolences to Alan's wife Susan and to his children and grandchildren at this difficult time.

I have been advised that there will be a Celebration of Alan's Life at a future date and will keep you posted once details are available.

Alan will be sorely missed. He was a great human being. When will we see the likes of him again?

Sincerely,

David Hunter

President

<http://www.scottishstudies.com>

About CASSOC

Founded in 1976, CASSOC is an organization for organizations. Our primary purpose is to provide coordination and communication between our member groups. We encourage the celebration of our Scottish cultural heritage and the promotion of this Scottish culture in Canada in all its aspects. We seek to be the assembly of all groups in Canada who are pursuing Scottish interests.

Membership in CASSOC is open to any and all organizations which promote or encourage some aspect of Scottish tradition or culture, represent a link between the Scottish people and their descendants and relations in Canada, or seek to develop an understanding of the role Scotland and its culture has played in the development of Canada and its history.

Patrons:

Charles Edward Bruce, Lord Bruce, DL MA MSc FSA Scot

Major The Hon. Sir Lachlan MacLean of Duart, Bt. CVO DL

Meetings 2019 - 2020:

The Delegates' Assembly meeting was last held on April 28, 2019,

The last General Assembly meeting was held on November 24, 2019

The next Delegates' Assembly meeting will be on April 26, 2020, at the North York Central Library, Toronto, ON.

The next Annual General Assembly meeting will be held on November 22, 2020, at the North York Central Library, Toronto, ON.

AN DROCHAID – The Bridge is the newsletter of CASSOC and will be published in March, June, September and December. Items for publication should be submitted to the Editor, editor@cassoc.ca

Guidelines for submissions are:

Submissions due by the first of the month of publication

Word/text readable format is preferred

A grant of right of use for publication and posting on the web is implied

Submitter must be able to legally provide the above. For instance, please ensure that you have image rights for persons in photographs.

Publication of material is at the sole final discretion of the newsletter editor

Format, length and content may be adjusted by the editor as deemed necessary

CASSOC, the editor and agents assume no responsibility nor liability for submitted content in terms of factual correctness or right of use.

All submissions will be published with the implied or explicit attribution of source.

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Any member group of CASSOC may submit an advertisement to AD at no cost.

Website:

The website contains, among other things, a list of Scottish and Celtic Events in Canada, Canadian Regional tartans, and a list of our member groups with a link to their websites and other digital media, as well as their membership contact information. On the Events list, for each date, our member group events are highlighted with a link to their website.

www.cassoc.ca

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About An Drochaid

An Drochaid - The Bridge

Each edition of the newsletter will feature a new image of a bridge submitted by our group members or otherwise sourced

This edition features the Glenfinnan Viaduct with the 'The Jacobite' rounding the curve.

Attribution : Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic License (96tommy)

Many thanks to all who have provided pictures, please feel free to submit your favourite images of crossings to us. Details and attribution such as license and owner is needed.

An Drochaid is published quarterly.

Submissions are extraordinarily welcome, though articles may be edited for length or content.

Whenever possible, please provide Word, RTF or text formats

The next issue of An Drochaid will be the Summer issue.

Please try to provide submissions by the first week in June

Submissions should be emailed to editor@cassoc.ca

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