



An Drochaid - The Bridge

Comhla ri Cheile ~ Together with Accord

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Bhon cheann-suidhe - From the Chair

From the Chair: Navigating Our Growth and Upcoming Events

About This Issue

With this newsletter clocking in at 130 pages, it's clear we need to rethink our publication strategy in light of our growing membership and evolving needs. To keep our content timely and relevant, we've introduced the Scots Canada Update email, which goes out about twice a month. Reflecting on my past consulting roles, I've learned that addressing the root causes of issues—rather than just their symptoms—is key to finding effective solutions. Similarly, we're tackling our publication challenges head-on, recognizing that our growth from 49 members in 2019 to over 100 has outpaced our traditional quarterly newsletter schedule.

To address this, we're considering a mid-summer edition to better spread out festival content and moving announcement-type articles to the Scots Canada Updates. We will test these strategies over the next few quarters.

Roadshow Summary

Our member banner display tour is nearing its end, with only the Niagara Celtic Heritage Festival and the new LBA Highland Games remaining. The tour has been a learning experience, with standout moments such as the 30' back wall setup at Montreal, and the inventive 'soft poles' designed by our Maritime Vice Chair, Paul Elliot, for displaying new member posters.



While we only have a couple of games left, we're excited about upcoming opportunities, including the St. Andrew's Charity Ball and the Scottish Society of Ottawa's Hogman'Eh celebration. We're also tracking the effectiveness of our banner displays and Celtic Life ads, and will report on their impact in future publications.

One exciting development underway is our new set of banners featuring the 'Scots Canada Ancestral Map.' This innovative solution addresses the limitations of traditional clan maps and aims to better answer visitors' questions about their ancestral origins.

Symposium for Growth and Success

Organizing the Symposium for Growth and Success has been a bit delayed due to the busy festival season and newsletter production. However, we've had productive discussions with Bart Forbes of COSCA and have valuable insights from the Clan Conclaves featured in this issue. One key lesson is the importance of appreciating volunteers' time and resources. I'll be seek-

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Bhon cheann-suidhe - From the Chair



The thirty foot banner wall at the Montreal Highland Games

(Continued from page 2)

ing further guidance on this topic at an upcoming Volunteer Canada meeting.

Upcoming AGM

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) is on the horizon, and registration is now open. We'll provide more details soon, including minutes, agenda, and other essential information. A major agenda item will be proposed bylaw changes to establish a membership class for individuals, refine vice chair roles, introduce youth delegates, and other measures to advance our organization and enhance our mission. These changes are designed to foster youth engagement, represent regional interests, and create a sense of belonging for those outside traditional clans.

In Summary

I want to extend my gratitude to all contributors for their articles, especially for meeting the earlier deadline. Recent readings and the Scottish Studies Foundation presentation on Máel Coluim III ('Canmore') have prompted reflections on how we understand historical transitions. The evolution of Scotland—from the Picts and Irish invaders to Norman rule and beyond—illustrates the fluidity of history and reminds us that our organization must adapt similarly to continue thriving.

Thank you for your ongoing support and engagement as we navigate these exciting times together.

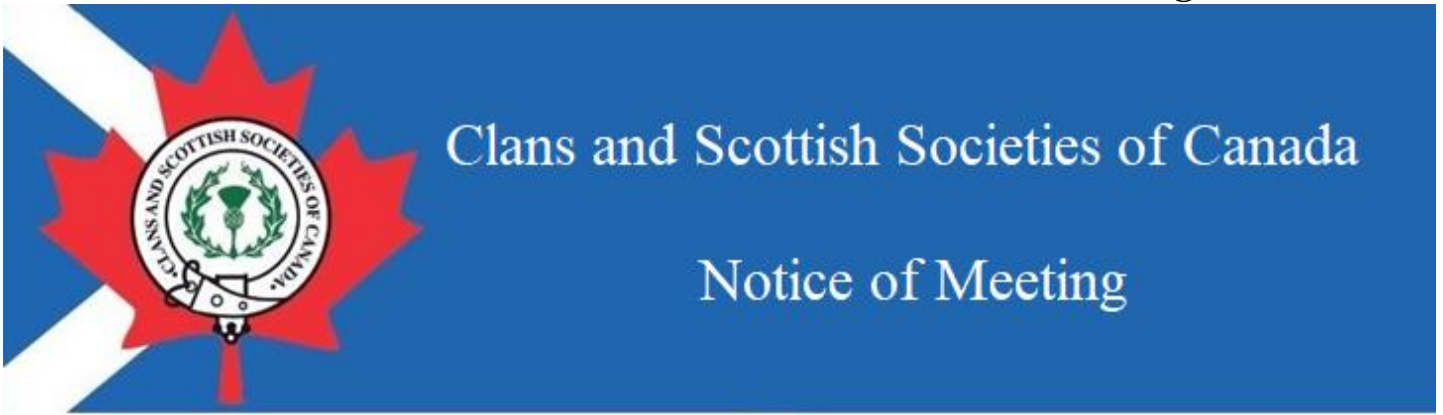
Cheers,

William Petrie

Chair, Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada

chair@scotscanada.ca

Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada - Notice of Meeting



The next Annual General Assembly Meeting of Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada will be:

DATE: Sunday 24 November 2024

TIME: 3:00 p.m. ET

PLACE: Virtual Only by Zoom

Registration is REQUIRED by Saturday, November 23, 2024

To register and more details on the meeting, go to <https://www.scotscanada.ca/AGM2024>

- After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing the link to join the meeting.
- Save this confirmation email and enclosed link. We suggest that you keep the link and instructions with your calendar entry if possible.
- A reminder confirmation will be sent in the morning of the meeting day
- Registrations and emails about joining will not be processed once the meeting has commenced.
- If you have concerns about the instructions and joining, please contact us at agm@scotscanada.ca for assistance.

Events affecting your Group are important to us all, so your presence is important. Sharing ideas and information between and among Members is a primary objective of CASSOC.

The purpose of the Meeting is:

- To consider the financial statements and reports
- To approve any bylaws changes
- To elect directors
- To transact such other business as may properly be brought before the meeting

If you are unable to attend, please try and arrange an alternate delegate for your Group.

A Proxy form may be requested from the Secretary:

Jo Ann Tuskin
78-24 Fundy Bay Blvd
Scarborough, ON, M1W 3A4
416-492-1623
secretary@cassoc.ca



23rd Niagara Celtic Heritage Festival & Highland Games

September 14 & 15, 2024

Saturday 10am-10:30pm

Sunday 10:00am-7:00pm

NOW THE LARGEST CELTIC GATHERING IN NEW YORK STATE

<https://www.niagaraceltic.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/niagaraceltic>

Festival Location:

Niagara County Fairgrounds

4487 Lake Ave. (Rte. 78)

Lockport, NY, 14094

info@niagaraceltic.com

Visit the Scots Canada - CASSOC Roadshow Booth while you're there!

LBA Highland Games - New Member

HIGHLAND GAMES

- Open stone
- Light weight for distance
- Heavy weight for distance
- Light hammer
- Heavy hammer
- Weight over bar
- Caber toss x2

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Fiddle playing
- Highland dancing

PIPE BANDS

- 78th Fraser Highlanders
- Elgin Pipe Band
- R.C.M.P.

BONUS GAME OPTIONS

- Caber distance
- Keg toss
- Sheaf toss



LBA Highland Games

Provided by the Livestock Breeders Association of the District of Beauharnois Inc.

We are a not for profit organization, in existence since 1910. We are known for our major agricultural fair (Ormstown fair) and in recent years have started creating new events on our fairgrounds, like the first ever Highland games September 22, 2024. We are all volunteers, with one full time employee. Our events are aimed to give back to the community and to help support agriculture, local and education.

Sunday September 22nd

Gates open at 11:00 am – Free entrance for everyone!

Ormstown Exhibition,
1 Rue McBain,
Ormstown, Quebec
J0S 1K0

<http://www.expoormstown.com>
Contact Us: manager@expoormstown.com

The Scots Canada Roadshow will be there. Ask about your group attending as well!

Brìghde Chaimbeul Canadian Tour 2025

Exciting News: Brìghde Chaimbeul Canadian Tour 2025!

Prepare to be enchanted by the mesmerizing sounds of Brìghde Chaimbeul, a pioneer in Celtic experimentalism and a master of the Scottish smallpipes. Known for their mellower, more emotive tone compared to the Highland bagpipes, the smallpipes are brought to life in extraordinary ways by Brìghde on her upcoming Canadian tour.

About Brìghde Chaimbeul (Breech-huh Campbell)

Hailing from the Isle of Skye, Brìghde Chaimbeul is a native Gaelic speaker deeply rooted in her cultural heritage. She began as a prodigy of traditional music and has since embarked on a groundbreaking journey, taking the smallpipes into innovative and uncharted territories. Her unique approach to arranging pipe music emphasizes the instrument's rich textural drones and creates a trance-like atmosphere with a captivating, virtuosic fluidity.



A Fusion of Tradition and Innovation

Brìghde's music is a fascinating blend of traditional piping and contemporary influences. Her latest album merges ambient, avant-garde, and electronic sounds, showcasing her versatility and creativity. Her work has earned her numerous accolades, including the BBC Young Folk Award, the BBC Horizons Award, and a SAY Award nomination. Brìghde's impressive list of collaborators includes Caroline Polachek, Colin Stetson, Gruff Rhys, and Aidan O'Rourke.

Craftsmanship and Performance

The smallpipes Brìghde performs with are crafted by the renowned Fin Moore and Hamish Moore, ensuring exceptional quality and sound. Her performances are described as haunting, entrancing, breathtaking, and beautiful, redefining Scottish folk music for the 21st century with understated virtuosity.



Join Us for the Tour

Don't miss the opportunity to experience Brìghde Chaimbeul's transformative music live. For more details about the Canadian tour in March/April 2025, visit: <https://www.brichaimbeul.com/>.

Be a Part of the Tour

Bookings are available through:
Andrew Patterson
<andrew@heavy-trip.com>

Clan Bell North America

President's Message

Tracing Royal and Noble Roots:

Clan Bell's Connection to the Historic Ordo Balliolensis

Our friend, and Clan Bell North America representative in the UK, Peter Bell gives a good report on his visit to the Ordo Balliolensis, and we need to celebrate what that means about the amazing history of the Bell family.

We are not aware of any other Scottish clan with so many knights in their history that they have an order of knighthood for their family.

Ordo Balliolensis is the Bel Balliol order of knighthood that has been in existence for over 1,000 years. Bell knights fought in every crusade and as mercenaries across Europe. Several of the knights in the order have noble titles and are from the Bells who did not participate in the Norman Conquest.



Queen Elizabeth II was an honored knight in this order, in part because she had a Bell ancestor (Sir Robert Bell who was speaker of the English House of Commons, 1572-1576). The order was for people with Bell lineage and more recently allowed others without Bell lineage to join.

This order is named after John I de Balliol, who funded scholars and started Balliol College around 1263 - the oldest college of Oxford University and the oldest college in the English speaking world.

John Balliol's son was later King John Balliol of Scotland, and his grandson Edward Balliol was a claimant to the Scottish throne during the Scottish wars of independence.

It is clear that Bells made significant contributions to history, and we carry on that world changing tradition.

Slainte Mhath!

Joseph Bell

*From the Seton Armorial, John Balliol and his wife.
Scanned from Four Gothic Kings, Elizabeth Hallam, ed.*

My Visit to The Ordo Balliolensis

Bouillon, Belgium 11-12 May 24 - Article submitted by Peter J. Bell, CBNA International Associate for the UK

I have recently had the pleasure of being invited to an investiture of chivalric knights, or Chevaliers. These orders claim descendancy from knights and families from the 10th century and have long and proud histories. Invitees are often father to son relationships or friends and or cousins. I was attracted to the Ordo Balliolensis (OB) when I looked them up and found they wore the same kilt that I did. I had to enquire. It turns out that "Balliolensis" is Latin for Bell, so this means that John Balliol of Oxford college fame is "one of us" as well as his son who was at one time King of Scotland, but this was the 13th century and a long way from Redcloak*. The order is basically "for the Bell family"



Figure 1 Family ring of the Belgian Bels

The OB is a chivalric order that descends from the lords of Bels or Belle that accompanied Godfrey of Bouillon on the first crusade (~1097) helping him to rid the Holy Land of non Christians (probably with a lot of smiting and other violent means) to allow access to the holy places for pilgrims from Europe. These

chaps hailed from Flandres (Where today's Belgium and the south Netherlands currently exist). Talking to the Grand Master of the order Robert Bels, who like our President Joe and John L Bell has done a lot of work in tracking lineages, he has a theory that one of the family accompanied William the Conqueror on his adventure to England in 1066 and was rewarded with a bit of Scotland for his service to the king.

This is still 300-400 years before Red-cloak. Robert Bels was asked by St Andrews University of Edinburgh to put forward his theory and they not only accepted and verified it, but have incorporated it into a seminal paper, which I am trying to get hold of. In further discussions with Robert (over a fine dinner and lots of wine) I suddenly noticed he was wearing a ring, closer examination showed a distinctive motif. Now where had I seen that before, then I remembered the visit to the UK by my new friends Kenneth & Debra Bell and their pictures of the gravestones in Middlebie Churchyard. It



Figure 2 Gravestones in Middlebie Churchyard

* Clan Bell's last recognised chief, William Redcloak Bell died in 1628.

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Clan Bell North America

(Continued from page 9)

seems that the motif was moved over from Flandres to Scotland carried by the Lords of Middlebie. (you will note that the bell in the ring has a distinct European flavour as this ring is 18th Century, however I found a bell from the middle ages in the Castle of Godfroy de Bouillon which looks more like the Scottish emblems.)

Then it was dinner time and imagine my surprise when four of us all appeared in the same kilt. The photo shows Heiko Bels, Peter Bell (me) Robert Bels (no close relation) and Mr Bels (father of Heiko) . So that's a German, Scot, Belgian and a German all having a brotherly dinner together wearing the same tartan without any of us knowing about the other. Over drinks later they told me that they all call the kilt design "The Colonels Kilt" obviously after Col. William Bell the designer of the Bell of the Borders tartan – he is well known in Europe. Then Heiko announced he was wearing the kilt bequeathed to him when Jim Bell died, who would have thought that was CBNA history in the making.



Figure 3 : 14th century bell from the church within Bouillon Castle.



Heiko Bels, Peter Bell (author), Robert Bels, and Mr Bels (father of Heiko)

Hutchison House Museum

PA Day Camp : Teddy Bears !



A hands-on activity, children will love making their very own teddy bear. Many different skills are involved in the creation of this toy, from cutting and sewing to drawing and decorating, the final result is oh, so satisfying.

The Camp is **Friday September 27, 2024 from 9:30am - 12pm** and are suitable for children ages 6-12. The cost is \$25 per attendant and pre-registration is required. Children are encouraged to bring their own peanut free snacks. For more information or to register phone 705-743-9710.

Doors Open Peterborough

Hutchison House Museum is participating in Doors Open Peterborough on **Saturday September 14, 2024 from 10am – 4pm. Admission is free.**

Enjoy tours of the museum and hearth demonstrations by costumed interpreters, and our temporary exhibit 'Drink it up.'

For more information on Doors Open activities at the museum please contact the office at 705-743-9710 or for more information on other Doors Open Peterborough events please visit their website at <https://www.doorsopenontario.on.ca/pages/events/peterborough>.



Silent Auction



Friday September 13, 2024 - Monday September 30, 2024. Hutchison House Museum will be hosting a Silent Auction with a variety of donated items to raise money for the ongoing maintenance of the museum. Auction items range from Framed Artwork, rare books, and more! Auction items will be on display in the Harvey Connal Room of the museum and online on our Social Media channels from September 13-30. Bids can be made by emailing or calling the museum office.

Winners will be able to pick up their purchases between October 1-4. Thank you so much to everyone for your support. For more information please contact the museum office at 705-743-9710.

Membership Report

The following lists our current 103 members with the 5 new members since the Spring newsletter highlighted in red. Clan Pringle has been removed from membership per our bylaws.

Clans and Families

Clan Baird Society Canada	Clan Leslie Society International
Clan Bell North America	Clan Logan Society of Canada
Family of Bruce International, Inc.	The Clan MacAlpine Society
Clan Buchanan Society International	Clan MacAulay Association
House of Burnett	Clan MacBeth
Clan Cameron Canadian Branch	Clan MacDougall Society of North America
Clan Campbell Society (North America)	Clan MacDowell (CMSNA)
Clan Carruthers Society International	Clan MacEwen Society
Clan Chisholm Society Canada Branch	Clan MacFarlane Worldwide
Clan Colquhoun of Canada	MacFie Clan Society in Canada
Learned Kindred of Currie	International Association of Clan MacInnes
Clan Davidson Society of North America	The Clan MacKay Association of Canada
Clan Donald Canada	The Clan MacKenzie Society of Canada
Edmonstone Clan Society	Clan MacLaren of North America
Elliot Clan Society of Canada	Clan MacLellan of America
Clan Farquharson Canada	Clan MacLennan Canada
Clan Fergusson Society of North America	Clan MacLeod Societies of Canada
Clan Forbes Society, Inc	Clan MacNeil in Canada Association
Clan Fraser Society of North America	Clan MacNicol Society of North America
House of Gordon Canada	Clan MacPherson Canadian Branch
Clan Graham Society Inc	Clan MacRae Society of Canada
Clan Gregor Society Canada Chapter	Clan MacTavish
Clan Gunn Society of North America	Clan MacThomas Society
Clan Hope of Craighall Society	Clan Munro Association of Canada
Clan Hunter Association of Canada	Murray Clan Society of North America
Clan Irving	Clan Paisley Society
Clan Irwin Association	Clan Ramsay International
Clan Johnston/e in America	Clan Shaw of Canada
Kennedy Society of North America	Clan Sinclair Association of Canada
Clan Kincaid Association International	Clan Skene Association
Clan Lachlan Association of Canada Inc.	Clan Strachan Society
Clan Lamont Society of North America	The Clan Watson Society
Clan Lennox	Youngs of Scotland

Membership Report

Societies

Greater Moncton Scottish Association	Scottish Society of Ottawa
New Brunswick Scottish Cultural Association	The Thistle and The Fleur De Lys
St Andrew's Society of Toronto	Westman Scottish Association
Scottish Studies Foundation	

Games, Festivals & Events

Cambridge Scottish Festival	Niagara Celtic Heritage Festival and Highland Games
Canmore Highland Games	Northumberland Scottish Festival and Highland Games
Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games	Orillia Scottish Festival
Georgetown Highland Games	Red Deer Highland Games
Glengarry Highland Games	The Saltire Gathering
Kincardine Scottish Festival & Highland Games	Sherwood Park Highland Games
Kingsville-Essex Highland Games	Sydney Mines Highland Games
LBA Highland Games	Uxbridge Scottish Festival
Montréal Highland Games	Victoria Highland Games and Celtic Festival
North Lanark Highland Games	
National Capital Highland Games	

Enterprise and Media

Burnett's & Struth Scottish Regalia Ltd.	ScotlandShop
House of Cassady	Sheena's Scottish Shortbread
Clan Designer	Taylor's Tartans
Celtic Life International	Tay Piping
The Scottish Banner	William Glen & Son Canada Ltd

Historical and Sports

Flagstaff Scottish Club	Rugby Canada
Hutchison House Museum	

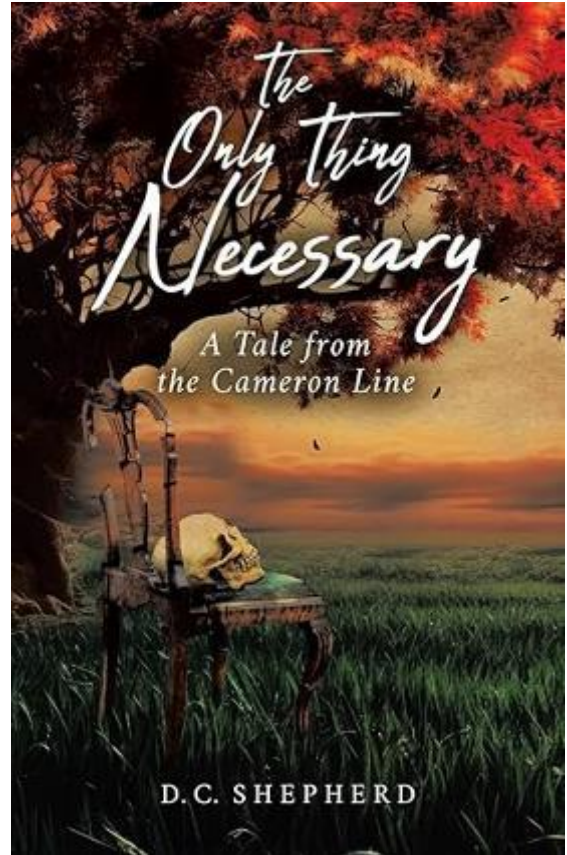
Clan Cameron Canadian Branch - Book Review



The Only Thing Necessary: A Tale from the Cameron Line

Author D.C. Shepherd, Clan Cameron Member

Review by Anne Cameron, Secretary for Clan Cameron



"The Only Thing Necessary: A Tale from the Cameron Line" is a story of Black history in Canada that you won't want to miss. Presented in novel form, it is based on the escape to Ontario, across the Detroit River, by African-Americans prior to the start of the Civil War. It is both alarming and charming, skillful storytelling told with characters and plots that draw you in. The presence of Confederate states bounty hunters in Canada is a piece of history I knew nothing about. The "vigilance committee", small groups of activist south-western Ontario citizens in the late 1850's, is a tale of compassion and unimaginable bravery. A powerful read.

About the author : Dave Shepherd is a recovering teacher who writes in various genres to slow the onset of senility. His first novel, Singing in the Chipmunk Choir, was written at a young adult level for his grandchildren to explain why he will die in poverty and to expose the nastiness of his only enemy, Girl Guides of Canada. His second novel, The Only Thing Necessary: A Tale from the Cameron Line, will appeal to adult readers of historical fiction and anyone who enjoys a fast-paced adventure with memorable characters. Dave lives near Barrie, Ontario. In no particular order, he enjoys motorbikes, good journalism, animals, gluttony, dark beer and scotch. He has one wife, three children, and two cats. His latest project is a children's book about Pendrockle, a cat who learns how to read.

Dave may be contacted by email at : daveshepherd@sympatico.ca

Clan Cameron Canadian Branch - At Kincardine and Embro



Clan Carruthers Canada - yDNA Project



From Far and Wide

The words in the Canadian National Anthem, “From far and wide”, resonated true with me this week, as I embarked on a quest to document a clan member’s origins. The story began with a mere membership renewal which morphed into a genealogical pursuit, and resulted in revealing just how small our world truly is.

The Clan Carruthers Society International spearheads a Carruthers yDNA project, to include building a Master Carruthers Family Tree on Ancestry, which helps to support our research. When Jeffrey Carruthers of Canada renewed his membership this year, I realized that his family line was not in the tree, reached out to him for information.

Jeff can trace his family definitively to William Carruthers, who came to Canada, from London, England, in 1843, with a brother, George, and one other brother, whose name is yet unknown. As an off-side, my initial research into Jeff’s family tree, is a prime example of a genealogist’s frustration with amateur research, where improperly sourced family trees have created a domino effect of errors. While tracing William and George, I found several online trees with this Jeff’s William, baptised in 1803 in Bewcastle, with John Carruthers and Mary Telford as parents.

However, Jeff had told me that William’s father was William, and looking further at the online trees, I found that they were not appropriately sourced, and thus Jeff’s information would likely have more credence. In an effort to confirm Jeff’s William’s parents, I found that I first needed to document John and Mary’s tree to exclude them.

There were several children born to John and Mary, all baptised in Bewcastle, but no George. It is somewhat unusual to have several recorded baptisms in sequential years, and yet miss one child in between.

And in the same year that Jeff’s great-uncle, George, was born, in 1796, John and Mary had a son named, John.

To top that off, Mary Telford died in 1836 in Bewcastle, and it is very evident that William and George’s mother did not.

Thus, it is clear to me that the online trees are incorrect: John and Mary are not William and George’s parents.

While we continue to research for supporting documentation to confirm William and George’s father as William, we are certain that their mother’s name was Mary. William married Delilah Pottinger on 27 May 1832 at St. Mary’s Lambeth in Surrey. They had 5 children in England before leaving for Canada. They appeared to move around a bit as each child was baptised in a different location.

William Elijah was born 06 Oct 1831 and baptised 26 Sep 1832 in Ashampstead, Berkshire

George Benjamin was born 26 Oct 1833 and baptised 26 Nov 1833 in Basilden, Berkshire

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Mary Ann was born in 1836 and baptised 04 Dec 1836 in Lambeth, Surrey

Jane was born 31 Aug 1838 and baptised 23 Sep 1838 at Lambeth St. John, Surrey. This is where we learn that father, William, was an upholsterer, and that they lived on Manners Street

Thomas was born 06 Jun 1841 and baptised 04 Jul 1841 at Paddington in London

On 01 May 1843, 40-year-old William Carruthers, gentleman, disembarked from the ship "Wellington" at the port of New York, USA. His wife, Delilah, and the 5 children named above, were in tow. Also, with them, is 76-year-old Mary Carruthers, hence we are confident that Mary was William's mother.

Then Jeff located some documentation that his brother had provided to him, and within it, was an aunt's transcription of family bible records, that identify Mary as Mary Bull from Whitchurch in Buckinghamshire, and it listed all of her children and their birthdates, but still does not identify Mary's husband's name. After researching all of the children, every one of their baptisms in Whitchurch were found, except for William, which is a bit of an enigma, and all of them listed George Carruthers as the father. As for William, there is a baptism of an Ann Carruthers, daughter of George and Mary, baptised the same month that William was born, who was not listed on the family bible records. I am convinced that the baptism transcription of Ann is actually William.

We cannot locate a corresponding image, and unfortunately there is likely information on the image that could confirm my suspicion. There is no gender on the transcription, but I've seen handwriting where Wm could easily have been transcribed as Ann. Either way, with all of the other 6 children from the family bible matching all the corresponding baptism records, I am confident that William's parents are George Carruthers and Mary Bull from Whitchurch.

It is unclear what happened to Mary. The family settles in Caradoc in Middlesex County in Ontario, Canada shortly after landing in New York, and William and Delilah's next son, John Peter, was born there on 01 Apr 1844. They had 3 more sons born in Caradoc: James Dugald, born on 26 May 1846, Robert John, born 20 Jun 1848, and Arthur, born 16 Sep 1850, before the 1851 Canada Census commenced on 12 Jan 1852. On that census in the township of Caradoc, 49-year-old, William, yeoman, is living with his wife, Delilah, and 9 children. Mother, Mary, is no longer with the family, and she is not found living anywhere else. Thus, Mary likely died any time between landing in New York in May 1843 and Apr 1844, when the family is known to be in Caradoc. William and Delilah had one more child after the 1851 census: Ellen, born 27 Dec 1853.

55-year-old brother George is also living in Caradoc on the 1851 census, with his 50-year-old wife, Mary. No children are living with them. It is unknown where the 3rd brother settled.

Moving back to Jeff's direct line of the family and discovering family connections from "far and wide", Jeff tells me that his grandfather, Charles Arthur, son of the above-named Arthur, and grandson of William and Delilah, moved from Melbourne Village in Caradoc to a small farm on what is today, Col-

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Clan Carruthers Canada - yDNA Project

(Continued from page 17)

lege Avenue, in Guelph, Ontario, later moving to Crimea Street, where he died in 1969. And here, our two worlds just collided! I grew up in Guelph, and my sister, Leanne Caron still resides there, and is the website administrator for Guelph Heritage, is a City Councillor for Ward 5, and has recently become the Marketing/Membership Director for Clan Carruthers – Canada.

Leanne launched a search for the exact location of the Carruthers farm, to find that it is on the site of the present-day [closed] College Avenue Public School, where Leanne, and I, and our brother, David, all attended school. Delving further into the Wellington County Archives, Leanne not only found an article on Jeff's aunt, Lourene [Carruthers] Scott, who was the 3rd vice-president of the Guelph area Women's Institute, but also, she found a picture of the farm, before the school was built in 1959.

Jeff described the property as he remembered it, "a small farm, with a large hill in the back, behind a large barn". Leanne confirmed that "there is still a hill in the back! Behind the school are sports fields, and then it links with the local hydro corridor and municipal park. It is a favourite place for tobogganing."

Jeff further recalls: "There was an addition on the right side (facing the house) where Rod and Lourene lived until they bought their own farm. As I remember, the kitchen was in the back (that's where my grandfather would gather with my father and other siblings, to talk politics). And there was a living room on the right where we would play Euchre and a bedroom on the left. When I stayed there overnight, I'd sleep on an uncomfortable couch in the front right, below the window."

(Continued on page 19)



Photo credit: Wellington County Museum and Archives

Clan Carruthers Canada - yDNA Project

(Continued from page 18)

It never ceases to amaze me, how we all originate from places “far and wide” and yet can converge with our distant relatives, decades and centuries later in a small town on the other side of the world!

Author: Laurie Caron, FSAScot
Secretary/Treasurer and Senior Genealogist
Clan Carruthers – Canada

"England, Surrey Parish Registers, 1536-1992", FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QGZB-QJWV>: Accessed 16 Jul 2024), Entry for William Carruthers and Delilah Pottinger, 27 May 1832.

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Year: 1851; Census Place: Middlesex, Canada West (Ontario); Schedule: A; Roll: C-11737; Page: 3; Line: 16

Clan Carruthers Canada - Inauguration of the Chief

Annan Festival and the Gathering of the Clans

The inauguration of Dr. Simon Peters Carruthers of Holmains, Chief of Clan Carruthers



A historic day occurred on August 24th, 2024, in Annan, Dumfries & Galloway, Scotland. The chief of Clan Carruthers, Dr. Simon Peter Carruthers, was inaugurated - an event that happens only once in about every 100 years. Clan Carruthers had been without a chief since 1809, upon the death of John Carruthers, 12th of Holmains. Beginning in 2007, after several years of research by Dr. George Carruthers and petitions to the Lord Lyon, it was determined that Peter was the rightful heir, descending from the chiefly line of Holmains, and in 2019, the Lord Lyon confirmed Peter as Chief of the clan. What made this day even more special is that the inauguration took place on the Carruthers ancestral lands in Annandale, at the first ever Annan Festival and Gathering of the Clans, in the presence of several of Peter's fellow chiefs and commanders from Clans Agnew, Irving, Hannay, Hunter, Arthur, McEwen, who had all been welcomed by Fiona Armstrong, Lord Lieutenant of Dumfries and wife of the Chief of Clan MacGregor. Representatives from clans MacLaine, Johnston and Armstrong attended as well.

The day was hectic for the organizers. As is typical for Scottish weather, the rain forced a change in venue, due to flooding at the original location. But everyone came to the plate; the tents and marquees were pitched, the sunshine prevailed, and the people came. The festival began with the parade of the chiefs, followed with performances by the Teviotdale Steel Bonnets and the Time Bandits - both groups bringing historic stories to life and with displays of sword play and duelling. There were mini Highland Games, performances by Spectrum, a group of young fiddlers, some highland dancers, and a phenomenal show by Clanadonia, a tribal drum and pipe band. The clan tents each provided information about their respective clans, and genealogy advice dispensed. The day closed with the inauguration of Dr. Simon Peter Carruthers of Holmains, Chief of Clan Carruthers hosted by the Shennachie to the Chief, Dr George Carruthers, FSA Scot.

Peter received his Letters Patent from Sir Crispin Agnew of Lochnaw, Albany Herald Extraordinary, a senior member of



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Clan Carruthers Canada - Inauguration of the Chief

(Continued from page 20)



the Lyon Court and representative of the Lord Lyon. The Letters Patent is issued by the Lord Lyon King of Arms of Scotland on behalf of the Sovereign, and names Peter as Chief of the Name and Arms of Carruthers. The inauguration saw the blessing, the oath by the Chief to the Clan, the oath by the representative of the elders and gentry of the chief, in this case by the Shennachie, and the clan to the Chief. It is through the Chief that the name Carruthers is officially recognised in Scots law as a Noble Incorporation. The inauguration and exchange of oaths taken by the clan and family on the ancestral home of Carruthers, accepts and

recognises him as the Chief of Carruthers. It is the final piece in a process that started in 2007.

Clan Carruthers continued into the evening with a dinner and ceilidh at the Annandale Distillery, and also met the following morning, again at the Distillery, for breakfast and an AGM, where Dr. George Carruthers announced his retirement as Clan Convenor, and turned the reins over to Michael Carruthers, previously Clan Commissioner for the UK. George is now appointed as the Clan Shennachie - the clan "storyteller and historian" which is so befitting! The morning was followed by a bus tour of various Carruthers lands. First to Carruthers Farm, just outside Waterbeck, where Birrens Hill and Carruthers Fell could be seen, where sits the ruins of the original Caer Rydderch (pronounced Ruthers in the old Brythonic language) fort, from which our name is taken. The farm is still inhabited by a Carruthers, wife of the owner, who retained her name and the welcome was second to none. Then off to Rammerscales, which once formed part of the lands of Holmains, and today is owned by the Bell-MacDonald family, again a warm welcome awaited. Here can be seen the marriage stone of Robert Carruthers and Margaret Dalziel from 1672. The tour circled around the hill where the ruins of the Holmains Tower could be seen in the distance, and then over to Mouswald to the churchyard where the effigy of Sir Simon Carruthers lies.

A great day for all who attended from around the world. Clan members came from Canada, the United States, Australia, England, Ireland and more! Virtual relationships were cemented in person, and new friendships forged. Pictures and videos can be viewed at the Clan Carruthers Facebook site (for those who have joined the site): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/808801892921751> and more information can be found at the Clan Carruthers website: <https://clancarrutherssociety.org/>.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Carruthers Caron, FSA Scot
Clan Council Member - Clan Genealogist
Clan Carruthers Society (International)

Vice Chair - Youth

Preserving Our Heritage: Bridging Generations

Chloe Harris, Vice-Chair for Youth

Our heritage is a piece of history that is woven into us, an everlasting part of ourselves that connects us to others both in the past and present. When polled, 70% of North Americans stated that they think knowing family history is important, yet only 33% admitted to actually knowing their ancestry. The percentage of people interested in learning about their culture and history has been shrinking, with many young minds questioning why they should care at all. How does culture and history impact our lives? Why should the younger generation want to learn?



Over the past year, I have begun to explore my own family's ancestry and am on a mission to ensure the stories of the past are not forgotten. I have found joy and personal connection in hearing stories passed down through generations. Learning about ancestry can reveal much about oneself and one's identity. Through my exploration of culture and history, I have met people who are dedicated to preserving Scottish practices and promoting the value of keeping history alive. As an English student at the University of Guelph, I have had the opportunity to study ancient Scottish literature, which has inspired me to join the initiative to share the wonders of Scottish culture with my peers.

Scots Canada aims to advance Scottish Cultural Heritage in Canada, and engaging the youth is crucial for achieving this goal. By bridging the gap between old and new generations, we can increase interest and membership in Scottish traditions. Ensuring that traditions and customs are passed down through future generations will help the legacy created by the past live on.

My objective in creating a youth initiative for Scots Canada is to encourage and engage younger minds in learning about Scottish history. I believe this can be achieved through three phases: knowledge, opportunity, and continuity.

The first phase is knowledge. Reaching out to a new demographic can be challenging, but using contemporary methods of communication can help. The second phase is opportunity. Presenting involvement opportunities and the need for volunteers as a direct pathway to membership is crucial. The final phase is continuity. Once information is presented and the need for youth involvement is established, maintaining the organization's goals and continuity becomes essential. Scots Canada is dedicated to preserving Scottish history and culture, making it important to bridge the gap between past traditions and new ideas.

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Additionally, it is encouraged for all members to appoint a youth delegate. While this may seem daunting due to the current lack of interest from the younger generation, having a youth member will foster open communication and support the flow of ideas from Scots Canada to member organizations.

Returning to the earlier questions, how does culture and history impact our lives?

Why should the younger generation want to learn about it?

Culture is a vital aspect of identity and community, fostering a lively and harmonious society. History connects us with each other, shapes our beliefs and values, and nurtures a stronger sense of belonging. History can only be passed down, making it essential to ensure there are those to carry it forward. I believe that following the knowledge, opportunity, and continuity plan is a great starting point to expand Scots Canada's reach to the youth, and I am excited to work with all of you to make this happen.

Chloe Harris,

Vice-Chair for Youth

vicechair.youth@scotscanada.ca

Editor's Note:

Below is an image of the updated delegate section of the Member Information Update Form which we are asking all members to complete, including adding a Youth Delegate.

Existing members can access the form by clicking the image below or [here](#)

For more information, contact us at secretary@scotscanada.ca

Delegate and Alternate are required for the responsibilities described above.
A Youth Delegate is strongly recommended, leave as 'unknown' if one is not available.

Name of Delegate (*)	Email (*)	Position	Phone
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Name of Alternate Delegate (*)	Email (*)	Position	Phone
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Name of Youth Delegate (*)	Email	Position	Phone
<input type="text" value="Unknown"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Vice Chair Central - Moncton

Greater Moncton Highland Games & Scottish Festival 2024

by John Duff

The Moncton Games events this year took place between June 11th and June 15th. Barb and I travelled to the area ahead of time. We wanted to take our time driving from Hamilton, Ontario to New Brunswick so we spent two days on the road. While near Moncton we visited with some of Barb's relatives and spent some time touring in the Fundy area. We also wanted to be sure that we had time to check out the grounds at the Sportsplex near downtown Moncton while getting our bearings and setting up for the event. Although we have been to the New Brunswick Highland Games Festival in Fredericton a few times in the past, this is the first time we have gone to the Moncton Games.

Their festival started out with a free community concert in Victoria Park, Moncton on Tuesday June 11th during the evening. We both thoroughly enjoyed listening to the sounds of Fundy Ceilidh. It was a warm and comfortable evening, and the event probably had at least 150 attending.

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Below : CLAN GUNN of New Brunswick





Mel Fitton and Murray MacLean

(Continued from page 24)

There was a flag raising in Riverview (near Moncton) and another free concert at the Riverview Gazebo with the Sons of Gael entertaining and the Dunnett Highland Dancers on Wednesday June 12th. These were followed by a flag raising by the City of Moncton on Thursday June 13th.

At the Hal Betts Sportsplex on Friday June 14th, I had intended to put up my 10 x 10 tent and another 10 x 10 tent was being loaned to us by Mel Fitton. Unfortunately, the wind had picked up that after-

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Vice Chair Central - Moncton

(Continued from page 25)

noon quite a bit and I was advised by Murray MacLean the clan coordinator and Mel Fitton that it might not still be there in the morning. I heeded their warning remembering that Bill Petrie had lost his tent to wind damage the previous year at Moncton. As I heard him tell it, he finally listened to those yelling "let go of the tent" when it was already airborne and almost five feet off the ground. The festival location is beside Petitcodiac River (also called the Red River because of the red clay) and not that far from the Bay of Fundy, so the wind really picks up in that location at times.

Saturday, June 15th was forecasted to have rain for most of the day and winds although thankfully it held off long enough to set up for the day. Unfortunately, shortly after setup it rained most of the day and at times it was heavy rain with a cool wind. The bulk of parking for this event was off site and attendees and participants had to walk for a way to the venue. It would appear with the inclement weather and parking off site that attendance must have been down considerably. Due to the weather and manning our tents we did not spend too much time outside, but we could hear the Heavy Events nearby. They seemed to continue and go off very well. Whenever the weather cleared for a while, people would venture out and those at the festival had dressed for the weather, but the tent was quiet compared to some festivals. Hopefully the weather will be considerably better next year.

I must comment that I am addicted to coffee and if there had been any food vendor at the festival selling hot drinks such as coffee or even tea or hot chocolate, they would have had a lot of sales from not only me but many others. Perhaps a food vendor selling those products will be there next year.



Cambridge Scottish Festival 2024 by Vice Chair Central, John Duff

Cambridge Scottish Festival this year was July 19th - 20th. This year Cambridge decided to move the location of the clan tents to just inside a gate used by participants such as the highland dancers. This location was further back in Churchill Park from the previous location that had been closer to the front entrance driveway. The new location was on the opposite side of the field from the vendors and towards the beer tent. On Friday afternoon, Barb and I set up the CASSOC tent just inside that gate and another small tent beside it. We had decided to use this small tent for the reference books for CASSOC which Barb used for looking up information to our visitors.

The Cambridge Festival in previous years had a Friday evening concert located somewhere in downtown Cambridge, and we had never actually gone to it before. We always drove to the festival on Saturday morning and set up. This year the concert was in the Beer Tent at Churchill Park. Now that we had set up our tents, not to mention that it was a wonderful summer evening we decided to check it out before heading home. If I am being honest, it was also because the Steel City Rovers who are one of our favourite groups were playing that night. The gates opened to the public at 5:45 pm and the concert started at 6:30 pm. It appeared that the concert was a success with the beer tent being mostly full throughout the evening. The entertainment started with Tom Keefer, then Set Change / Blair Scottish Country Dancers, next Old Man Flanagan's Ghost otherwise known as "OMFG" and was closed out by Steel City Rovers around 10:15. Barb & I even got to be as our daughter laughingly called us "SCR Groupies" because we lent a hand to the Steel City Rovers by manning their merchandise table. Of course, that gave us a close-up experience during their performance, so it was a win-win.

(Continued on page 28)



Set up and ready to greet all visitors looking for information.

Vice Chair Central - Cambridge



Pipe Bands practiced in front and behind the CASSOC tent making it hard to hear our visitors.

(Continued from page 27)

Saturday, the Clan Tents opened at 8:00 am then closed at 5:00 pm and we were allowed to park right behind our tent, which made our job considerably easier for setup and moving items back and forth whenever necessary. It was a welcome perk compared to many festivals. I found the festival seemed to have better attendance than previous years that we had attended. Many of the clans preferred the previous clan tent location as there was more traffic near the front entrance although the CASSOC tent traffic was brisk. If you are a fan of pipe bands, and we are they were practicing and warming up then marching on and off the field directly behind and in front of the CASSOC tent throughout the day. The only downside was that it was hard to carry conversations, and I had mostly lost my voice by the end of the day.

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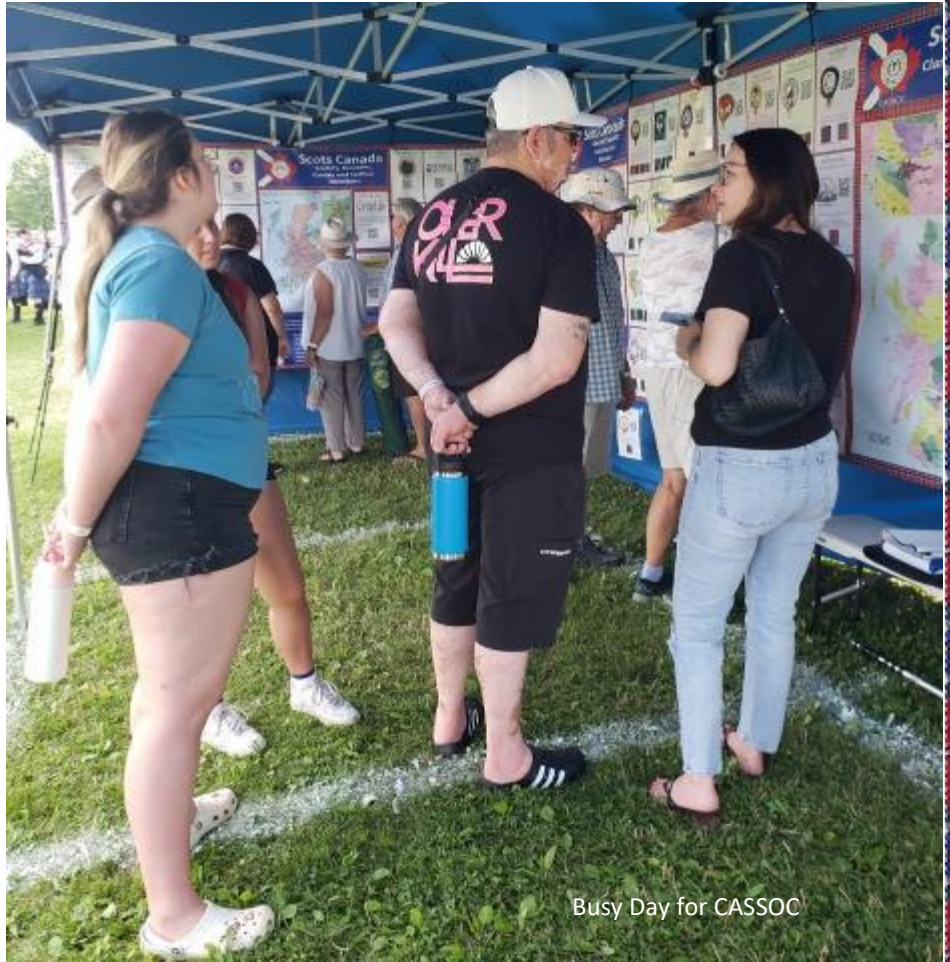
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Vice Chair Central - Cambridge

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Busy Day for CASSOC

Vice Chair Central - Uxbridge

Uxbridge Scottish Festival 2024 by John Duff

Uxbridge Scottish Festival this year was on July 27th Barb and I drove there early on Saturday this year to set up the CASSOC 10 x 20 tent with Bill Petrie's and Sylvie Theriault's help along with another smaller 10 x 10 tent beside it to use for displaying reference materials.

Barb manned that tent while Bill Petrie and I worked in CASSOC tent.

Terry Myles set up Clan MacNeil beside Barb and Sylvie was set up on the opposite end of CASSOC with the Clan Gregor tent. Andrea MacFarlane-Grieve was across the walkway with Clan MacFarlane Worldwide.

We all worked back and forth somewhat helping each other as needed so it worked out quite well as a combined effort. I noticed that the festival seems to have a higher attendance this year than before Covid.

This year's festival had good weather and with it being a free festival there was lots of traffic throughout the day. Frankly, it was busy enough that other than washroom breaks and getting a bite to eat

and something to drink much of our time was spent nearby or inside of our tents communicating with the public.

The day went by quickly and before we knew it was time to pack up. Uxbridge allowed us to park behind our tents and it made it considerably easier. That one consideration by a few of the festivals makes the clan volunteer hours so much easier with less steps for us when moving items back and forth.

It really seems to ease the wear and tear on us as we get older. Unfortunately, I know that for Barb and I and I believe that many others are also finding it takes longer to rest and recuperate after a game or festival as each year passes.

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A visitor stopping by from the Dog Show



Bill Petrie sharing some history

Clan MacFarlane-Andrea Greaves McFarland (on right)



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In speaking with one of the organizers, I was told the festival has grown enough in attendance that they would like to make it a two-day event.

That speaks well for the future of this festival. Unfortunately, Uxbridge organizers are running into a familiar problem which is basically the lack of dependable volunteers. If they could get enough volunteers, then this vision or hope could become a reality. One of the popular events during this festival used to be the burning of the Viking ship near the end of the day on the baseball diamond.

I know it was one of our must-see events but unfortunately I was told this too has been cancelled due to that same issue the lack of reliable volunteers.

If anyone reading this is willing and able to volunteer, please email info@uxbridgescottishfestival.com

A group of Roman re-enactors.



Vice Chair Central - Kincardine



Kincardine Scottish Festival & Highland Games 2024 by John Duff, Vice Chair - Central

Kincardine Scottish Festival events this year took place between July 5th and July 7th. Bill Petrie, Barb and I set up the CASSOC tent before the public was allowed on the grounds of Victoria Park for the Friday evening entertainment. The festival allowed us to set up our CASSOC tent right inside the main gate, so it proved to be a prime, ideal location for pedestrian traffic. We left the park being prepared for the next day before the gates opened.

Saturday morning July 6th as we arrived at the park, we noticed some streets were blocked off. Barb and I thought it was due to the festival traffic being diverted at first but as we got closer, we saw emergency vehicles and barricades. A little further on the fire department stopped everyone at a barricade and told us the park was closed and some nearby streets due to an active fire and that we needed to find a parking space away from the park somewhere. After finding a place to park, we then walked to the front gate. It was easy to see and smell the fire quite near the park. After inquiring with the festival volunteers about the festival status and finding that everything was up in the air, we found a place to wait across the street that was upwind from the smoke.



There was concern by many throughout the morning that this fire might cause the festival to be cancelled for at least that day due to smoke. A laundromat right across the side street from the main stage and perhaps 100 feet away was the fire location and this fire kept burning most of the morning. At some point in the morning, they tore open the roof and started pouring water in from the roof area and eventually the fire was brought under control.

Finally, Kincardine Fire Department allowed the festival to open to participants around lunchtime and to the public 30 or 45 minutes later. Unfortunately, by that time some participants and some of the public had left due to the uncertainty of the situation and concerns about smoke exposure. There were only a few clans there for the afternoon. The fire was still smoldering for part of the afternoon and the fire department remained on site for much of the afternoon. Thankfully the wind seemed to be directing smoke away from the park.

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Vice Chair Central - Kincardine



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Barb and I were pleasantly surprised after the events of the morning that we had a great deal of traffic during the afternoon with standing room only inside the CASSOC tent at times. Barb set up the information table in the tent beside the CASSOC tent and Robert Mackenzie one of our CASSOC board members was in the next tent. That allowed all of us to work back and forth at times when it got busy, not to mention that Robert was there to help pack up and take our items to my truck parked nearby. All in all, it turned out to be pleasant weather and a busy day even if it started out late.

We stayed to watch some of the Saturday evening entertainment including the Glengarry Bhoys who we always enjoy and Abbamania. D'Arcy, the fiddler from Glengarry Bhoys danced around the stage as usual for their entire performance. The crowd seemed especially receptive to Abbamania and many were up dancing in front of the stage with the dance area quite crowded. They seemed to have a local following from previous shows.

Kincardine Festival only asks the clans to attend Saturday, although Barb and I stayed for the next day Sunday July 7th, to watch their entertainment. The entertainment was varied and quite enjoyable with great attendance from the public.

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Vice Chair Central - Kincardine

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It was wonderful weather, and we had a spot under a shade tree with a picnic table and a great view, so it was excellent. We watched the Closing Ceremonies, Weekend Never Ends, Glengarry Bhoys for a second time, but this time D'Arcy remained seated which was unusual for him. I assumed that he had stomped too much on Friday evening. The British Legends (David Bowie, Mick Jagger, Rod Stewart, Freddie Mercury and Elton John were very well done and I would recommend watching them if you have the opportunity. Finally, there was The Mudmen with their version of Bag Rock to finish off the festival entertainment.

I must state that if Kincardine Scottish Festival & Highland Games in 2025 is anything like this year was, minus the fire of course, I think it should be a great success and I will be looking forward to returning.

ABBA-MANIA



Vice Chair Central - Kincardine

ABBA-MANIA



The BRITISH LEGENDS – David Bowie



Vice Chair Central - Kincardine

The BRITISH INVASION - ROD STEWART



The MUDMEN



Hebrides People - Visitor and Genealogy Centre

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Clan Campbell - Clan Conclaves



Above left: Clan Conclave Commissioners from MacLeod, MacFarland, Calhoun and Adam Wade Campbell from CCSNA



Above right: Tom Campbell as the host of the Clan Conclave dinner in 2023

By Adam Wade Campbell - pictured left, Deputy Utah State Commissioner, Clan Campbell Society of North America UT Deputy



This article originally appeared in the July 2024 edition of the E-newsletter of Clan Campbell Society North America. The Society and author have kindly granted their permission for COSCA to reprint the article here.

In the fall of 2022, Tom Campbell, the CCSNA Utah State commissioner, and Adam Campbell, his Deputy Commissioner (below), embarked on a mission to rejuvenate the Clan Community in the Rocky Mountain Region. Many local Clan Commissioners were aging out and struggling to maintain their roles as tent conveners at local events.

To address this, we studied many of the local organizations to better learn how to grow the local clan representation. We spoke with leadership from the Rotary clubs, Toastmasters, the Lions Club, St. Andrews Society, and even the Freemasons. Over time, we found that many organizations were struggling to find new blood, but we also find a few things that generating great success in their respective organizations. Some of the groups with the most stable communities were happy to share some of the keys to their successes.

Here are the essential lessons we learned from these thriving groups:

1. Leadership with Succession Planning:

- Successful organizations had built-in leadership structures with ranks of future leaders working together.
- Term limits were common for roles such as president, vice president, chairperson, co-chair, treasurer, and deputy.
- Alumni or emeritus groups allowed previous leaders to provide guidance and expertise to successors, even without primary responsibilities.

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2. Clearly Defined Values and Goals:

- These groups had well-defined values, morals, and common bonds.
- Leadership consistently exemplified these attributes, and the entire organization worked towards their charters, mission statements, and objectives.
- Identifying community members became easier once these commonalities were understood.

3. Regular Engagement Activities:

- Successful groups maintained a regular cadence of engagement activities.
- A mix of in-person and virtual events was common, often following a quarterly schedule.
- Clear calendars ensured everyone knew when engagements would occur.

4. Effective Communication Triangles:

- The most successful group emphasized direct communication channels between leaders and members.
- Channels were equally clear from members back up to leaders and among members themselves.
- Technology tools like GroupMe, Slack, and even Facebook facilitated communication.

Recognizing the need for additional support, the community groups emphasized the importance of finding additional member volunteers in the management of the organizations. These volunteers, along with the formation of dedicated committees, play a crucial role in keeping members engaged on a regular basis.

As we reviewed their organization structures and their procedures, we found that the Clan Commissioner responsibilities were very heavy in comparison to the other organizations. By distributing the Commissioner responsibilities, the burden on individual Commissioners could be reduced, which would allow for more effective management and more opportunities to serve for the local members.

With careful study, and with the input of the elder leaders of the Clan, we were able to break down the Commissioner responsibilities into four separate roles.

- 1. Tent Conveners/Event Coordinators: Responsible for organizing gatherings, events, and festivals.**
- 2. Membership Maintenance and Communication: Ensuring effective communication with clan members and managing membership records.**
- 3. Local Ancestry and Genealogy: Preserving and sharing clan history, lineage, and heritage.**
- 4. General Administrative and Clan Management: Overseeing day-to-day operations and administrative tasks**

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Clan Campbell - Clan Conclaves

(Continued from page 39)

One of the first things we realized we needed to do to revitalize the Clan was to add additional engagement opportunities to entice the local community.

We hosted the first Clan Conclave dinner in September 2023 after promoting the event heavily amongst many of the Clan members in Utah during the 2023 Scottish festivals.

The event was crafted to generate engagement specifically with youth and to garner interest with families that have ties to Scottish Clans. The event was hosted in an 18th century English Great Hall that was relocated to Utah by a wealthy businessman. The dinner was a beautiful spread of brisket, potatoes, veggies, and a variety of sides including a sticky toffee pudding recipe pulled right from the Inverary inn.

The entertainment for the night featured a historical discussion from Clint Edwards, a local podcast historian with tens of thousands of followers across the country, followed by an amateur sword fighting competition coordinated by Jordan Hinckley, the regional commissioner of Clan Leslie and a local Master swordsman to the area. The event quickly sold out and proved that there is a great level of interest in the right kind of engagements for Clans outside of the traditional festivals.

Part of the event's success showed that Clan Commissioners were interested in bringing their members together on a more intimate and personal basis than just through the large-scale festivals. Clan Members were also willing to spend time and money to enjoy a good cultural engagement with the clans.

Six months after the Clan Conclave event, there are half a dozen Commissioners working together in Utah to standardize Clan systems, membership management, event coordination, and engagement activities that can combine clans to make economies of scale for the large and small Clans alike.

The Clan Conclave group now has over 250 members from various Clans that receive regular updates on events. The Conclave Commissioners have also drastically streamlined the Commissioners communication responsibilities. The group continues to grow in the Rocky Mountain region, and it will be interesting to see what else might come from the organization as time goes by.

Fab Fun Friday Submission

Click the image for Cathy Nesbitt's Fab Fun Friday video taken at the Uxbridge Scottish Festival.

Cathy submitted the video using the web Contact Form at www.scotscanada.ca/en/about/contactus



Clan Fraser Society of North America - New Member



Our goal is to promote the general interests of the Clan and to cultivate the spirit of kinship and fellowship among its members throughout the Americas and with the Clan Fraser of Scotland; to collect and preserve literary, historical and genealogical records, documents and relics relating to the history of the Clan and Scotland; to honor our Scottish heritage and to cultivate among our members and descendants the pride and spirit of our Scottish ancestors; to render aid to all clansmen should they meet with adversity.

In recent years we've grown into a multi-national organization with representatives in many states and provinces.

SEPT NAMES OF CLAN FRASER: Abernethy, Bisset, Bissett, Brewster, Cowie, Fraser, Frasier, Frasure, Frazer, Frazier, Fresell, Freser, Frew, Frezel, Friscal, Frisell, Frissell, Frizel, Frizell, Frizelle, Frizzell, Gilruth, Grewar, Gruar, Gruer, Lovat, Lovett, MacGrewar, MacGruer, MacIlrick, MacIlriach, MacImmey, MacKim, MacKimmie, MacShimes, MacSimon, MacSymon, MacTavish, Oliver, Sim, Sime, Simon, Simons, Simpson, Sims, Simson, Sym, Syme, Symon, Symons, Twaddle, Tweeddale, and Tweedie.

<http://cfsna.com/>



Uist's Eilidh Currie is a Winner

Highland dancer Eilidh Currie of North Uist proudly displays her competition medals won at last month's North Uist Highland Games.

Our Kindred has a rich history in the Uists as bards to the MacDonalds of Clanranald.

Olympian Steph Curry

What else needs to be said about this outstanding basketball player, father, philanthropist, and believer. He was a standout in Team USA basketball Gold Medal team. A class act.



A Piping Clan of Their Own

Stuart Currie is a piper and composer whose children are carrying on the family tradition.

Stuart composed the rousing march, "The Curries are Coming," which has been performed at Edinburgh Castle and the "Pipes of Christmas" in New York in 2017.

This summer, Stuart's daughter Kali plays for the current Grade 1 World Champion Boghall and Bathgate Caledonia Pipe Band. The band will be defending their title at this month's championship.

Both Stuart and his son Kyle play for the Uddingston Pipe Band which was just crowned Grade 2 champs at the Scottish Pipe Band Champions.

The Kindred has commissioned a new march from Stuart which will be premiered in December 2024.

Watch a performance of Stuart's composition, "The Curries Are Coming" (2017 Pipes of Christmas) ?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=USF-ecJ3gUs>



Learned Kindred of Currie



Left: Jen Currie DeFouw in Michigan. Middle & right: "Be A Bard" activity at the Clan Currie tent.

Out and About at the Highland Games

We've enjoyed a busy summer with stops at games in North Carolina, Michigan, and Ontario, Canada.

Ned Currie, Todd Kissick and Mike Currie made a great showing at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games in North Carolina.

Jeff Crooke proudly represented the Kindred at the Glengarry Highland Games in Maxville, Ontario.

And Jen Currie DeFouw outdid herself representing the LKC at games across Michigan.

We are so very grateful to all our volunteers!

Below Left to right: Jeff Crooke at the Glengarry Highland Games (Ontario); Todd Kissick at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games (NC); the Learned Kindred of Currie team at Grandfather Mountain Highland Games (NC).



Games, Festivals, and other Events

- Check the website at www.scotscanada.ca/events for the latest listings. Member events are highlighted.
- As the date for these events approach, please contact event organizers for up-to-date information.
- Projected 2025 * events are listed based roughly ordered upon the week number if an exact date is not yet known
- Events that meet Scots Canada requirements may be submitted online at <https://www.scotscanada.ca/en/games-festivals-and-other-events/submit-an-event>

Date	Event/Location	Event_URL
Sep-13 Sep-30	Hutchison House Silent Auction, Peterborough, Ontario	http://www.phs-hutchisonhouse.ca
Sep-14 Sep-15	Niagara Celtic Heritage Festival & Highland Games, Lockport, NY	https://www.niagaraceltic.com/
Sep-22	LBA Highland Games, Ormstown QC	http://expoormstown.com
Sep-27 Sep-27	PA Day Camp: Teddy Bears, Peterborough, Ontario	http://www.phs-hutchisonhouse.ca
Oct-11 Oct-19	Celtic Colours in Cape Breton, Cape Breton, NS	https://celtic-colours.com/
Oct-24 Oct-26	ReJigged Festival, Halifax, NS	https://www.rejiggedfestival.com/
Nov-16	St Andrew's Society Toronto Charity Ball, Toronto, ON	https://standrewstoronto.ca/sast_event/charity-ball/
Nov-24	Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada Annual General Meeting, Online 3:00 p.m. ET	https://www.scotscanada.ca/en/meetings/notice-of-meeting
Nov-30	St Andrew's Society Toronto Fall Mixer, Toronto, ON	https://standrewstoronto.ca/sast_event/fall-mixer/
Feb-01 2025	Robbie Burns Night Gala - Flagstaff Scottish Club Sedgewick, AB	http://info@flagstaffscottishclub.com
Apr-05	Tartans and Tunes, Sedgewick, AB	https://www.flagstaffscottishclub.com/events
Apr *	Halifax Celtic Festival, Halifax, NS	https://www.hfxcelticfest.ca/
Apr *	Vancouver Ceilidh, Vancouver, BC	https://www.vancouverceilidh.org/
May *	Saskatchewan Highland Gathering and Celtic Festival, Regina, SK	http://www.saskhighland.ca/
May *	Victoria Highland Games, Victoria, BC	https://victoriahighlandgames.com/
May *	Okanagan Military Tattoo, Vernon, BC	http://www.okanagantattoo.ca/
May *	Regina Mosaic, Regina, SK	http://www.reginamulticulturalcouncil.ca/
Jun-05 Jun-08	Gathering of the Scots, Perth-Andover, NB	https://gatheringofthescots.com/
Jun *	Carstairs Heritage Festival, Carstairs, AB	https://carstairs.ca/p/annual-events
Jun *	Georgetown Highland Games, Georgetown, ON	https://georgetownhighlandgames.com/
Jun-10 Jun-14	Greater Moncton Highland Games & Scottish Festival, Moncton, NB	https://monctonhighlandgames.com/
Jun-20 Jun-21	ScotFest - British Columbia Highland Games, Coquitlam, BC	https://scotfestbc.com/
Jun-20 Jun-21	Northumberland Scottish Festival & Highland Games, Port Hope, ON	https://www.northumberlandhighlandgames.ca/
Jun-28	Kingsville-Essex Highland Games, Kingsville, ON	https://kingsvillehighlandgames.ca
Jun *	Manitoba Highland Gathering East, Selkirk, MB	https://manitobahighlandgathering.org/
Jun *	Red Deer Highland Games, Springbrook, AB	https://www.reddeerhighlandgames.com/
Jun *	Edmonton Highland Gathering, Edmonton, AB	https://www.edmontonscottishsociety.org/
Jun *	Kitchenfest Feis a'Chidsin, Breton, NS	http://www.kitchenfest.ca/
Jun *	Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo, Halifax, NS	http://www.nstatattoo.ca/

Games, Festivals, and other Events

Date	Event/Location	Website
Jul-04 Jul-06	Kincardine Scottish Festival & Highland Games, ON	https://kincardinescottishfestival.ca/
Jul *	Almonte Celtefest, Almonte, ON	https://almonteceltefest.com/
Jul *	Embro Highland Games, Embro, ON	https://zorracaledoniansociety.ca
Jul *	Gathering of the Clans, Pugwash, NS	https://www.pugwashvillage.com/index.php/festivals-and-events/gathering-of-the-clans
Jul *	Penticton Scottish Festival, Penticton, BC	http://www.pentictonscottishfestival.ca/
Jul-12 Jul-12	Kamloops Highland Games, Kamloops, BC	https://www.kamloopshighlandgames.org/
Jul-18 Jul-20	47th Annual Orillia Scottish Festival, Orillia, ON	https://scottishfestival.ca/
Jul *	Antigonish Highland Games, Antigonish, NS	https://www.antigonishhighlandgames.ca/
Jul-18 Jul-21	47th Annual Orillia Scottish Festival, Orillia, ON	https://scottishfestival.ca/
Jul *	Cambridge Scottish Festival, Cambridge, ON	http://www.cambridgescottishfestival.ca/
Jul *	Sherwood Park Highland Gathering, AB	https://www.sphg.ca/
Jul-26	Uxbridge Scottish Festival, Uxbridge, ON	https://uxbridgescottishfestival.com/
Jul *	Ailsa Craig Highland Games, Ailsa Craig , ON	https://highlandgamesandfestivals.com/event/ailsa-craig-highland-games/
Jul *	NB Highland Games Festival, Fredericton, NB	https://www.highlandgames.ca/
Aug-01 Aug-02	Glengarry Highland Games, Maxville, ON	https://www.glengarryhighlandgames.com/
Aug-03	Montreal Highland Games, Verdun, QC	https://www.montrealhighlandgames.com/
Aug-08 Aug-10	Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games, ON	http://www.fergusscottishfestival.com/
Aug-09 Aug-10	Campbell River Highland Gathering, BC	https://www.campbellriverhighlandgathering.ca/
Aug *	Goderich Celtic Roots Festival, Goderich, ON	https://celticfestival.ca/home
Aug *	Margaree Highland Games, Margaree Valley, NS	http://www.margareehighlandgames.com/
Aug *	Festival Celtes de Saint-Malachie, QC	https://festivalceltessaintmalachie.com/
Aug *	Folkfest Saskatoon, Saskatoon, SK	https://saskatoonfolkfest.com/
Aug *	Miramichi Scottish Festival, Miramichi, NB	https://www.highlandsociety.com/scottish-festival/
Aug *	North Lanark Highland Games, N.L.A.S. Fairgrounds, Almonte, Ontario	https://almontehighlandgames.com/
Aug *	Sydney Mines Highland Games, Pitt Street Walking Track, Sydney Mines, NS	https://www.facebook.com/events/1932673360483673/?acontext=%7B%22event_action_history%22%3A%5B%7D
Aug *	The Gathering of the Clans Highland Festival, Sedgewick, AB	https://www.flagstaffscottishclub.com/events
Aug *	Canmore Highland Games, Canmore, AB	http://www.canmorehighlandgames.ca/
Sep *	Festival Celtique de Quebec, Quebec, QC	http://festival-celtique.com/
Sep-20 Sep-21	The Saltire Gathering 2025, Stirling, Scotland, UK	https://www.scotscanada.ca
Sep *	Niagara Celtic Heritage Festival & Highland Games, Lockport, NY	https://www.niagaraceltic.com/
Sep *	LBA Highland Games, Ormstown QC	http://expoormstown.com
Oct *	Celtic Colours in Cape Breton, Cape Breton, NS	https://celtic-colours.com/
Oct *	ReJigged Festival, Halifax, NS	https://www.rejiggedfestival.com/
Nov *	St Andrew's Society Toronto Charity Ball, ON	https://standrewstoronto.ca/sast_event/charity-ball/
Nov *	Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada Annual General Meeting, Online 3:00 p.m. ET	https://www.scotscanada.ca/en/meetings/notice-of-meeting

Clan Hunter Association Canada



From the Clan Officer, Dale Hill

Greetings to you all. It is hard to believe I have officially been the Clan Officer for Clan Hunter Canada for one full year. It has been a year filled with learning and connecting. I feel privileged to have met and spent time with many members from across Canada and collaborated with Madam Pauline and fellow executive members from around the world. I always enjoy hearing about the varied connections to the Hunter surname, especially from those who can share a date and/or area of their ancestor's landing in Canada.

This summer I was able to attend four Scottish Festivals in Southern and Eastern Ontario, as well as in New Brunswick. In early July, a highlight of the Cambridge Festival was the delicious Haggis pies topped with mashed potatoes. Please enjoy the article about the New Brunswick Highland Games later in this newsletter and the photos we are excited to share with you. It was incredible to spend some time in Eastern Canada and connect with members, some who do not have Internet access and continue to receive all communication through the postal system. A special shout out to those members who had relatives email me, or sent a letter through the mail, so I could connect by phone and we could all gather for dinner on the Saturday night in Fredericton!

In early August at the Glengarry Games, we had the pleasure of meeting long time member, Beryl, who had taken a bus trip down from Ottawa for the day, as well as soon to be new members, Michelle and Brian, who regularly visit Scotland and were excited to join us in the parade of clans. It was also wonderful to have Don Noels, another member, parade with us during his first visit to the festival. Thank you all for helping us share Clan Hunter pride! We also want to acknowledge Linda Hunter who dropped by the booth on Friday to snap a quick picture with her family and our sign, knowing we would not be attending until the next day. Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games was another success and we were thrilled to welcome a huge number of members and potential new members to the clan tent. We once again had a great representation in the Parade of Clans. Thank you to everyone for your support and dropping by to visit, even if the tent was a bit congested at times!

We hope you will join us at our upcoming Annual General Meeting on Sunday October 29 at 3 pm on Zoom. This is a chance for all members to hear about the work of our Clan association here in Canada and help make decisions regarding the spending of funds to support our work. Madam Pauline will also be joining us! A link to the meeting will be e-mailed to all members closer to the meeting date. If you have any questions or require the link to be sent directly to your email, please reach out to me at clanhunter.ca@gmail.com and I will make this happen.

If you have any questions or suggestions to help make Clan Hunter Canada an association that you are proud to be a member of, please connect with me directly. I always enjoy hearing from members and can even set up a time to have a virtual chat or phone call if that would be your preferred method of connecting.

I hope everyone had a great summer and I look forward to connecting with many of you at the AGM. Until then, take care.



Clan Hunter Association Canada

Celebrating 40th years of Highland Games in Fredericton, NB by Daphne Clarke

What a wonderful festival full of Scottish spirit, enthusiasm and tradition. The New Brunswick Highland Games took place on the property of Government House which was built around 1826. This is the current Lieutenant Governor's Residence and includes an 11 acre property.

The 40th New Brunswick Highland Games took place here on July 28, 29 and 30th, 2023. The weather was perfect and there was a great attendance at these events. Clan Hunter was immediately greeted with friendly east coast hospitality by the Highland Games Committee and other Avenue of Clans folk. On Friday, we started off setting up our tent and were greeted by Maria and Kenneth Hunter who dropped by to chat and welcome us to Fredericton.

In the evening, Dale, Clan Officer of Canada and I were invited to a formal reception at the Lieutenant Governor's House. Here we mingled with the Fredericton, New Brunswick Member of Parliament, Jenica Atwin, the Provincial Member's of Legislature, David Coon, and Dominic Cardy, sponsors, friends and patrons of the festival. Dale and I had the pleasure of personally speaking with the Honourable Lieutenant Governor, Brenda Murphy about Clan Hunter and our East Coast trip to these games. Her friendly and personable manner made us feel so comfortable right away and she was thrilled we had come to participate in their Highland Games. Throughout the weekend, you could find her enjoying the festivities around the property.

After the formal reception including speeches honouring and celebrating 40th years of Highland Games in Fredericton. We headed down to Barrack Square to catch the concert of Natalie MacMaster and Donnolly Leahy. Unfortunately, a rainstorm came rushing in and we only got to hear three songs before the event was cut short. The celtic music we heard was fantastic! We were completely soaked but smiling from ear to ear by the time we made it back to our accommodations.

There was a Gathering of East Coast Clan Hunter Members at the 'STMR.36 BBQ and Social Restaurant' in the Delta Hotel. The food was delicious and the conversation was lots of fun. So many stories and laughs were shared. Irma, Vinnie, Barbara, Maria and Kenneth joined us for this fun event.

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Dale and Daphne Clarke



East Coast Clan Hunter Members STMR 36 BBQ and Social Restaurant



Clan Hunter Association Canada

(Continued from page 47)

On Saturday, in the Avenue of Clans, we were quickly greeted by many fellow Hunters and we often heard, "Hello, cousin." There is a large group of Hunter's in New Brunswick and many stories were shared with us about Ancestors especially from the Miramichi area of New Brunswick. Maria and Kenneth Hunter joined us for the day and helped to welcome and educate people on Clan Hunter. Kenneth and Maria eagerly shared photos and stories of their visit to Scotland and the Hunterston Castle a few years ago. Together we participated in the Opening Ceremonies of the parade. I was honoured to be asked to carry the New Brunswick flag in this parade. At this festival, all the Clan participants are led by three drum Majors and the pipe bands are right behind us as we process up the field. You had to keep on your toes so you didn't get run over by the pipers (hee, hee, hee). Clan Hunter was represented in all of these parades throughout the festival.

On Sunday, Clan Hunter participated in the 'Kirkin' O' the Tartan' service where Clan Hunter tartan and banners were blessed by Reverend John Martin. Clan Hunter proudly led the clans following the Piper and the Reverend through the grounds of the festival to the 'Kirkin' O' the Tartan.' You can see a video Dale posted of this on the Clan Hunter Facebook Page. It was a lot of fun! As Dale said, "He felt like a celebrity."

Overall it was a great weekend and Clan Hunter was thrilled to be present and part of this special 40th Anniversary Highland Games Festival. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet Clan members from Eastern Canada. Thank you all for the lovely welcome!

Hunters meet up at New Brunswick Highland Games, Fredericton NB July 2023



Clan Hunter Association Canada

Photos from Summer Games



Longtime Clan Hunter Member, Beryl Hunter and Dale Hill, Clan Officer at Glengarry Highland Games, Maxville ON



Hunters ready to parade at Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games



Hunters Gather at Glengarry Highland Games, Maxville, ON

Kennedy Society of North America

Kennedy Society Highlights: Summer Events and Upcoming Fall Festivities

As summer turns into fall, the Kennedy Society has had and will continue to have an active calendar:

* from July 11th to July 14th, Samantha Dodson and Rick and Kim Hageman convened a tent at Grandfather Mountain. The weather was very good and, as usual, attendance was solid. Society Chief Sean Carrick, Dave and Amy Carrick, Karen Kennedy, Caitlyn Frady, Mike Frady, and Sherry Short were on hand, among others. Sean had the opportunity to meet Madam Pauline Hunter of Hunterston, 30th Chief of Clan Hunter, who was a guest of the games.

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Grandfather Mountain

KSNA Society Chief Sean Carrick and
Madam Pauline Hunter



KSNA Society Chief Sean Carrick in
the Parade of Tartans



Kennedy Society of North America

(Continued from page 50)

* on August 25th, Ohio District Director Bill Kennedy participated in the 78th One World Day event at the Cleveland Cultural Gardens. Bill is a member of the Scottish Cultural Garden Society, which is responsible for that respective section of the Cultural Gardens.

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One World Day Parade



Relaxing after the parade

Kennedy Society of North America

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* for the first time, the Kennedy Society had a tent at the Middle Tennessee Highland Games in Hendersonville, TN. The games were held September 7-8, and the tent was convened by Bill and Melissa Kennedy and Dave Carrick.

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Bill Kennedy



Bill Kennedy, Kathy Erwin, and Dave Carrick



Bill and Melissa Kennedy with Dave Carrick at Middle Tennessee

Kennedy Society of North America



(Continued from page 52)

Fall looks to be busy as well:

* Dave and Amy Carrick will be meeting Dave's cousin Elizabeth Sclater and her husband, Malcolm, in Glasgow, and they will then go to Ayr and Culzean Castle. While there, they will receive a personally guided tour of the castle by the Earl of Cassillis, Lord Archie Kennedy. Dave's great grandfather and Elizabeth's great grandmother were siblings - the beauty of Ancestry.com! Future reports are upcoming, and please check Facebook for postings!

* A beautiful weekend was had by those attending the Middle Tennessee Highland Games in the Nashville metro area, including the first Kennedy tent there! Bill and Melissa convened the tent, and there were several Kennedy members that took advantage of that. One was Kathy Erwin from Evansville, Indiana, who had recently come back from a trip to Scotland- including visiting Culzean Castle! Next year's AGM will be at these games, so make sure to watch for news related to hotel and event information!

* Multiple games are upcoming: Ligonier with Colleen and Dan Caldwell, September 14; Niagara Celtic Heritage Festival and Highland Games, Kona and Kathi Gant (Clan Claus), September 14-15; New Hampshire Highland Games and Festival, Nina Eppes, et al, September 20-22; Scotland Connecticut Highland Games, Leo Kennedy, October 13; Stone Mountain, David and Irene Phelps, October 18-20; Charleston Scottish Games, Sean Carrick, November 2, and; Clover Highland Games/Feis Clobhair, Sean Carrick, November 9.

And then it starts all over again in January!

Vice Chair Quebec - Montreal



Scottish culture, pride and heritage in Montreal Montreal Highland Games 2024: A Memorable Summer and a Glimpse into the Future by Steven Logan, Fsa Scot, Vice Chair - Quebec

Our summer months are very busy in Montreal, especially when we think of the various Scottish events happening. As a perfectionist, it's easy to wonder if it will all get done correctly. When hosting any events for your clan, it's important to not take on more than you can chew otherwise you can easily get overwhelmed or unmotivated. I do over 50 events a year with the purpose of looking for the Logans across Canada at various Highland games and events, sharing that passion for heritage, Scottish clan values and traditions. I have my clan in my heart, this is why I do all that. I believe that you only every get what you put in for others. I want Logans to know that I am working as hard as I can to protect our history, share it with others and bring it all to light for the newer generation that is far disconnected from its roots.

After many years of hosting and attending various events, I have managed to take things as they happen. What counts at the end of the day is that you gave it your best shot with great passion. It's very practical in the month of August as there are a lot of events, including the Montreal Highland Games where I act as Clans and Communities Director held on Sunday August 4th, 2024.

Every year I look forward to our games for so many reasons. Montreal is an amazing city and it has the most endearing Scottish community. I am not just a director at the Montreal games, I attend to really spend time with people I consider my extended family. My Clans and NPOs are just amazing. This year we had clans Gregor, Lindsay, MacNicol, MacLeod, Mackenzie, Young, Gunn, Mackinnon and Logan of course. Organizing games is a lot of work but seeing all my clans on the big day is just wonderful, I get a visit from my extended family and that is a real treat in my case. I am proud to see my people when they come back as this year, it was held on a very hot day. When I act as Director, I set the bar high because I have a responsibility to everyone and need the experience to be optimal. It allows me to set for my vision and ideas and work with my Highland Games committee. Some people I only see once a year at our games and I want us to build important memories.

I also got to spend time with my Central Montreal Lions Club, the Girl Scouts, Grande Loge du Québec and many NPO'S that I am personally involved with. It's just so nice to see my people, my clans and my NPOS again, I enjoy every moment of it and I had to say that when the games are done for the year and I see people leave, I can't help but feel upset. People are leaving after I have just met up with them to get their news. I do get attached to the people who visit me in Montreal because they all my VIPS and have given important con-

(Continued on page 55)

Vice Chair Quebec - Montreal

(Continued from page 54)

tributions to their clan. Those who host are accomplished people who give of their resources and time.

This year, at the Montreal Highland Games, clan Gregor was the best clan. The best clan at our games is chosen on various factors, the display and how people are greeted at the tent but also the hard work certain individuals have done all year long. William Petrie, chair of Scots Canada and his wife Sylvie have done a fantastic job promoting and working on Scots Canada bringing it to various Highland games. Scots Canada has the aim of bringing people together within the Scottish community but also helping people who don't have any Scottish roots to take part and make them feel included. So many people who aren't Scottish wish they were and want to connect to it somehow. Scots Canada helps people smile, believe in themselves and helps them understand that everyone and anyone can participate and be part of the greater Scottish community. The organization also prompts people to question their own heritage.

I believe we have a collective duty and responsibility to honour and celebrate passion and people who help make the world a better place and work hard to make a difference. ScotsCanada is an organization that takes great pride in its mission. I was very pleased to see our president, Cameron Stevens come and congratulate them. There has been a tremendous amount of work done in different places and many new members have also appeared. It takes a very high level of commitment to do all that. During the Clans parade, I flew the Gregor banner with great pride. Many wondered why I did that. I was just extremely proud of my Clan Gregor. I will always support my clans as we are all linked somewhere through fate and circumstance. We are family.

The Montreal Highland Games were a success and many people came to the Logan tent. This year was a little different as I was promoting the Logan family convention for the Scottish Commander. Clan Logan will have it's convention in Edinburgh from April 23rd to the 27th, 2025. If all goes well, a new Commander should be appointed for our clan, a first in over 222 years since we lost our last Chief, Hugh Logan back in 1802. Our games have it all from pipping and drumming competitions to Celtic music performances and heavy athletics. I want to warmly thank the Montreal Highland Games committee who have worked very hard early on in the year to give us quality Highland Games and in particular, President Cameron Stevens and Sherri McGurnaghan who have both given their time and energy. Won't you come to our games next year? I will be waiting!

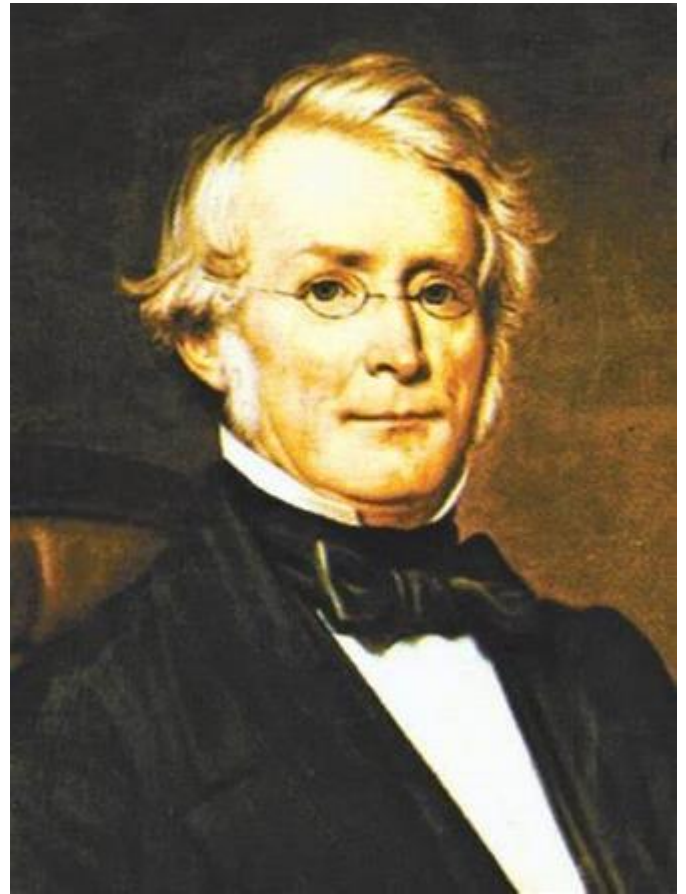


Clan Logan Society of Canada

Sir William Edmund Logan

by Steven Logan, Fsa Scot, Vice Chair - Quebec

Montreal is the city we always want to come back to. It is, after all, the first city in Canada to host the Olympics back in 1976. Apart from Poutine(cheese curds, gravy and fries) or Mount Royal Park, We've had many prominent Scottish figures that left their mark on our city. We like to go shopping in Montreal and we must really thank James Angus Ogilvy who founded Ogilvy's(now known as Holt Renfrew Ogilvy) back in 1866. The Black Watch Armoury, a place I have attended various events for Clan Logan through the years, is home to the Black Watch(RHR) of Canada which was modeled on the Scottish regiment of the same name. Founded in 1868, this Canadian Army regiment celebrates its Scottish traditions with its iconic Black Watch tartan and its pipe band. We can also talk about the Monument to John Young of Created by renowned Québec sculptor Louis-Philippe Hébert, it was erected in 1911 to honour the Scottish-born businessman and chairman of the Port Commission. While the 19th-century port bustling with sailing ships and steamers that Young knew is gone, you can still enjoy its just-as-lively modern-day incarnation. Let's not forget, among other things, our very own McGill University that was built on the estate of Scottish fur trader and businessman James McGill (1794-1813) in 1829.



Montreal seems to forget about another Scottish figure, Born in Montreal, Lower Canada. Sir William Edmond Logan was a prominent Canadian geologist. Logan's early life was marked by a well-rounded education. He was sent to Edinburgh to study, where he learned languages, music, and became an accomplished artist. His interest in geology was sparked while managing a copper-smelting works in Wales, which led him to create geological maps and interpretations that caught the attention of Britain's leading geologists.

In 1842, Logan was appointed as the first director of the GSC. Under his leadership, the GSC conducted extensive geological surveys across Canada, contributing significantly to the mapping and understanding of the country's mineral resources. He is best known for founding and serving as the first director of the Geological Survey of Canada from 1842 to 1869. One of Logan's notable achievements was his work on the "Geology of Canada" published in 1863, which provided a comprehensive analysis of Canada's geological structures and economic minerals.

Logan's expertise was recognized with several honors, including the Wollaston Medal in 1856 and the Royal Medal in 1867. He was also the first Canadian inducted into the Royal Society of London for achievements in Canada. His legacy includes the naming of Mount Logan, Canada's highest peak, in his honor.

Sir William Edmond Logan was also knighted by Queen Victoria at Windsor Castle in 1856. This honor followed his receipt of the French Cross of the Legion of Honour from Napoleon III in 1855, recognizing his significant contributions to geology. He sadly passed away on June 22, 1875, in Wales, but his legacy continues to influence the field of geology and the exploration of Canada's natural resources.

Clan MacTavish - New Member

Crest: A boar's head erased Or, langued Proper

Motto: Non Oblitus (Not forgetful).



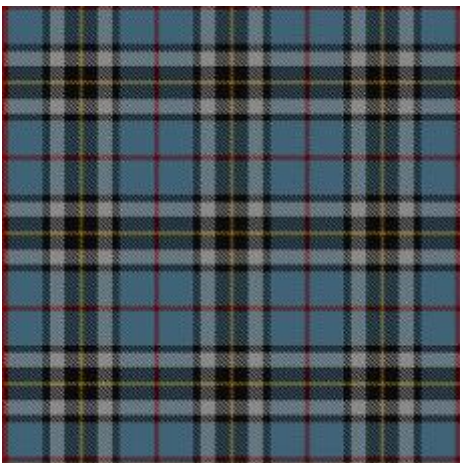
CLAN/FAMILY NAMES: Cash, Holmes, Kash, Kaish, MacAishe, MacCamish, MacCash, MacCavish, MacComb, MacCombie, MacComich, MacComish, MaComie, Macomie, MacCosh, MacIltavish, MacIITavish, MacLaws, MacLawes, MacElhose, MacLehose, MacTais, MacTaus, MacTauais, MacTavish, McTavish, Mactavish, Mactavis, M'Tavish, MacTawes, MacTawis, MacTawys, MacTawes, MacTeague, Stephens, Stephenson, Stevens, Stevenson, Tavish, Tawes, Tawse, Tawesson, Tawis, Teague, Thom, Thomas, Thomason, Thomasson, Thompson, Thomson, Tod, Todd, Tomey and all variant spellings are welcome to join us in celebrating our shared Scottish Highland heritage.

Additional historical resources provide an extended list of the Clan MacTavish related family names as follows:

Cavis, Cavis, Cavish, Kavis, Kavish, Kaviss, Hawes, Haws, Hawson, Haweson, Hawesson, Hawson, Holmes, MacAves, MacAvis, MacAvish, MacAwis, MacAwishe, MacAws, MacCauais, MacCauish, MacCause, MacCavis, MacCavish, MacCavss, MacCaweis, MacCawis, MacCawes, MacCaws, MacCavis, MacClavish, MacGavish, MacGilchois, MacGilhosche, MacGillhois, MacHomais, MacHolmes, (less often McHomes), MacIlhaos, MacIlhois, MacIlhoise, MacIlhose, MacIlhouse, MacIlhois, MacIlhos, MacIlhose, MacKawes, MacKilhoise, MacKillhose, MacKlavish, MacK-

lehois, Makavhis, Makawis, Makcaus, Makcawis, Makcaws, Makcawys, Makgilhois, MacCavis, MacLawes, MacLaws, MacLehose, MacTaevis, MacTamhais, MacTause, MacTaveis, MacTavish, MacTawisch, MacTawys, MacTeague, MacTegue, MacThamais, MacThamhais, MacThavish, MacThomhais, McTavish, Makgilhoise, Micklehose, Mucklehose, Taes, Tais, Taise, Taish, Taiss, Tam, Tameson, Tamesone, Tamson, Tamsone, Taus, Tavis, Tause, Tauson, Tavis, Tavish, Taweson, Tawesson, Tawis, Tawes, Taws, Tawse, Tawseon, Taweson, Tawson, Taweist, Tawst, Tawus, Thomason, Thomasson, Thomassone, Thomassoun, Thomessone, Thompson, Thomson, Thomsone, Thomsoun, Thomsoune, Thomsson, Tomson, Tomsone.

MacTavish Dress



MacTavish Hunting



Thompson/Thomson/MacTavish



Clan Designer

Unleash Your Scottish Pride

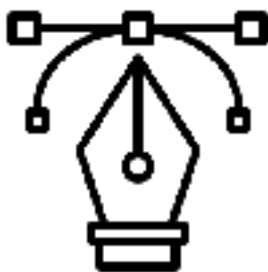
Website: clandesigner.ca

Email: info@clandesigner.ca

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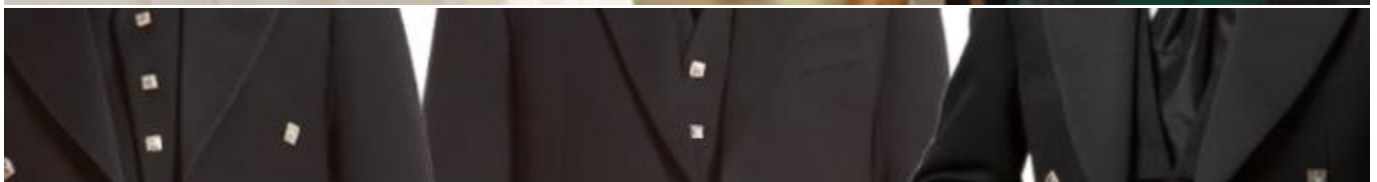
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House of Cassady

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As a Goldsmith in Toronto, I design and sell **handmade original** one-off and small production **jewellery** pieces. In addition, I love to do custom and redesign jewelry orders.

I also offer an entirely **bespoke, hand-stitched heirloom kiltmaking service**, and am able to undertake minor and major **kilt repairs**.



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Visit the Kiltmaking Services Page to find
out more:

I WANT A KILT!



House of Cassady - Unique opportunity to make your very own Scottish kilt!

There's nothing more iconically Scottish than the kilt. They often come in different forms, and variable materials, but there is a long rooted tradition of kiltmaking that has specific methods of construction associated with it. Almost entirely stitched by hand, an heirloom grade kilt should last more than a lifetime (well, unless it's really seeing hard wear, such as pipers and dancers).

Come on a kiltmaking adventure with me, Robin Cassady-Cain. I trained in traditional kiltmaking methods in Scotland at a professional level Kiltmaker's academy on the Royal Mile of Edinburgh.

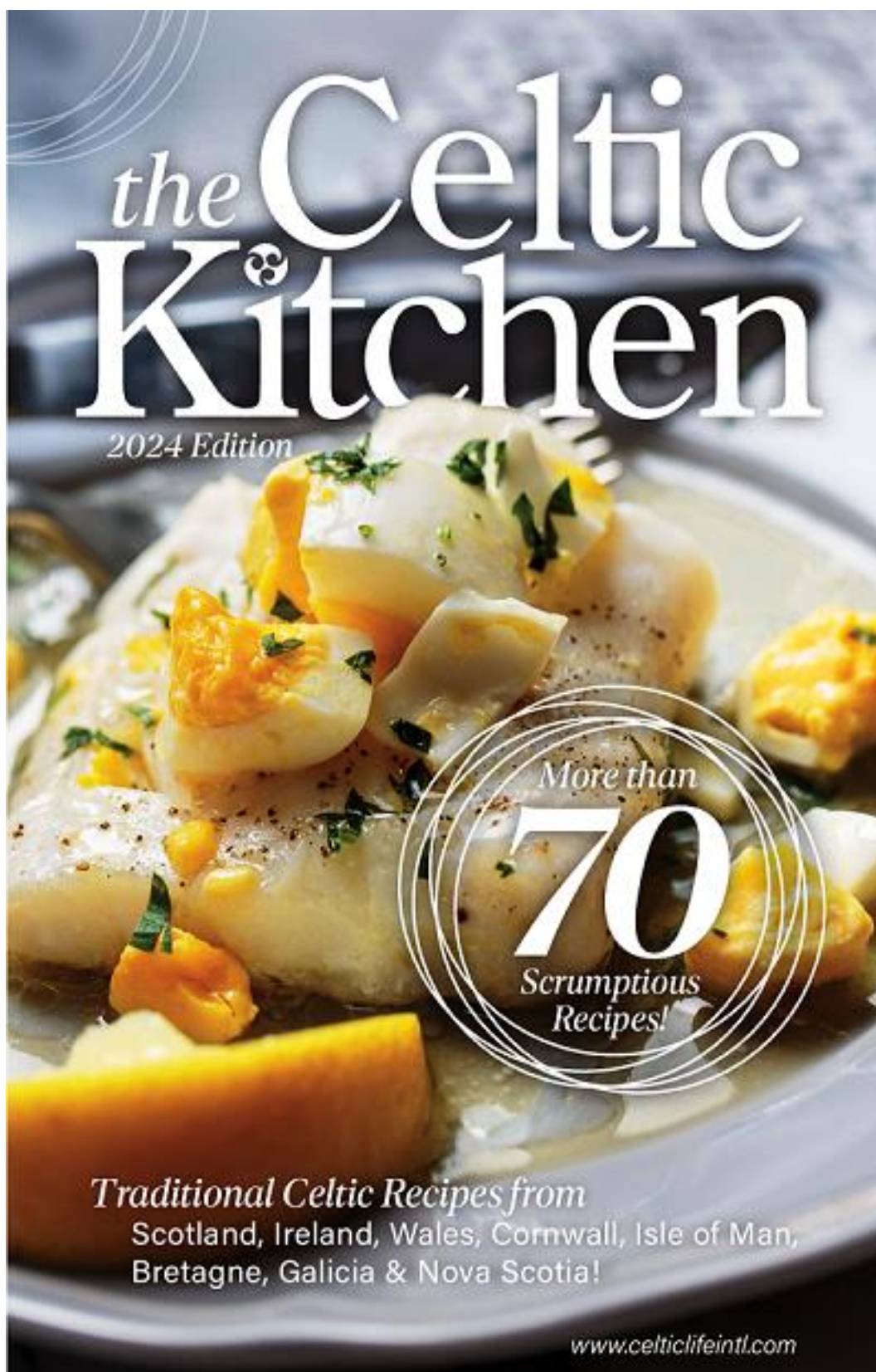
Almost entirely stitched by hand, on this four day workshop, you will learn how to measure for making a kilt, how to set up the kilt length to "the stripe", and the multiple different steps, using a variety of stitches, that go into making a finished, traditional Scottish kilt.

This adventure will take place over the month of November 2024 at the Contemporary Textile Studio (<https://www.textilestudio.ca/>) in Toronto. The Contemporary Textile Studio Co-operative was established in 2006 by a group of textile artists seeking, among other things, a home for the promotion of textile arts and design. The studio is located in 401 Richmond Street West, a well-known cultural hub in downtown Toronto that is home to many galleries, artist-run centres, and art collectives.

Registration for the kilt workshop will not open until later in the summer, but you can register your interest in the course by email to me (Robin) at : houseofcassady@gmail.com and I will let you know when registration opens.

Register at <https://www.textilestudio.ca/current-workshops/p/traditional-scottish-kiltmaking>. Registration will close mid-September. If you are interested in taking the course, but the dates don't work, email to register your interest and be informed of future dates (houseofcassady@gmail.com)





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Clan MacAulay Association - International Gathering

The MacAulay International Gathering

August 7-10, 2024

Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia

The sun shone on MacAulays as we came together August 7th for the first biennial International Gathering to be held outside of the UK. Attendees from eight countries were warmly greeted at the Inverary Resort, owned by MacAulays, in Baddeck on Cape Breton Island. We enjoyed a BBQ dinner followed by a fun mixer game and entertainment from our fellow MacAulays. The evening concluded with a lovely Calling of the Countries, complete with torches!



Thursday dawned as our Gatherers attended either our DNA/Genealogy session where family connections were explored or the Fun with Scots Gaelic session where we learned some essential phrases to help us through the weekend, such as *tha mi sgìth*.



That afternoon we mixed our Gatherers into 13 teams and they scoured the beautiful Inverary Resort for answers to the clues in a musical themed scavenger hunt. Our Thursday banquet featured an opportunity to welcome our first timers, to thank our executive committee and Ambassadors and Commissioners, and to recognize our Life Members. We were then entertained by local musicians and Cape Breton Step Dancers from the local Gaelic College who taught our Gatherers some steps. A great evening of camaraderie and fun.

(Continued on page 65)

Clan MacAulay Association - International Gathering



(Continued from page 64)

Bright and early Friday Gatherers climbed on coaches to take us to the Highland Village Museum. A fantastic experience and a highly recommended spot to visit. Prior to the banquet three couples celebrating landmark anniversaries renewed their vows in a traditional hand fasting ceremony. Friday evening was our formal event which included an energetic Ode to the Haggis. Following the fantastic meal Commissioners who had not previously been invested took part in our investiture ceremony. A local musician kept us entertained for the rest of the evening.



Saturday morning was the Annual General Meeting with reports and the election of our executive committee. Saturday afternoon saw the return of the Heavyish Games (our version of the Heavy Games but made for those of us athletically challenged). There was hammer for distance, haggis hurling and the caber toss. Even with the gale force winds, fun and laughter ensued, especially when the hammer ended up in a tree!

(Continued on page 66)

Clan MacAulay Association - International Gathering

(Continued from page 65)



Alas, as with all great events, the Clan MacAulay International Gathering drew to a close Saturday evening with a Cape Breton Kitchen Party. A highlight was the unveiling of the location for the 2026 Clan MacAulay International Gathering ... we're headed to Co. Donegal, Ireland! Can't wait!!



**Clan MacAulay International Gathering
12-15 August 2026**



**Inishowen Gateway Hotel, Buncrana
Co. Donegal, Ireland**



Immersive virtual tours that will showcase Scotland's rich heritage, breathtaking landscapes, and iconic landmarks while featuring live music performances, engaging interviews with industry experts, and captivating video footage.

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ross@taypiping.co.uk

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<https://www.taypiping.co.uk/commissioned-tunes/>

Clan Macfie Society in Canada - Special Announcement



Dear Clan members,

I was able to review an email from a colleague and wanted to pass it along to you.

We are getting closer to the final date to vote for a clan name. The deadline is Sept 15. If you have a last name of Macfie, MacPhee, McDuffee, McAfee, McPhie, etc. So, if you wish to vote, please do so. The voting was set up in such a way, that your last name must be a Macfie derivative. Also, you must be 18 years of age and older. Sorry to say, some of you are not able to vote.

I know there has been a lot of confusion in the past few months about the Clan Name and Clan Commander search. There has been some misinformation that has been circulated.

Our previous Commander is Iain Macfie, and due to his illness for the past several years, he has been unable to perform the duties of Clan Commander. After a lot of conversation and discussion the Lord Lyon finally received his letter of resignation as Clan Commander, last year. The process of finding and installing a new Clan Commander has proven to be a long and arduous one. Hopefully that will culminate in May 2025.

During the process of finding a new Clan Commander the subject of our Clan name has become another place of contention. Our Clan Name, Macfie, was established in 1981 and that has been our name for 43 years (and if you look at history it has been the name for several centuries). However, there have been several groups of people from one of our Societies, that have approached the Lord Lyon several times and have tried to change the name to MacDuffie. Each time the Lyon has said NO. The name has been examined several times and proven to be Macfie, yet, the fact remains, we still have people trying to get it changed. Therefore, the Lord Lyon has said we must settle this name. He, the Lyon, has appointed a supervisor from his office to guide us through the entire process. Which brings us to the following process; in the following paragraph I have given instruction how to share with the Presidents Council and ultimately the Lord Lyon what your preference is for our Clan name.

(Continued on page 69)

Clan Macfie Society in Canada - Special Announcement

(Continued from page 68)

Again, if your last name is a derivative of “Macfie” please, please go to this website and fill out the form with your preference. It is very important and **MUST** be submitted by midnight on **15 September 2024**.

Go to the following website: www.clannameandcommandersearch.com

Scroll down to: 3 Critical tasks need to be completed to participate in this process

Go to number 1. Click on “input Form” this will bring up the form

Down load this form to your computer.

Fill out the 2nd page of this form entirely (check all boxes)

After you fill it out, save it to your computer

Start an email to clannameandcommandersearch@mail.com

Attach your filled our form to this email and send it.

You will receive a notification and a number when it is received. (If you have not received a confirmation number within 3 days you may need to send an email and ask if it has been received or, fill out another form.)

Folks this is very, very important that you do this immediately. If there is something wrong with the form you send in, you will receive a notice and what needs to be done to correct it.

Have a great week.

Kind regards,

Gary MacPhie

Senior Associate, Search Associates

Toronto, Canada

Tel: (416) 275-7490

Clan MacLennan Canada



The mission of Clan MacLennan Canada is to encourage research, documentation and sharing of the history and genealogy of Mac/McLennans and related surnames in Canada, and to promote fellowship and a connection to Mac/McLennans around the world.

Greetings CASSOC Clans and Scottish Societies,

I hope you have had a successful season of Highland games and Gatherings as Clan MacLennan Canada had, attending four Highland Games, a Gathering in Cape Breton for the descendants of Duncan MacLennan (1740-1828) of River Denys, Cape Breton, N S and a five day Worldwide MacLennan Gathering in Strathpeffer, Scotland around where many MacLennan's lived.

Starting in June, 2024 Alan MacLennan attended the Highland Games in Coquitlam, BC ; Sue McLennan and Jac Getzinger hosted a tent at the Kingsville-Essex Highland Games.



Our Clan map draws a lot of people wanting to know their Scottish ancestral home



Sue McLennan and Jac Getzinger at Kingsville

The Cambridge Scottish Festival and Highland Games

In July, Sue McLennan and Barbara MacLennan hosted our Clan Tent at the Cambridge Scottish Festival and Highland Games. It was a nice warm day with a few gusts of wind. The location this year of the Avenue of the Clans was not as central as other years so we didn't get as many to our tent. We talked to a few interested in the history of their clan and gave out our Clan Brochures.

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Clan MacLennan Canada



Barbara MacLennan at Cambridge HG with visitors Valerie Binns and Rob & Salima MacLennan



Sue McLennan & Barbara MacLennan

(Continued from page 70)

The 75th Glengarry Highland Games



Clan MacLennan Canada was well represented at the 75th Glengarry Highland Games in Maxville! With Marilyn MacLennan Lawlor and Beverly MacLennan being recognized for being there at the very first one in 1948!



The Clan Parade at Glengarry Highland Games with Beverly MacLennan & Lane Tenant holding the Banner

(Continued on page 72)

Clan MacLennan Canada

(Continued from page 71)

Amazing Race Canada Visits Maxville

The Amazing Race Canada came to Maxville Friday, May 10 as part of the next season's challenges. Local Scots were encouraged to Grab their kilt and head to the Glengarry Highland Games site at 12:30 p.m. sharp. Canadian legend Jon Montgomery and The Amazing Race Canada contestants converged on the grounds for an installment of the popular TV show. Over several hundred attendees were able to watch a live-to-camera performance with pipers, drummers, dancers, fiddlers, and heavyweights from the region showcasing some of the best of the Highland Games. Everyone in attendance, many clad in their family tartans cheered on race teams as they arrived on site to face Highland style challenges. Be sure to watch this next season of The Amazing Race Canada as our Scottish Heritage is highlighted in Maxville, Ontario, home of North America's Largest Highland Games, celebrating 75 years this 2024.



Our own Rory Logan MacLennan with Canadian legend Jon Montgomery in Maxville

Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games

Melanie and Andy McLennan with their grandsons, Williem and Reuben represented Clan MacLennan at the Friday night Light'n'o the Hearth and enjoyed the Tattoo.

We had a beautiful day on Saturday, warm with a slight breeze.

As usual there was almost a continual line of children at our tent to get their passports stamped. Williem and Reuben were a great help with the passport duty.

Many of all ages were interested in our Scottish book collection and asked questions about the Scottish Heritage.

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Melanie and Andy McLennan



Clan Parade with Andy McLennan and Williem holding the Banner



Scots Canada was kept busy also



Barbara MacLennan stamping a child's passport

(Continued from page 72)

River Denys MacLennan reunion for descendants of Duncan MacLennan (1740-1828)



The MacLennans of River Denys, Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia gathered for a reunion at the beginning of August. It was a celebration 200+ years of MacLennan history in Inverness County since Duncan MacLennan first arrived in 1821 from Lochcarron Scotland.

Over 3 days, descendants of Duncan and four of his sons - Donald (The Tailor), Hugh, Dougald and John - reconnected with old friends and welcomed previously unmet relatives from as far away as Vancouver Island and Florida.

The weekend kicked off with a Friday evening meet and greet, giving everyone a chance to say hello, and find their place on the family tree that lists over 2,400 family members. The Saturday night cèilidh

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Clan MacLennan Canada

(Continued from page 73)

featured local talent on fiddle and guitar playing traditional Cape Breton fiddle tunes and Gaelic singing. Of course a square dance set took over the floor to cap off a great evening. Family members made donations toward the maintenance of the cairn dedicated to Duncan MacLennan located in the Margaret Taylor pioneer cemetery in River Denys.

Sunday service at Forbes United Church had its biggest turn out in years. That was followed by a family BBQ picnic and a final chance to say "soraidh gus an coinnich sinn a rithist", Farewell until we meet again.

Slàinte, Alan

MacLennan Gathering 2024

Many Canadian MacLennans attended the gathering including member Jac Gretzinger who took with him around twenty of his relations from the USA.

Bruce McLennan, our Worldwide Webmaster and Genealogist from Australia chaired the Genealogy Day. Bruce organized and led five of the activities during the Gathering as well as having a key role in liaison with the Scottish Organising Committee. Our Canadian Clan treasurer, Donald McLennan spoke on the Genealogy Groups formed to help Bruce find genealogy information of Mc/MacLennans in Canadian Counties before 1900.

Report on the Worldwide Clan MacLennan Gathering by Bruce McLennan

The recent Clan MacLennan Gathering based in the unique Victorian Spa village of Strathpeffer in the centre of the Highlands had something for everybody. Clan members from Canada, US, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and, of course Scotland and England, mingled in the many events. Some had arrived early to explore surrounding districts from the well-placed location – only half an hour inland from Inverness.

The first event was a guided tour to Knockfarrel hilltop overlooking the village and the strath out to Dingwall – the site of an ancient vitrified fort. The guide – Sandy MacLennan – pointed out where MacLennan families had lived in and around Strathpeffer.

Next was a full day of Clan Genealogy and History introduced by the legendary performer and activist Dolina MacLennan. The day included illustrations of using the extensive Genealogy Resources available from the Clan website, Clan history and the benefits of DNA. The latter presented by the lead Admin for the Clan MacLennan DNA Project, Alasdair F Macdonald, from Strathclyde University.

The Clan Parliament was held in the nearby Caberfeidh Shinty Club building – Chief Ruairidh presiding, with some clear proposals for moving the worldwide Clan forward. Later, some members took the opportunity to brush up their shinty skills.

Patrick (USA), Alistair, Chief Ruairidh, Bruce (Australia) and Chairman Neil after the Clan Parliament at the Shinty pitch

In the afternoon a tour of the village pointed out various Clan connections with Strathpeffer – for example: A brother of Alexander McLennan, the Chief Engineer for the construction of the famous Brunel ship "Great

(Continued on page 75)

(Continued from page 74)

Eastern”, and the home of Donald McLennan (1838-1919) – called “Timaru” from his time in New Zealand’s South Island.

The Gathering would not have been complete without several guided whisky tastings. Followed by a very successful Ceilidh in the spectacular Strathpeffer “Pavilion” – music by the award-winning Matthew MacLennan Dance Band.

The next day started with a tour of the Glen Ord distillery (started by Donald McLennan 1806-1894) and a visit to a nearby old grain mill and an Inn also associated with McLennans nearby. Later that day there were several tours of the Castle Leod – guided by the current Mackenzie Chief. And in the evening a Formal Dinner in the Ben Wyvis hotel, featuring pipers, haggis, talks and fun.

On the Sunday many attended the local Church service and then on to a farewell lunch, again followed by more music.



Patrick (USA), Alistair, Chief Ruairidh, Bruce (Australia) and Chairman Neil after the Clan Parliament at the Shinty pitch



The Strathpeffer Spa Pavilion was the venue for the Ceilidh evening

On the Monday some 30 attendees undertook to walk the “McLennan Way” walk from the upper reaches of Strathconon – as described in the free eBook “A guide to MacLennan Places across Scotland”. We were first hosted in the Strathconon Community Hall by the hall committee chairman.

Events concluded with genealogists snapping photos of the Mac/McLennan headstones in the large, picturesque, Tomnahurich cemetery in Inverness.

Many thanks are due to the organising committee: Chairman Neil McLennan, with Rebecca, Kirsteen, Bruce, Alistair and Fiona. There’s already talk about another Gathering at the same venue in 2028.

Overall, many opportunities were created to meet Clan folk from around the world. Many had previously met during the pandemic on Clan Zoom meetings and were pleased finally to meet in person.

More information about Clan MacLennan—www.clanmaclennan-worldwide.com

Cheers,

Barbara MacLennan
Vice President
Clan MacLennan Canada

Stonehenge Discovery - Stones Traced to Scotland



Unveiling the Mystery: Stonehenge's Stones Traced to Scotland

Recent research has upended long-held beliefs about the origins of the iconic stones that form Stonehenge, one of the most enigmatic and celebrated prehistoric monuments in the world. For decades, it was widely accepted that the stones, particularly the smaller bluestones, came from the Preseli Hills in Wales. However, new evidence suggests that these stones actually hail from Scotland, shifting the narrative and opening new avenues of historical inquiry.

A New Revelation

Traditionally, the bluestones of Stonehenge were thought to be sourced from the Preseli Hills in Wales, based on geological studies that matched the stones' composition to the region. However, a groundbreaking study published in [Journal of Archaeological Science] has cast doubt on this theory. Researchers have identified distinct geological signatures in the bluestones that match rock formations found in the southern Scottish Highlands, particularly in the region of the Isle of Mull and the nearby area of Arran. A [study](#) published in Nature shows that the Altar Stone's age fingerprint identifies it as coming from the Orcadian Basin in north-east Scotland! See image on next page.

The Evidence

The key to this revelation lies in advanced geochemical analysis techniques. Researchers have used X-ray fluorescence (XRF) and other sophisticated methods to analyze the mineral composition of the Stonehenge stones. These analyses reveal that the stone samples from Stonehenge bear a closer resemblance to those found in Scotland than to the Welsh Preseli stones. This evidence suggests that the stones may have been transported from Scotland rather than Wales, challenging long-standing assumptions.

Historical Implications

If the bluestones originated in Scotland, it raises intriguing questions about the methods used to transport

(Continued on page 77)

Stonehenge Discovery - Stones Traced to Scotland

(Continued from page 76)

them to the Stonehenge site in southern England, a distance of over 400 kilometers. Theories about the movement of these massive stones now include the possibility of maritime transport or complex land routes, involving a coordinated effort among ancient communities.

This new understanding also shifts our perspective on the cultural and political connections of prehistoric Britain. It suggests that the builders of Stonehenge were part of a network of tribes or societies that extended across significant distances, indicating a more complex and interconnected prehistoric Britain than previously understood.

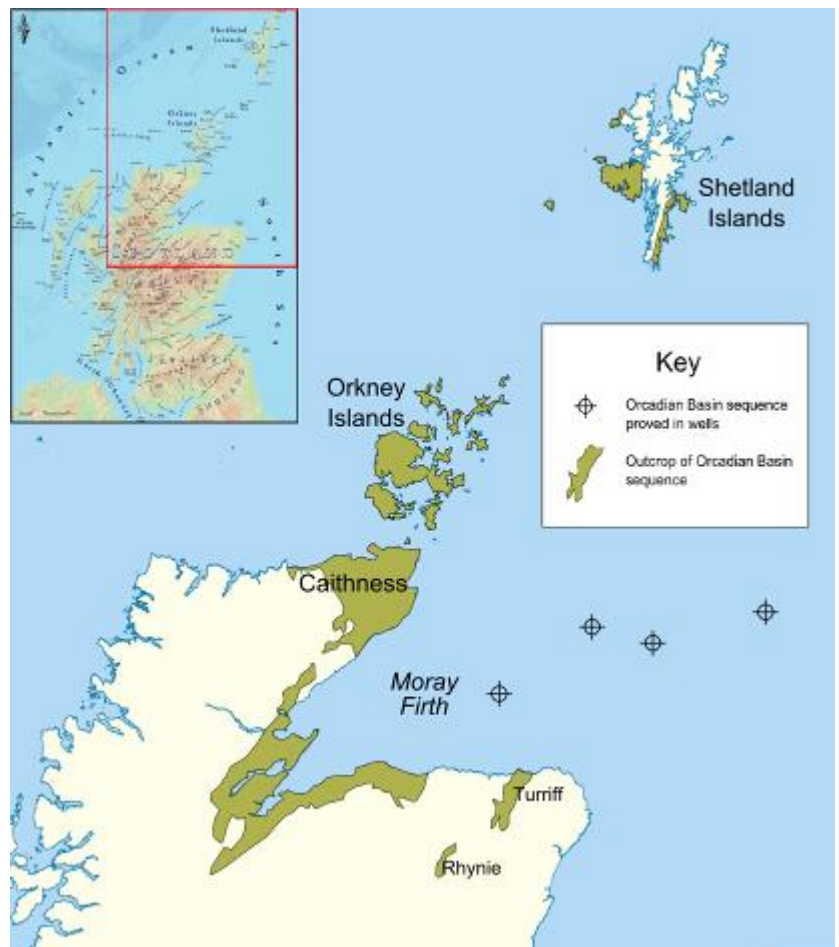
The Broader Impact

This discovery not only reshapes our view of Stonehenge's construction but also enhances our appreciation of Scotland's role in ancient British history. The recognition that Scotland contributed such a significant element to one of the world's most famous monuments underscores the importance of Scottish heritage in the broader context of British and European prehistory.

What's Next?

The implications of this research are profound, and further studies are likely to continue exploring the origins and transportation of Stonehenge's stones. Archaeologists and historians are already re-examining the existing evidence and planning new excavations to shed light on the full story behind this ancient monument.

The Altar Stone's age fingerprint identifies it as coming from the Orcadian Basin in north-east Scotland.



Large map by Mikenorton - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=18502199>

Clan MacNeil in Canada Association - Clan Gathering at Fergus

Clan MacNeil in Canada Gathering Report



From August 9th to 11th, Clan MacNeil in Canada held our clan gathering at the Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games in Fergus, Ontario. We are thrilled to report that it was a huge success! We had many MacNeils attend from Ontario, Alberta, and across the U.S. This event had been on our wish list for a while, and we chose the Fergus Games, the largest in Canada, as the perfect venue to celebrate our MacNeil heritage.

The weekend began on Friday afternoon. Upon arriving in Fergus, I found that MacNeils were already on site, ready to help set up our large clan tent. Ruth and Don not only assisted with the setup but also stayed at the tent while I checked into the hotel. That evening, a large group of MacNeils participated in the "Lighting of the Hearth" ceremony. We enjoyed a spectacular tattoo featuring Highland dancers, pipe bands, entertainment, and a fantastic fireworks display.

Saturday was the main event at the games. Many MacNeils visited our tent to say hello and purchase MacNeil merchandise. The executive board of Clan MacNeil in Canada was well represented by Vince MacNeil (our President) and his wife Suzanne, myself, Debby Stevenson, Father Paul MacNeil, Suzanne McNeill, and Kathy Benzi. Vince MacNeil, from Cape Breton, was instrumental in connecting with MacNeils who had ties

(Continued on page 79)



Clan MacNeil in Canada Association - Clan Gathering at Fergus

(Continued from page 78)

to Cape Breton, discovering that most were somehow related to him. It was wonderful to see so many MacNeils working together and sharing their stories. The enthusiasm and passion to showcase our clan were truly inspiring.



As people came and went from the tent, we made sure they knew to return by 11:30 a.m. to join us in the opening ceremonies. Almost everyone came back, and we proudly lined up with our banners, flags, and swords. Thanks to Ray MacNeil for arranging the clan banner from Clan MacNeil in Nova Scotia. As a feature clan, we marched at the front behind Clan MacTavish. Unlike previous years when I walked alone in the ceremonies, this time around, approximately 35 MacNeils marched proudly with me in front of a large crowd. Hearing the crowd's cheers and recognition for our small clan was special. As we left the field at the end of the ceremonies, we let out our war cry, "Conquer or Die," which was a memorable moment.



Throughout the day, our tent was busy with people enjoying the Fergus Highland Games' many attractions, including Highland dancers, the Heavies, great entertainment, numerous vendors, and of course, the Pipe Bands. If you haven't yet attended the Fergus Games, it should definitely be on your bucket list. Next year will mark their 80th anniversary.

To continue the celebration, we hosted a meet-and-greet on Saturday night at the Red Door Restaurant in downtown Fergus, graciously offered by Natalie McNeill. It was the perfect

(Continued on page 80)

Clan MacNeil in Canada Association - Clan Gathering at Fergus



(Continued from page 79)

venue for our ceilidh. We enjoyed music by Suzanne McNeill and her group, delicious food prepared by Natalie and her staff, MacNeil trivia by Kathy Benzi, and MacNeil bingo by Suzanne. Both our President and I gave speeches, thanking everyone for their attendance (we had a full house). Father Paul was the MC, sharing jokes and keeping us on schedule. Bill Petrie, Chair of "Scots Canada," provided an update on Scots Canada's plans. We also had two bottles of Scotch to celebrate! It felt like reuniting with long-lost family, with engaging conversations and a festive atmosphere. We concluded the night with door prizes and a big thank you to Natalie and her staff.

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Clan MacNeil in Canada Association - Clan Gathering at Fergus

(Continued from page 80)

Sunday, the final day of the games, brought a bit of rain, making the clan tent quieter. However, MacNeils continued to visit, share stories, and gather information about membership. The games were very successful for Clan MacNeil, and I want to express my gratitude to everyone who participated and made it a special weekend. Hosting the MacNeil tent for 15 years has been a source of great pride, and I am incredibly grateful for the support and effort from those who traveled to attend the Gathering. A special thanks to the MacNeils who show up every year to support us; your presence keeps me motivated to return. I also appreciate the support of the executive of Clan MacNeil in Canada. It was encouraging to see so many young MacNeils interested in their heritage, as they are the future of our clan. If any MacNeils who attended would like to become members of Clan MacNeil in Canada, we would be delighted to have you join us. You can reach out to Vince MacNeil at president@clanmacneilcanada.ca.

We will return next year, and we want everyone to know that MacNeils are always welcome at the tent! A heartfelt thank you to all our American friends who joined us; you are truly part of the family. We may even organize another Gathering in the future.

Finally, be proud of the name MacNeil and of who you are and where you come from. If you have any comments or questions about our Gathering or anything MacNeil-related, feel free to email me at tmcneill.myles1880@hotmail.com.

Terry McNeill Myles



New Brunswick Scottish Cultural Association



REPORT TO THE SEPTEMBER AN DROCHDAID

It's been a busy spring and summer season for the New Brunswick Scottish Cultural Association (NBSCA), since May of this year we have participated five provincial events, games, and festivals.



Presentation of the NBSCA Award

The season started with the Anglophone West School District Heritage Fair, an annual event which attracts student projects from western New Brunswick with 60 projects being submitted this year. The NBSCA participates each year with a display on New Brunswick's Scottish Heritage and Culture and additionally sponsors a trophy on this subject. This year's recipient was an elementary student who dedicated her project to her cousin a native New Brunswicker who now lives in Scotland who became a world champion weightlifter and now serves on the board of the Commonwealth Games Scotland as Athletic Director.

The Gathering of the Scots marked the first games and festivals of the season, which saw the return of the Knights of Valor Medieval Jousting to the games which served as a major attraction. Other events included the Massed Bands and 65 Clan Banners at the opening parade led by Mel Fitton the Clan Chieftain, the heavyweight competition, fly-casting and many vendors and displays including the NBSCA. A special presentation was made by the Drummers of the Tobique First Nation in celebration of their culture and heritage. The dates for next year's Gathering is June 5th-8th, 2025, in Perth-Andover, New Brunswick.

Father's Day weekend our Association participate in the Greater Moncton Highland Games and Scottish Festival where I had the pleasure of meeting John and Barbara Duff. In spite of the wet and cold weather all the events went on as planned and those attending appreciated and enjoy all that the games had to offer. Again the NBSCA had a display along with the CASSOC one with John and Barbara. Next year the games and festival is planned for June 10th-14th 2025.

The New Brunswick Highland Games Festival in Fredericton, held on the grounds of Government House fared well from good weather and attracted good attendance with all the traditional events and vendors including the NBSCA with our Scottish Heritage and Culture display. The Major fundraiser of our Association The Haggis Café and Scottish Bake Shop again attracted lots of interested customers especially our Haggis, in addition to fresh scones each morning along with scotch eggs, sausage rolls, bacon butties, shortbreads, oat cakes, and Irn Bru. I should add that the Haggis is made in the highlands of Dumfries, New Brunswick thanks to the support of the local sugar



Mel Festival Clan Chieftain Gathering of the Scots

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New Brunswick Scottish Cultural Association

(Continued from page 82)

camp Dumfries Maples who provide the approved kitchen facilities. Next year's games and festival is scheduled for July 25-27, 2025.

The Miramichi Scottish Festival by the Highland Society of New Brunswick at Miramichi was a great weekend of events starting with a Candel Light Banquet at which Scottish grants were awarded to two deserving students and a special award to a member of the Highland Society of New Brunswick at Miramichi followed by an afternoon at the Wilson's Point Historic site for a picnic, music, food including haggis and irn bru. Then on Sunday a memorial Church Service was held followed by a visit to MacDonald farm Historic Site which provided the venue for more music, food and displays including one by the NBSCA. What a great weekend! October will see a Miramichi Haggis Hunt and a Haunted Graveyard Walk at Wilson's Point which will be a highlight of the fall season. The dates for next year's events will be confirmed at a later date.



On September 28th and 29th Clan Maclean Atlantic and the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust will recognize and celebrate two significant events in New Brunswick's Scottish Heritage and Culture. The first will honour two Maclean Brothers who made an immense contribution to Black's Harbour, NB, during the depression by keeping staff employed at Connor's fish plant. The second will take place at Government House in Fredericton with the Lieutenant Governor in attendance to recognize the contribution of the 236th Battalion, the Maclean's Kilties to the first World War.

October will see the Annual General Meeting of the New Brunswick Scottish Cultural Association Inc; followed later in October by our participation in the Fredericton North Heritage Fair with our display and artifacts pertaining to New Brunswick's Scottish Heritage and Culture.

As with all of Scottish organizations in Canada I am continually amazed by the dedication of our volunteer support which makes it possible to promote our Scottish Heritage and Culture throughout Canada, our Provinces, and territories. Saying Thank You never seems enough but believe me it is most sincere.

Mel Fitton, President
New Brunswick Scottish Cultural Association





From the President's Keyboard

September 2024

Dear Cousins,

Often misattributed as an ancient Chinese curse, the phrase, 'We live in interesting times.', is, I feel, highly appropriate as we move through the end of summer and into the autumn US election season. And lest we forget the wars in Gaza and Ukraine, our shared economic woes, climate change and the rest. But today, the sun is shining here in Scarborough, my mate Kevin is biking down from Newcastle for a quick visit and life feels good.

I was asked to look after my eight-year-old grandson Rufus last week and for a treat, I took us to the reconstructed Globe Theatre on the South Bank overlooking the Thames. We watched *The Comedy of Errors*, one of Shakespeare's comedies, despite the beheading in the opening scene. He loved the experience, probably more than his jaded granddad. It was colourful as the cast were dressed in Elizabethan costumes and there was a live, period band that played regularly throughout the performance. I always find Shakespearean language difficult to follow but I think Rufus enjoyed the performance more because he didn't care if he didn't understand many of the passages word for word. He was more interested in the movement, the slapstick humour and the madcap plot, no matter how vaguely it was followed. And maybe there's a lesson in that for us. With the tsunami of information that's available to us daily, we are often overwhelmed trying to make sense of it all. It just might be better to let the majority of that dubious input sweep over us and focus on the 'good stories'.

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Like Shakespearean English, Scots and Scottish dialects can be a bit of an earful to navigate. The first time I went to Glasgow, I remember having to ask my cab driver to repeat himself at least a couple of times, before I understood the gist of what he was saying. The same holds true for Belfast, where every so often I must pretend I've understood what has just been said to me.

I was in Belfast a couple of weeks ago and I always feel very much at home in Northern Ireland. I'm sure there's a strand or two of my DNA that is plucked whenever I go there. One theory has it that we Scottish Munros originated from the environs of the River Roe near Londonderry (Derry) back in the 11th Century, when our forebears allegedly emigrated to the Highlands of Scotland. Our name is said to have been derived from 'Man of Ro', which would help to explain my acute love of Guinness and Bushmills Whisky!



Photo courtesy of Roe Valley Country Park, Northern Ireland

While looking for stories to include in this edition of our newsletter, I came across an article in the Scottish Daily Express, that I've chosen to share with you. According to Scottish paranormal investigator, Ron Halliday, many of Scotland's famous ancient sites were built to repel alien invaders. According to Mr. Halliday, "There are some Pictish stones with pictures of folk kind of fleeing away from things. I thought maybe this kind of thing represents an attack from the sky. There are questions about whether Skara Brae or Maeshowe on Orkney were intended as protection from nuclear war and an ancient battle with aliens."

He said: "These could be signals to aliens to attract their attention or to recognise that we knew there were aliens out there and that we had been visited by them. There are piles of speculation about it, so here's another possible explanation. These things may have been built to signify, to attract or defend or protect."

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Clan Munro

(Continued from page 85)

Of course, this is all somewhat bonkers, but the fact it merited a piece in a Scottish national newspaper, and further repetition by your humble scribe, gives it a semblance of credibility, no matter how comic. I remember as a young, impressionable teenager reading Eric von Däniken's *Chariots of the Gods*, a pseudo-scientific book justifying the idea that Incan historic sites were landing strips for alien spacecraft and that images found on Aztec stele show aliens piloting extraterrestrial spaceships. I loved this counter-culture stuff at the time and it still holds a vague amusement for me to read about obscure theories relating to our origins and influences from our shared long-forgotten past.



Skara Brae – photo courtesy of The Scottish Daily Express

We modern-day humans are terribly conceited. We think because of technology and our fancy, prehensile thumbs that we are smart as smart can be. In truth, we're still primitive meat-eating beasts, but at least we have a finely developed sense of fun.

I wish you all good health and happiness as we welcome in the last few months of the year.

"O whence the leaves
scuttering down Easter Road,
sycamore and rowan
desperate as refugees,
crowding against the wheels of street-side dumpsters..."

- from the poem *Autumn, The Bonniest Companie* by Kathleen Jamie (London: Picador, 2015)

Yours aye,

John

Out and About for Clan Munro

June 8: Loyalist Conference

Wearing Munro tartan in honour of my Munro ancestors



June 22: CMA-USA Gathering

Receiving Honorary membership for work with CMAC and liaison with CMA-USA



10-11 Aug: Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games

L: Opening Ceremonies Parade of Clans

R: Clan Munro Information booth

Below: with the family of our late President, Ian M Munro



Shawn Jacobs, Caspian Jacobs (wearing his uncle's 40 yr old kilt), Heather Munro Jacobs, Jo Ann M Tuskin, Susan Munro, John Angus & Jessie Munro

The Saltire Gathering - New Member



Preserving the past, Promoting the future

A new Festival of Scotland
Stirling

September 20 & 21, 2025

Set against a backdrop of **Stirling Castle**, a festival for all ages celebrating
Scotland's Past, Present and Future.

A country rich and diverse from history to culture, food & drink to talks and workshops,
thought-provoking conversations, story-telling, book reading, music, dancing...
And so much more!

Why not plan a Scottish holiday to include the festival, Bring your family; encourage your
Clan society to get involved

For other ways to become a part of this unique and exciting festival, register your
interest and to get updates,
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ScotlandsPeople - New Church Court Records Released

New Church Court Records Released on ScotlandsPeople

Published by ScotlandsPeople on 25th June 2024

ScotlandsPeople has recently added nearly 4,000 new volumes of Church of Scotland records to its website. This update includes approximately 290,000 digital images and is part of an ongoing effort to make church records more accessible online.

What's New

This latest release builds on the 2021 upload of kirk session minute books and accounts. It introduces over 3,000 kirk session records, along with records from presbyteries, synods, and the General Assembly—marking their debut on ScotlandsPeople. These new records span nearly 350 years of Scottish history, from the 1560s to 1900.

Record Types and Access

The newly available records include:

- Minute books- Accounts and cash books
- Communion rolls
- Seat rents
- Poor relief records
- Education records
- Various other records created by church courts

Unlike other genealogical records on ScotlandsPeople, church court records are not indexed by name. Users can browse the records using the Virtual Volumes search, which allows searches by reference number, kirk session name, court, or place name. A keyword search is also available from the volume search page. Keywords such as “school,” “diary,” or “poor” can help locate specific information.

Research Opportunities

These records provide valuable insights into church, family, local, and social history. Kirk session minutes often document local events such as weather, famine, and war, as well as parishioners’ behavior, including notes on illegitimate births, irregular marriages, and poor relief during hardships. Communion rolls and seat rents reveal the names of parish inhabitants, while school records, ministers’ diaries, and journals offer unique information not available elsewhere on ScotlandsPeople.

Getting Started

For more information on these records, refer to the guidance on [church court records](#), [kirk session records](#), and using [Virtual Volumes](#) on the [ScotlandsPeople](#) website. Our article on the General As-

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ScotlandsPeople - New Church Court Records Released

(Continued from page 90)

sembly provides details on the history and role of the supreme court of the Church of Scotland. For those new to reading and interpreting church court records, resources such as the guide to [reading older handwriting](#), the [Scottish Handwriting resource](#), and a [glossary of abbreviations, words, and phrases](#) are available to assist you.

Explore these newly available records to unlock a wealth of information and gain deeper insights into Scotland's rich historical tapestry.

1723			1724		
Account of the Rent of the New Seats in the Church of Kilwinning from Wednesday 1723 to Wednesday 1724.			Account of the Rent of the New Seats in the Church of Kilwinning from Wednesday 1724 to Wednesday 1725.		
Rental	Tacksmen	Payments	Rental	Tacksmen	Payments
1	James Gemmill and Robertson &c.	5 April 1724	1	Thomas Young & Robertson &c.	19 Feb 1725
2	James Cunningham &c.	2 July 1724	2	Thomas Frickson &c.	10 June 1724
3	Thomas Frickson &c.	15 June 1724	3	Margaret Wilson & Elizabeth &c.	21 Dec 1724
2 16	Thomas Garven &c.	11 Nov 1724	4	James Cunningham &c.	1 July 1724
2 12	Hugh Glasgow &c.	3 Feb 1724	5	John Chalmers & John &c.	19 Nov 1724
2 8	John Cunningham &c.	28 Oct 1724	6	Hugh O'Neill & John &c.	23 Feb 1725
2 4	James Morrison & John &c.	10 Feb 1724	7	John Allan &c.	15 April 1724
2	Robertson &c.	14 Dec 1723	8	John Dick & John &c.	15 April 1724
1	For half a year preceding Wednesday 1723		9	John Burns & John &c.	10 Dec 1724
1	William &c.		10		15 April 1724

Detail from a page from the Kilwinning Kirk Session recording seat rent accounts, 1723-1724. NRS, CH2/591/15 page 3

[illegible]

Page from a population list from Dalkeith kirk session, 1811. NRS, CH2/84/41 page 27



Report from David Hunter, President, Scottish Studies Foundation

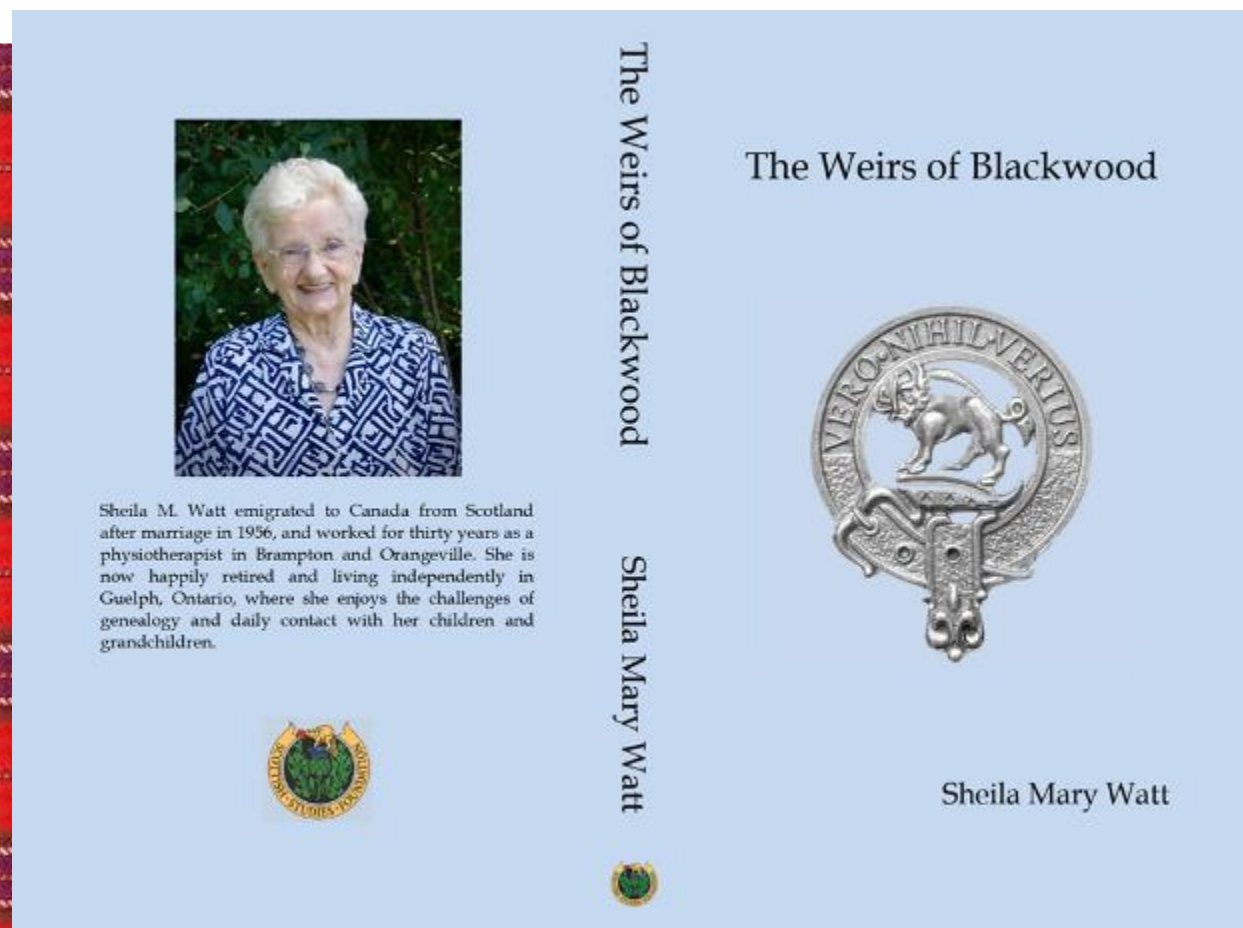
Dear CASSOC members,

I do hope you are having a pleasant summer. On behalf of our Board of Directors, thank you for your support, contributions and encouragement.

Over the years many of our members have contacted us to let us know about their interest in history and genealogy, which we hope in some way, has been inspired by the work being carried out by the Foundation and by the Centre for Scottish Studies at the University of Guelph. Nevertheless, we were surprised when early in 2024, Sheila Mary Watt, one of our longtime members, sent us a package containing a large three-ring binder containing her manuscript which turned out to be the result of many years of painstaking research into her Scottish family history — the Weirs from the Estate of Blackwood in Lanarkshire. Sheila also very kindly donated this work to the Foundation and we are pleased to announce that the resulting book has now been published. This is important for us as one of our mandates as a registered charity is to publish material pertaining to Scottish history and culture, especially if it has a Canadian dimension.

In Sheila's book *The Weirs of Blackwood*, she traces the chronology of the Weirs, from Norman times through to the early 20th century, amidst a backdrop of key events which shaped Scotland's history.

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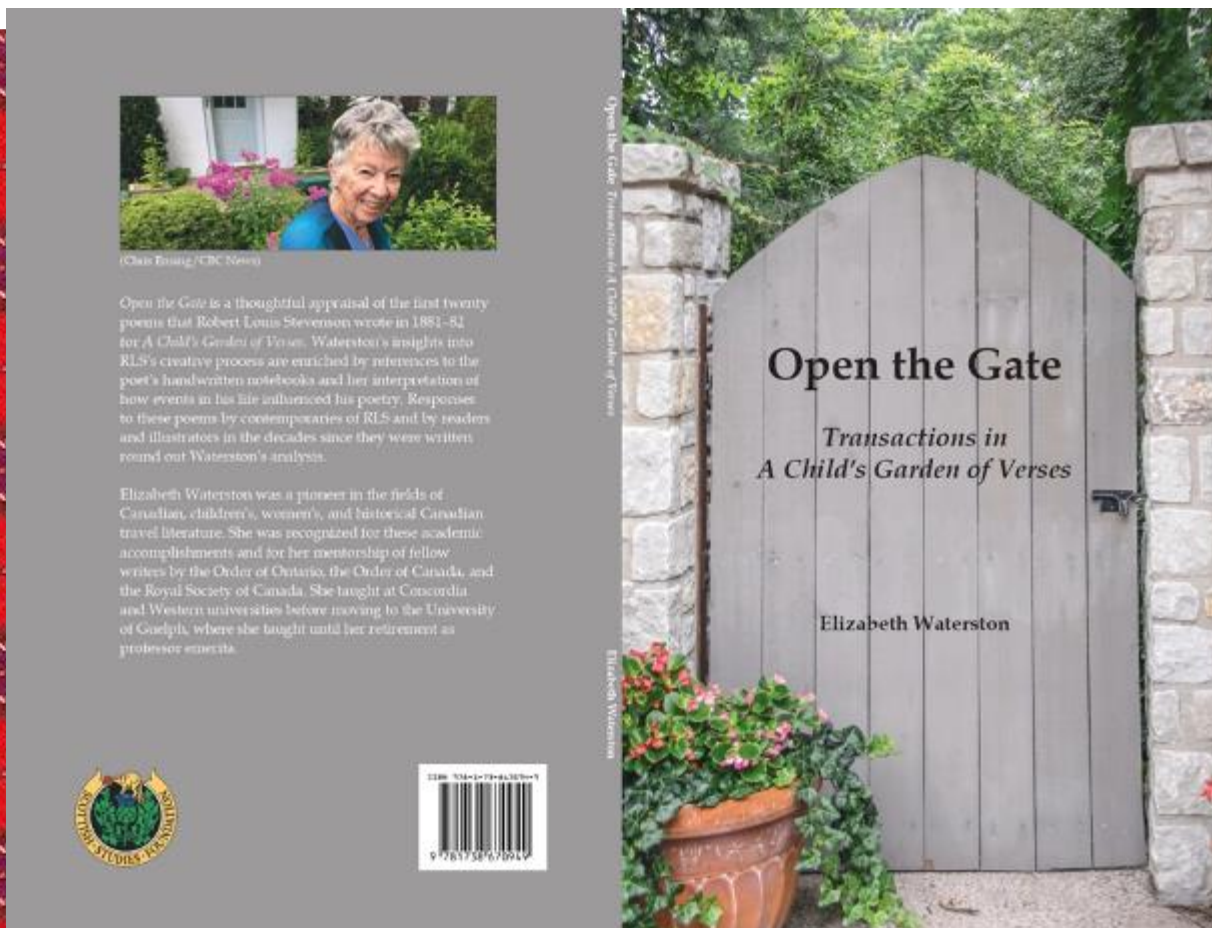
Sheila also provides a detailed insight into what life was like over the centuries, and how evolving traditions, laws and customs governed society. Her research into the book also unlocked a long held family secret and helped re-established connections with lost relatives:

"Digging through Scottish genealogical and legal records, I believe I now know why my mother conducted her long feud with the Edinburgh lawyers, and why there was that rift with other members of her family... But the genealogical treasure hunt and exploration of the times in which our ancestors lived became my retirement addiction; it led to this book, and valued connections with our Weir, Inglis, Lockhart and other ancestors now scattered throughout the world."

Originally from Scotland, Sheila emigrated to Canada following her marriage in 1956 and worked for thirty years as a physiotherapist in Brampton and Orangeville. She is now happily retired and is living independently in Guelph, Ontario, where she enjoys the challenges of genealogy and daily contact with her children and grandchildren. Her book is sure to act as a template for those who have been thinking about tackling the documentation of their own family history.

Also early this year, at the age of 102, Dr. Elizabeth Waterston, professor emerita at the University of Guelph, author, critic and editor, sent us her manuscript of *Open the Gate* — an appraisal of the first twenty poems in Robert Louis Stevenson's *A Child's Garden of Verses*. We are pleased to announce

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that her book has also now been published.

Open the Gate is the culmination of Elizabeth's lifelong fascination with *A Child's Garden of Verses*, first as a child-listener, then as a mother-reader, and then as an academic-critic. Elizabeth's scholarly appraisal started with a visit to the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University in the 1960s, where she pored over the handwritten notebooks in which Robert Louis Stevenson (RLS) first jotted drafts of poems for children. She made meticulous notes of the author's tiny edits and drafted a manuscript of her analysis. However, other endeavours took priority during her busy career as a professor and writer and the manuscript languished in the bottom drawer of her filing cabinet.

In her 100th year and looking for a new project, Elizabeth pulled out her file on *A Child's Garden of Verses*. She decided to revise the manuscript to focus on the first twenty poems written by Robert Louis Stevenson in 1881–82 and came up with the title *Open the Gate*.

In her book, Elizabeth's insights into RLS's creative process are enriched by references to the poet's handwritten notebooks and her interpretation of how events in his life influenced his poetry. Responses to these poems by contemporaries of RLS and by readers and illustrators in the decades since they were written round out Elizabeth's analysis. Sadly, Elizabeth died before learning that it had been accepted for publication.

Information on how to purchase these books can be found on our website: www.scottishstudies.com.



Dr. Lynn McDonald

We are also delighted to announce that Dr. Lynn McDonald will be receiving the Scottish Studies Society's 2025 Scot of the Year Award in view of her long public career and many contributions to building a better Canada, especially in relation to women's equality and pay equity. Dr. McDonald has been in the news recently for her work in correcting misunderstandings about key historical figures such as Sir John A Macdonald, Egerton Ryerson and Henry Dundas by placing them in historical context. The event will take place at the Arts & Letters Club in Toronto on April 5, 2025 and details will be posted on our website soon.

Dr. McDonald has made enduring contributions as a scholar and social activist. She is professor emerita of sociology at the University of Guelph and has written extensively on the impact of women thinkers in the 18th and 19th centuries.

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She also served as a Member of Parliament when her Non-Smokers' Health Act of 1988 led the world in enacting legislation to establish smoke-free work and public spaces. In addition, in a labour of love, she published the definitive collection of Florence Nightingale's writings, bringing renewed attention to this important female icon for a new generation. She was named a Member of the Order of Canada in 2015 and elected a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society in 2019. In 2020, she joined with Ryerson academics and supporters to form the Friends of Egerton Ryerson, whose goal is the restoration of Ryerson's reputation and refutation of the false accusations against him. In 2023, she was appointed to the Advisory Board of the Canadian Institute for Historical Education and has been instrumental in correcting erroneous information about Canadian events and individuals.

I should also mention that going back to 1993, the original idea was to hold the Scot of the Year event around the date of Tartan Day (April 6) which commemorates the signing in 1320 of the Declaration of Arbroath — Scotland's Declaration of Independence.

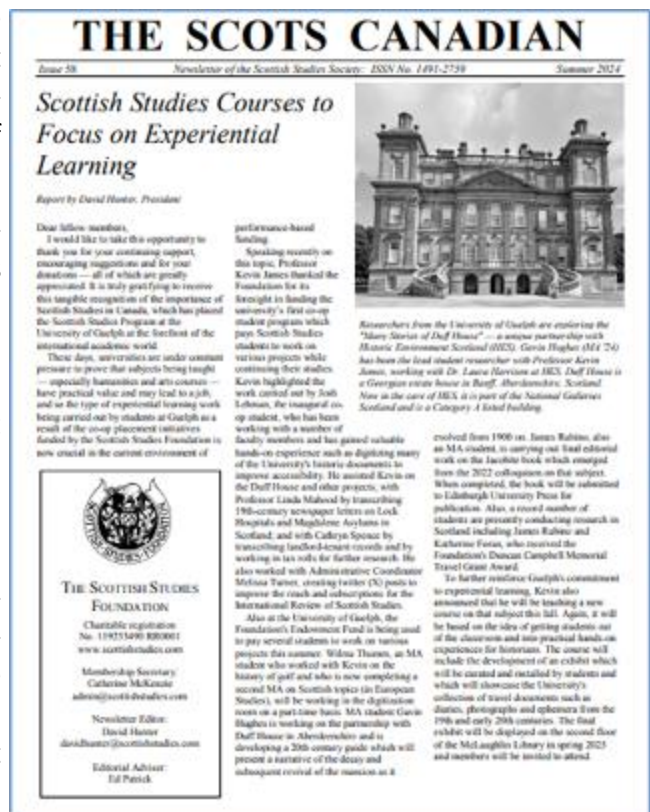
As Tartan Day was not well known then, it was chosen to avoid conflict with what other Scottish groups might be doing. However, for a number of reasons, in recent years we ended up moving away from an April date and have now taken steps to move it back — in particular to ensure that the event is not in conflict with the St. Andrew's Society of Toronto's Annual Ball which takes place in November. This means we have had to cancel this year's plans for a 2024 award.

As I mentioned in our last report, thanks to the generous support of our membership, the Scottish Studies Foundation has made a \$50,000 donation to the University of Guelph to support an undergraduate History Co-op Position in Scottish Studies for the next five years. This is a first for the University and will allow a student to be paid as they work alongside University staff on research and other projects pertaining to Scottish Studies in the History Department.

Also, to further reinforce our support for Scottish Studies at Guelph, at the Scot of the year event we donated \$100,000 to be added to our existing large and growing endowment fund there to provide critical assistance to students and encourage scholarship for generations to come. Details of this and other items can be seen in our latest newsletter at:

<https://www.scottishstudies.com/vol-58-newsletter-summer-2024-draft-06-pg-bc-cm-ep.pdf>

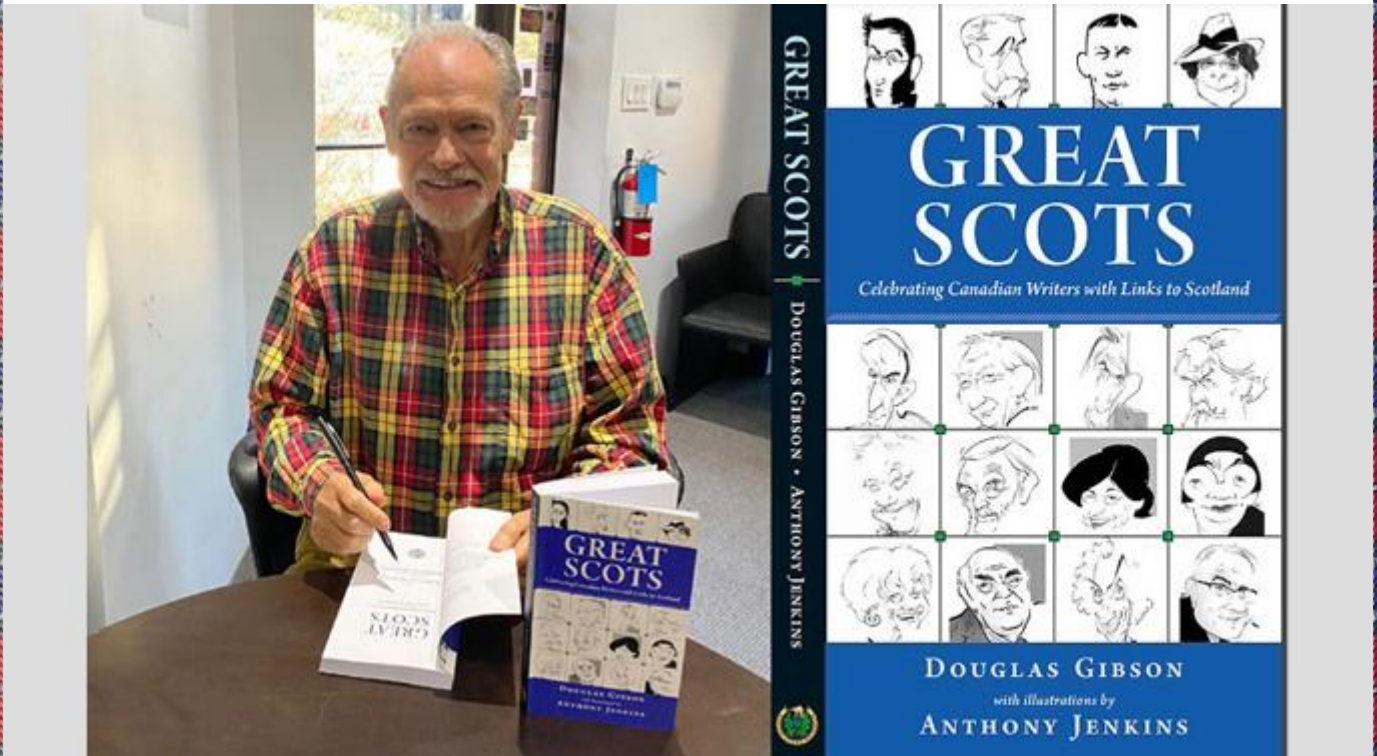
(Continued on page 96)



Scottish Studies Foundation

(Continued from page 95)

As mentioned previously, Douglas Gibson (pictured above), former publisher-turned-author and fellow board member, donated the rights to have his latest book, *GREAT SCOTS: Celebrating Canadian Writers with Links to Scotland*, published by the Scottish Studies Foundation to be used as a fundraiser for the Scottish Studies program at the University of Guelph.



The book is full of fascinating anecdotes from Doug's research and his career in publishing. It features 35 writers with links to Scotland, from Sir Alexander Mackenzie to Joseph Boyden, and is illustrated by co-author Anthony Jenkins who served as editorial cartoonist, caricaturist and writer with the *Globe and Mail* for four decades. This very personal book, often involving Canadian authors that Gibson knew well, is a lively and important one. It is striking that several of the writers featured, like Sir Alexander Mackenzie and John Galt, wrote important books set in Canada, long before Canada existed as a country. Beautifully designed by Gibson's old friend, the legendary Kong Njo, this major book will delight readers of Canadian Literature at its best. The price of this captivating book is \$30 (including delivery) and it can be ordered via our website: <https://scottishstudies.com/great-scots.htm>

Best wishes to you all.

*David Hunter, President,
Scottish Studies Foundation
davidhunter@scottishstudies.com*

Sheena's Scottish Shortbread - New Member



Sheena's Scottish Shortbread

Sheena's Scottish Shortbread was founded in 2013. We produce authentic handmade shortbread from a 100 year old unique family recipe. It's origins are traced to the small town of Kirkintilloch, Scotland

Sheena's Scottish Shortbread was first produced by Hannah McInnes, (Sheena's grandmother), which in turn was handed down to her daughter Agnes Rarity, (Sheena's mother) and finally to Sheena herself.

Sheena's Scottish Shortbread Flavours

Traditional

Lemon

Maple

Ginger

Toffee with SKOR bits

Toasted Coconut

Gluten Free

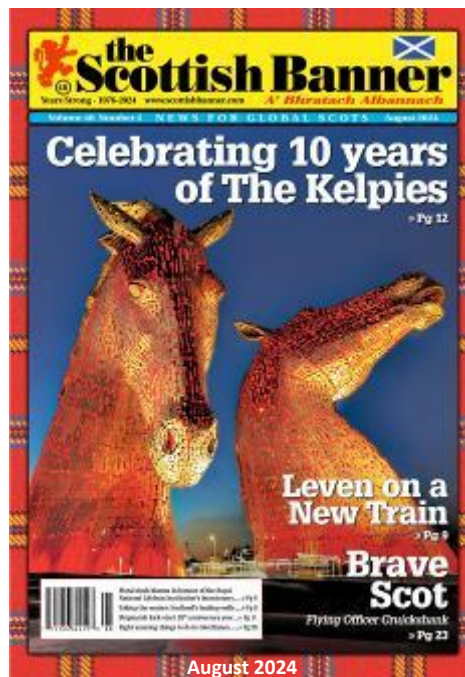
www.sheenasscottishshortbread.com

SheenasScottishShortbread@gmail.com

The Scottish Banner



July, August and September digital editions are now available. Click an image to view.



[Click here to subscribe to the digital edition.](#)

[For the print edition or if subscribing from Australia please click here.](#)

CASSOC members have a 25% subscription discount when using the code 'CASSOC'.



Vancouver hosts the top six women's rugby teams in the world this fall, click the image above for [tickets](#) now on sale.

A total of nine matches featuring Canada, England, France, Ireland, New Zealand and the United States will be played over three consecutive weekends in September and October, with the 2025 Rugby World Cup on the horizon.

WXV 1, an elite international competition launched in 2023 and designed to accelerate the growth of women's rugby around the world, will open with a triple header on Sunday September 29 at Vancouver's BC Place Stadium. Although no stranger to international rugby, this will mark the first time that BC Place has hosted an international women's fixture. Canada's Women's Rugby Team, who finished second in the inaugural WXV 1 in New Zealand last year, will feature in the second match of the day, kicking off against France at 3:45pm PT.

Competition will then move to Willoughby Stadium at Langley Events Centre for the second weekend, which will see Canada play Ireland on Saturday October 5 at 3:45pm PT. The tournament will conclude on Saturday October 12 at BC Place with a grand finale kicking off at 7:00pm PT featuring Canada, the reigning Pacific Four Series champions, and England, the winners of the Guinness Women's Six Nations.

"We have some amazing rugby to look forward to in Vancouver this fall, with three exciting weekends featuring the world's best teams and players as they build towards the 2025 Rugby World Cup, including our own Canadian national team. In addition to the matches, our Canadian women will be connecting with the local rugby community throughout the period, with the aim of inspiring the next generation of rugby players. We are grateful for the support of World Rugby, the Province of British Columbia, and Sport Hosting Vancouver in bringing this pinnacle event to Vancouver. We know that the people of Vancouver and supporters from across Canada will come out in full force, making this a memorable, world-class rugby experience for fans and players alike." -- *Nathan Bombrys, CEO of Rugby Canada*

"We're thrilled to welcome the WXV 1 women's rugby tournament to Vancouver this fall! This event not only showcases high-level competition with some of the world's best female rugby players but also plays a crucial role in promoting women's sports and inspiring future generations. Vancouver is proud to host these incredible athletes, and we're ready to cheer them on and make this tournament an unforgettable experience!" -- *Ken Sim, Mayor of Vancouver*

Let's end Summer with a day on Toronto Island this Saturday! Join us at the Celtic Island Music Festival for an afternoon of great entertainment, amazing food and drink and incredible views on the best patio in the city.

The Toronto Island BBQ & Beer Company is located beside the main ferry dock on Centre Island. The venue is fully licensed with a great menu including vegetarian options.



CELTIC ISLAND MUSIC FESTIVAL

TORONTO ISLAND BBQ & BEER CO.

Saturday, September 14

\$15 Advance • \$20 Door • 12-6PM

www.standrewstoronto.ca



scan me

Aer Lingus ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF TORONTO SCOTLAND LIUNA! LOCAL 183

CELTIC ISLAND MUSIC FESTIVAL

Saturday, September 14

TORONTO ISLAND BBQ & BEER CO.

\$15 Advance • \$20 Door

- 12:00 PM** Doors open
- 12:30 PM** Aspects of Dance Highland Dancers
- 1:00 PM** Gary Malone
- 1:30 PM** Opening Ceremonies with Toronto Fire Pipes & Drums
- 2:00 PM** Graham School of Irish Dance
- 2:30 PM** Michael Darcy & The Atlantic Tramps
- 4:00 PM** Mexican Folk Ballet
- 4:30 PM** Phill Hood & The Exclamation

www.standrewstoronto.ca

All performers and times are subject to change.

This event is being held in partnership with the St. Patrick's Parade Society. Tickets will be sold through their Eventbrite account. [Click here to buy advance tickets.](#)

Don't delay as this event is close to selling out! A limited number of tickets may be available at the door for \$20. Children under 12 are admitted for free when accompanied by a paying adult.

It is going to be a great day. We look forward to seeing you there!



The date of the Celtic Island Music Festival coincides with the anniversary of the landing of the Ship Hector. The vessel was part of the first significant migration of Scottish settlers to Nova Scotia.

The Hector left Scotland in July of 1773 with 207 passengers. The trip across the Atlantic took eleven weeks with a gale off the coast of Newfoundland causing a two week delay. The Hector was an old ship and health conditions were extremely poor. Dysentery and smallpox claimed 18 lives among the passengers.

The ship arrived in what is now Pictou, Nova Scotia, on September 15, 1773. The voyage started a wave of emigration that resulted in Pictou being affectionately named 'the birthplace of New Scotland'.



[Purchase Ball Tickets Here](#)

Celebrate St. Andrew's Day and Thanksgiving
Order now and avoid the Christmas rush



Mercedes wears Earl of St Andrews and Jak wears United States St Andrew

St. Andrew's Day and Thanksgiving are still nearly three months away (unless you're in Canada), but avoid the Christmas rush and order your new outfit, table linen or decorations now for a peaceful build up to your celebrations

Vice Chair for the West - Canmore Report

Canmore Highland Games Highlights from Scots Canada West Vice Chair - Kirstin Hunter

The Canmore Highland Games took place under sunny, hot weather, setting the stage for a vibrant and successful two-day event. A steady stream of curious visitors attended, eager to explore their Scottish heritage and discover the clans they might belong to.

The event sparked interest from several new potential members, including the 78 Highland Frasers, Clan Hay, and even a Celtic harpist. One notable attendee was a lady from Scotland, who is considering joining Scots Canada once she sorts out international shipping for her unique Scottish gnomes.

We gathered a good number of signatures and email addresses from those interested in receiving the Scots Canada newsletter, reflecting strong interest in both the event and connecting with their clans. Many attendees expressed enthusiasm for joining their respective clans, making this event a fruitful opportunity for supporting our member organizations and expanding our community.

Best regards,

Kirstin

Scots Canada West Vice Chair

The Rollin Drones bringing the house down at Canmore



Rollin Drones!

Sherwood Park Highland Gathering



Report and Thanks by Stacey Lozinski, Vice President - Sherwood Park Highland Gathering

Despite the smoke and temperatures reaching +37C, the Sherwood Park Highland Gathering had an amazing weekend on July 20 & 21, with over 8,000 attendees, including competitors & volunteers!



On behalf of the Sherwood Park Highland Gathering Committee, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks for your participation and support at this year's event. Your presence helped make the Gathering a vibrant and memorable experience for everyone involved.

Stacey Lozinski

Sherwood Park Highland Gathering



Dandi Dinmonts



Rose & Thistle Pipe Band Booth

Sherwood Park Highland Gathering



78 Fraser Highlanders

Sherwood Park Highland Gathering



Vendors



Clan Cunningham



Clan MacNaughton P&B



Stewart Society

Storm, Wind, & Fire

Storm, Wind, & Fire By Barb Duff

Well, I don't know about you, but I think this year, not to mention last year, have had very strange and unusual summers. Perhaps this is our new, normal Canadian summer weather. If the weather forecast isn't calling for early hurricanes down south with the tail end of one up here or record rains with the threat of flooding, then the temperature is sweltering hot with record high temperatures while accompanied by high humidity. Unfortunately, as we all are very aware, the result is often too many fires and evacuations. I am sure these years have caused stress to all the Festival & Highland Games planners along with every other planner. I expect that you are familiar with "Earth, Wind & Fire". Well, now we seem to have summers of Storms, Floods, Wind & Fires. We hope that everyone has been able to keep safe during these events wherever you are and whatever you are doing.

This year in South-Western Ontario, the first game we started off with after the winter & spring was Georgetown, Ontario Highland Games on June 8th. John and I use it as a test run in preparation for the remainder of our summer & fall games. Even though it was early June, it was still a very hot and humid day.



Clan MacNeil & Clan MacTavish having a duel

(Continued on page 109)

Storm, Wind, & Fire

(Continued from page 108)

On the very next day, Sunday June 9th, John and I headed to Moncton, New Brunswick. John was hosting the CASSOC/SCOTS Canada tent on Saturday June 14th at their games. He wanted to set up the tent the day before on Friday but was advised by some local clansmen that it probably would not still be there in the morning. That was the “WIND”, so John heeded their local experience and advice and waited until Saturday morning. John also recalled Bill Petrie (CASSOC Chair) who hosted the tent last year telling him that his tent had been destroyed there. Apparently, Bill was almost five feet in the air when he finally listened to everyone nearby yelling “Let Go”.

No sooner did we get the tents up and ready for visitors than it started to rain. That was the “STORM”, and it not only rained but poured with brisk and cool winds throughout most of the day. I huddled and bundled up in a corner of the tent representing Clan MacFarlane Worldwide, John walked around to keep warm, and Bill & Lynn MacRae were directly across from us hosting the Clan MacRae tent. It was even difficult to see them clearly through the rain at times. Several clans and vendors packed up and left before noon, it was that bad.



A Storm came up and rained buckets of water-Photo taken from the Scots Canada tent looking over to the MacRae tent

(Continued on page 110)

Storm, Wind, & Fire

(Continued from page 109)

We only had a few visitors in total all day. Fortunately, we had planned to visit some relatives near Moncton during the week and the weather was considerably better during that time. On visiting a few family in Nova Scotia, my grandson talked of 2 floods he had in his basement in the last 6 months which I am sure that there were many across Canada experiencing “FLOODS” as well because of the amount of rainfall.



One of the few visitors to the Scots Canada tent in Moncton

Our next game was Kincardine, Ontario from July 5th to July 7th. We set up our tents on July 5th and were almost ready for the public. When we drove to the festival on July 6th to finish setting up, we discovered the streets blocked near Victoria Park, the location of that event. We figured they were diverting the festival traffic in a different manner or using different streets and gates than previous years. Unfortunately, that was not the case. That was the “FIRE”. There was an active fire at a nearby laundromat and the fire department had the streets blocked off.

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The burnt out laundromat in Kincardine

(Continued from page 110)

The laundromat was perhaps 100 feet from the fence around the event and the main entertainment stage. We quickly learned that the festival had been delayed and could be cancelled at least for that day. Festival volunteers explained that everything was on hold or undecided and that no one could go onto the park property until the fire department gave the OK. There were concerns about smoke inhalation or injuries due to the close vicinity of the fire. The Kincardine Fire Department were only able to begin to bring the fire under control once they tore off part of the roof and poured water down into the building through the roof.

(Continued on page 112)

Storm, Wind, & Fire

(Continued from page 111)

Around noon, the vendors and clans were allowed into the park to set up with the public allowed in around 30 minutes later. The remainder of that day ended up being quite busy. First there were a lot of people waiting at the gates for the festival to open and second because it was their 25th anniversary and the entrance fee was waived for the anniversary. Visitors advised us the entertainment had been great on Friday evening and we watched it Saturday evening for a while. Clans are only expected to attend on Saturday although we stayed until Sunday to spend the day watching their entertainment with some local friends. It turned out to be an enjoyable day, even with the heat. The British Legends were quite good and ABBAMania was a fan favourite with many people dancing in front of the stage. This was a great festival with entertainment all weekend.

The next game we attended was the Cambridge Highland Games on July 20th, only an hour drive from home where my husband represented CASSOC again. I had some MacFarlane and MacRae visitors. John discussed history with visitors, and I sat looking up the information for people and answering their questions. Cambridge was also quite a warm day. The rain held off and it turned out to be a good day.

(Continued on page 113)



SIOBHA'N MacFARLANE just back from studying in Scotland and dropped by to say Hi

Storm, Wind, & Fire

(Continued from page 112)

July 27th was the Uxbridge Highland Games. It is small and free, but they are doing a great job and hope to make it a two-day event next year with Friday night entertainment. There were only about 6 clans, but CASSOC was there to represent those not attending so we had a busy day.



Dog Show contestants in Uxbridge

We did not attend Glengarry's 75th Highland Games this year but I heard it was very successful while visitors braved the very hot weather on Aug. 2nd & 3rd. I heard that many of the MacRaes came looking for me. The festival claimed to have over 50 pipe bands in competition. It must have been an awesome sight and sound for Friday evening and closing ceremonies.

We then attended the Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games from Aug. 9th to 11th. Friday evening was the tattoo with a large crowd. During the ceremonies, there was a memorial event for all those who had passed during the year with 13 Caper Tosses. The last caber tossed was on fire. The torch lighting followed, then the fireworks and entertainment for the rest of the evening. Once again there was "FIRE". The next morning, we arrived at the festival early. John helped Bill Petrie host the CASSOC tent. They sent several MacRaes over to my MacFarlane tent while several other MacRaes searched me out on their own. Saturday was a beautiful day yet busy and warm. Sunday was expected to rain, so I think everyone took advantage of

(Continued on page 114)

Storm, Wind, & Fire

(Continued from page 113)

the weather and came on Saturday. Sunday came and so did the rain. Once again there was a “STORM” although not as bad as Moncton.

Fergus made some changes in their procedures for clans this year. Clans were not allowed to drive their vehicles onto the field to unload and load as they had always done in the past. The board had decided to have volunteers meet us in the parking area to move our tents and items. There was a great deal of concern over this change because it had not worked well at other festivals in the past. Many clans had even stopped going to some other festivals that initiated a similar rule. Thankfully, this year the change seemed to work well but it will depend on future volunteers if this rule remains successful. This year they had an excellent crew that did a great job, and we really hope that future crews are as conscientious.

This year has certainly been an endurance test for weather and with my decreased mobility, but it was wonderful getting out and seeing everyone again. Looking forward to next year without the Storms, Floods, Winds & Fires and with better mobility. Take care everyone.



The 13th CAPER TOSS to remember those who had passed in the last year



TORCH LIGHTING CEREMONY with Chief Irving, Dave Radley, the re



A very busy Scot Canada booth - Photo by Robert MacKenzie, Director



Exciting Online Events for Canadians of Scottish Ancestry

Hello Everyone,

I hope this message finds you well.

I am pleased to share that the Scottish Council of Archives, in collaboration with IRISS and the Glasgow Building Preservation Trust, is hosting two free online events as part of this year's [Glasgow Doors Open Days Festival](#). These events focus on Canadians of Scottish ancestry and may be of great interest to your networks.

1. The Home Children Legacy

The first event delves into the story of the Home Children, exploring the legacy of Heatherbank Museum and the creation of the [Golden Bridge website](#). This presentation will feature insights from Neil Ballantyne, Ian Phillip, and Paul Hart, key members of the original team behind this resource. [Click here to book](#)

2. Archives and Family History

The second event, hosted by the Scottish Council for Archives, will include Dr. Irene O'Brien from the Mitchell Archives, genealogist Tahitia McCabe from the University of Strathclyde, and a representative from the **National Archives of Canada**. This session will offer practical advice on researching family history and utilizing archives. [Click here to book](#)



These events present valuable opportunities for those interested in Scottish-Canadian heritage and genealogy. We encourage you to share this information with your members and networks. The team behind these events would greatly appreciate your support in spreading the word.

Thank you,

Noelle Campbell

Connections Marketing Manager

Brand & Global Marketing

VisitScotland

Waverley Court, 4 East Market Street, Edinburgh EH8 8BG

E: noelle.campbell@visitscotland.com

About CASSOC

Founded in 1976, CASSOC's purpose is:

To advance Scottish Cultural Heritage in Canada, such Scottish culture be defined to include, but not be restricted to, traditional Highland, Island and Lowland cultures, whether in Scotland, Canada or wherever Scottish Culture may be expressed;

To foster the organization of and co-operation and communication between Scottish federations, clans, societies or groups through the initiation and co-ordination of projects and undertakings;

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 2024:

General Assembly meeting: November 24, 2024 by Zoom. Visit scotscanada.ca for details.

AN DROCHAID – The Bridge is the newsletter of CASSOC and will be published in Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter editions. Items for publication should be submitted to the Editor, editor@scotscanada.ca

Guidelines for submissions are:

Submissions due by the first of the month of the season for the edition, 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 contents. 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.

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

Websites and Emails:

We are in the process of transition for our web and mail services. During this time we will be using two domains domains for email (CASSOC.CA and SCOTSCANADA.CA), all web services are now provided through www.scotscanada.ca/

Equivalent email addresses are in place for each domain name. We will progressively attempt to use SCOTSCANADA.CA for sending email however you may still receive and send to the equivalent email at CASSOC.CA until further notice.

Traditional Scotch Eggs - Recipe

Ingredients:

- 6 large eggs
- 1 pound (450g) sausage meat or from Bangers ...
- 1 cup (100g) all-purpose flour
- 1 cup (100g) breadcrumbs
- 1 large egg, beaten (for coating)
- Salt and fresh ground pepper, to taste
- Vegetable oil, for frying

Instructions:

1. Prepare the Eggs:

- Place the 6 large eggs in a pot of cold water. Bring to a boil over medium-high heat.
- Once boiling, reduce the heat and simmer for 6-7 minutes for slightly soft yolks or 8-9 minutes for hard yolks.
- Remove the eggs from the boiling water and immediately transfer them to a bowl of ice water to cool. Peel the eggs once they are cool enough to handle.

2. Prepare the Sausage Meat:

- In a mixing bowl, season the sausage meat with salt and black pepper. You can also add additional herbs or spices unless already favoured.

3. Assemble the Scotch Eggs:

- Divide the sausage meat into 6 equal portions.
- Flatten each portion of sausage meat into a patty shape. Wrap each patty around a peeled egg, ensuring it is completely covered and sealed.

4. Coat the Eggs:

- Set up a breading station with three shallow bowls:

One with flour with a bit of salt and pepper. One with beaten egg. One with breadcrumbs.

- Roll each sausage-wrapped egg in the flour, ensuring it's evenly coated.
- Dip it into the beaten egg, letting any excess drip off.
- Roll it in the breadcrumbs, pressing gently to adhere.

5. Fry the Scotch Eggs:

- Heat vegetable oil in a deep frying pan or a deep fryer to 350°F (175°C). There should be enough oil to submerge the eggs.
- Fry the Scotch eggs in batches, being careful not to overcrowd the pan. Cook for 4-5 minutes, or until golden brown and cooked through. Use a slotted spoon to remove them and drain on paper towels.

6. Serve:

- Allow the Scotch eggs to cool slightly before serving. They can be enjoyed warm or at room temperature. Serve with mustard or pickles if desired.

Tips: You can also bake the Scotch eggs if you prefer a lower-fat option. Preheat your oven to 375°F (190°C) and bake the coated eggs on a baking sheet for about 25-30 minutes, or until golden brown and cooked through.





The Summer of 2024: A Milestone for Clan Gregor

The summer of 2024 has been exceptionally busy for Clan Gregor. In July, MacGregors from around the world gathered in our ancestral homeland near Loch Awe. This global event saw 169 MacGregors from four continents and seven countries come together for a week of exploring historical sites and locations within the three glens: Glen Lyon, Glen Orchy, and Glen Strae, which have been occupied by our Clan for over a thousand years. A smaller group extended their stay for an additional week, embarking on a special tour around Edinburgh.

Originally planned for 2022 to mark the two-hundredth anniversary of The Clan Gregor Society's founding in 1822, the Gathering was postponed for two years due to pandemic-related challenges. The year 1822 was significant for our Clan beyond just the establishment of our Society. It was also the year King George III made the first royal visit to Scotland in over a century. Thanks to Sir Walter Scott's influence and the success of his book **Rob Roy**, Clan Gregor was chosen to lead the royal procession. Our Clan marched behind the Chief, carrying the Honours of Scotland (crown, sceptre, and mace) up the Royal Mile from Holyrood Palace to Edinburgh Castle. This recognition was particularly meaningful as we were emerging from 174 years of royal proscription, making it a momentous event for MacGregors.

Two years after the planned anniversary, we finally had the opportunity to gather and celebrate. The week was filled with significant moments where attendees gained deeper insights and personal connections to the epic struggles of our Clan. Hearing stories about our ancestors' places, people, hardships, and battles is one thing, but experiencing these stories firsthand at their origins adds a profound sense of connection and belonging. This is the unique power and appeal of international gatherings—attendees forge friendships and connections that would otherwise be impossible.

Most importantly, as diaspora members, we return with renewed hope and a sense of promise, inspired by the perseverance of those who overcame significant challenges to thrive and grow in the new world. Today, our Clan is strong and united. As our Society enters its third century, we remain committed to educating the younger generation of the Clan and imparting our history and heritage.

We invite anyone with a family tradition of being a Gregor to reach out to the Clan Gregor Society Canada Chapter at www.mapleleafmacgregor.ca and start your journey toward a deeper understanding of your family's past and future.

Wayne MacGregor Parker
Chair, CGSCC

Loch Broom Church - Dr. James Drummond MacGregor, DD



History

The first permanent settlers in Pictou County arrived in the ship *Betsy* on June 10, 1767. They carved a tiny settlement out of the forest about two miles from the present town of Pictou.

Six years later, on September 15, 1773, the ship *Hector* arrived with 189 Scottish Highland immigrants on board. Alexander Cameron, one of these settlers, settled along the shore of the West River and named the place Loch Broom because it reminded him of his homeland in Scotland.

Scottish immigration to Pictou increased and by 1786 a call was made for a minister capable of speaking both English and Gaelic. Dr. James Drummond MacGregor arrived in Pictou from Scotland in July 1786. The year following his arrival, he had the first two churches in the county built; one on the West River at Loch Broom near the head of the harbour and the other on the East River on the west side of the river, near the site of the Duff Cemetery, between Stellarton and New Glasgow.

George Patterson quotes from Dr. MacGregor's autobiography in his book "History of the County of Pictou" published by Dawson Bros., Pictou, NS, 1877:

"By Squire Patterson's direction I gave out sermon next Sabbath on the East River, at the head of the tide, and the second Sabbath on the harbour, a few miles up from Squire Patterson's; and the sermon continued alternately at these places for about two months, when the people agreed to have two meeting houses - one on the west side of the East River, half a mile below the head of the tide, to accommodate boats; and the other on the east side of the West River, two miles below the head of the tide - alternate preaching to be at these places till winter, when a winter regulation should be made. These two places were ten or eleven miles apart, and there was no road to either."

"During this month (July) ... the men were chiefly engaged in building the two meeting houses; but, instead of employing contractors to build them, they agreed to divide the



Reverend Dr James Macgregor, DD

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Loch Broom Church - Dr. James Drummond MacGregor, DD

(Continued from page 120)

work into a number of lots, and appointed a party of themselves to every lot. One party cut the logs and hauled them to the site; another hewed them and laid them in their place; a third provided boards for the roof and floors; a fourth provided the shingles; those who were joiners were appointed to make the doors and windows, and those who did not care to work provided the glass and nails. Moss was stuffed between the logs to keep out the wind and rain; but neither was one of them seated otherwise than by logs laid where seats should be."

"Such were the first two churches of Pictou, and for a while they had no pulpits, purely because they could make a shift without them, and when they were made they were not of mahogany, but of the white pine of Pictou."

The churches were approximately 40 feet long and 25 feet wide. The seats were logs with the upper surface hewn flat supported on blocks. An upper story or gallery where the younger members of the congregation sat, had similar seats and was reached by a ladder. Service was held in each church on alternating Sabbaths. Dr. MacGregor preached two sermons - one in Gaelic and one in English - both sermons were two hours long.



"Though I preached two sermons every Sabbath, yet the people heard but one sermon in two weeks, except those who understood both languages. Even this circumstance was sometimes productive of trouble; for some who were backward to support the gospel, insisted that they who understood both languages should pay a double share of the stipend."

The current Log Church at Loch Broom is a replica of the original built in 1787. Under the direction and initiative of Rev. Frederick Pauley a stone cairn was erected and unveiled on August 15, 1965 to mark the site of the church. The land for the cairn and the church was donated by Alvin McCabe - a direct descendant of James McCabe - the pioneer who donated the property for the original log church. July 29, 1973, as a result of the dedication and untiring efforts of numerous volunteers and Rev. Pauley, construction of the replica log church was completed.

Click image on left for the Historical Markers Database webpage.

Previous page : Reverend Dr James Macgregor, DD by George Reid (1841–1913) Aberdeen Art Gallery & Museums

Editor's Note: *This church came to our attention through the Friends of Scottish Culture in Nova Scotia announcing a church service that was held there this last Sunday Sept 8. It was during follow up research that we discovered the connection between Dr. MacGregor, who was the first minister, and his actions in freeing UEL and other slaves.*

Clan Gregor - 200th Anniversary Gathering 2024

Highlights from the 2024 Clan Gathering by Sylvie Thériault, Maple Leaf MacGregor Newsletter Co-editor

As someone deeply involved with Clan Gregor, I have the joy of participating in a wide array of events each year. From Highland Games and Festivals to St. Andrew's Society balls, Robbie Burns dinners, and New Year's Eve celebrations, my calendar is always full. However, nothing compares to the joy I felt during the 2024 Clan Gathering in Scotland, organized by the Clan Gregor Society. This event was undoubtedly the highlight of my year!

Over seven incredible days, we immersed ourselves in a whirlwind of activities at historic sites and scenic venues across Scotland, where locals proudly proclaimed, "This is MacGregor land." Choosing a favorite moment from such a rich experience is a daunting task, but every day offered something uniquely captivating.

Our journey took us to breathtaking locations: MacGregor homelands like Glen Orchy and Glen Strae, the historic grave of Rob Roy, Inveraray Castle, Menzies Castle, fascinating museums, a scenic train ride, a tranquil lake cruise, and, of course, Highland Games. The connections we made along the way added another layer of joy to the adventure. Traveling with three of our adult sons, we quickly bonded with a wonderful family from the US, enhancing the experience even further.

The tour began with a warm welcome as we were picked up by coach from Glasgow and Edinburgh airports, where MacGregors from around the globe gathered. Our base was the charming Loch Awe Hotel, situated right on the shores of Loch Awe – truly a spectacular setting! Having a single home base was a relief, sparing us the constant packing and unpacking.

Each day started with a delicious two-course breakfast and concluded with a sumptuous three-course dinner,



The Petrie lads, Alex, David and Michael, enjoying the fine hotel dining

Clan Gregor - 200th Anniversary Gathering 2024



Michael Petrie and Sylvie Thériault at the back of the hotel overlooking Loch Awe

(Continued from page 122)

followed by evening entertainment. I'm grateful for all the walking and hill climbing; otherwise, I might have added a few pounds from the delightful meals!

We were guided daily by Peter Lawrie, Vice-Chairman of the Clan Gregor Society and a noted expert on MacGregor history, having written a dissertation on the clan between 1583 and 1611.

As the custodian of the Clan Gregor Canadian Chapter Facebook page, I shared highlights from each day, focusing on key moments rather than overwhelming everyone with too many images. While the scenery was stunning, I aimed to capture people in the pictures rather than just postcard shots.

Here are some highlights from the gathering:

(Continued on page 124)

Clan Gregor - 200th Anniversary Gathering 2024

Dedication of the Stones at the Dalmally Church



(Continued from page 123)

- **Monday:** The Dedication of the Stones at Dalmally Church. These stones, restored by the Clan Gregor Society, were recorded about 500 years ago by James MacGregor, Dean of Lismore, marking the burial sites of MacGregor chiefs.

(Continued on page 125)

Dedication of the Stones at the Dalmally Church



Clan Gregor - 200th Anniversary Gathering 2024



Gregors on the GlenFinnan Rock

(Continued from page 124)

- **Tuesday:** A memorable group photo on the rock in Glenfinnan, where Charles Stewart raised his Royal Standard in 1745, making claim to the Scottish and English thrones on behalf of his father, James Stewart. Followed by a ride on the train over the viaduct.

(Continued on page 126)



Waiting for the Jacobite Steam Train to cross the Glenfinnan Viaduct

Clan Gregor - 200th Anniversary Gathering 2024

(Continued from page 125)

- **Wednesday:** A visit to Rob Roy's grave (below) in Balquhidder Kirkton, where the legendary figure passed away in 1734 at the age of 63.

(Continued on page 127)



Clan Gregor - 200th Anniversary Gathering 2024

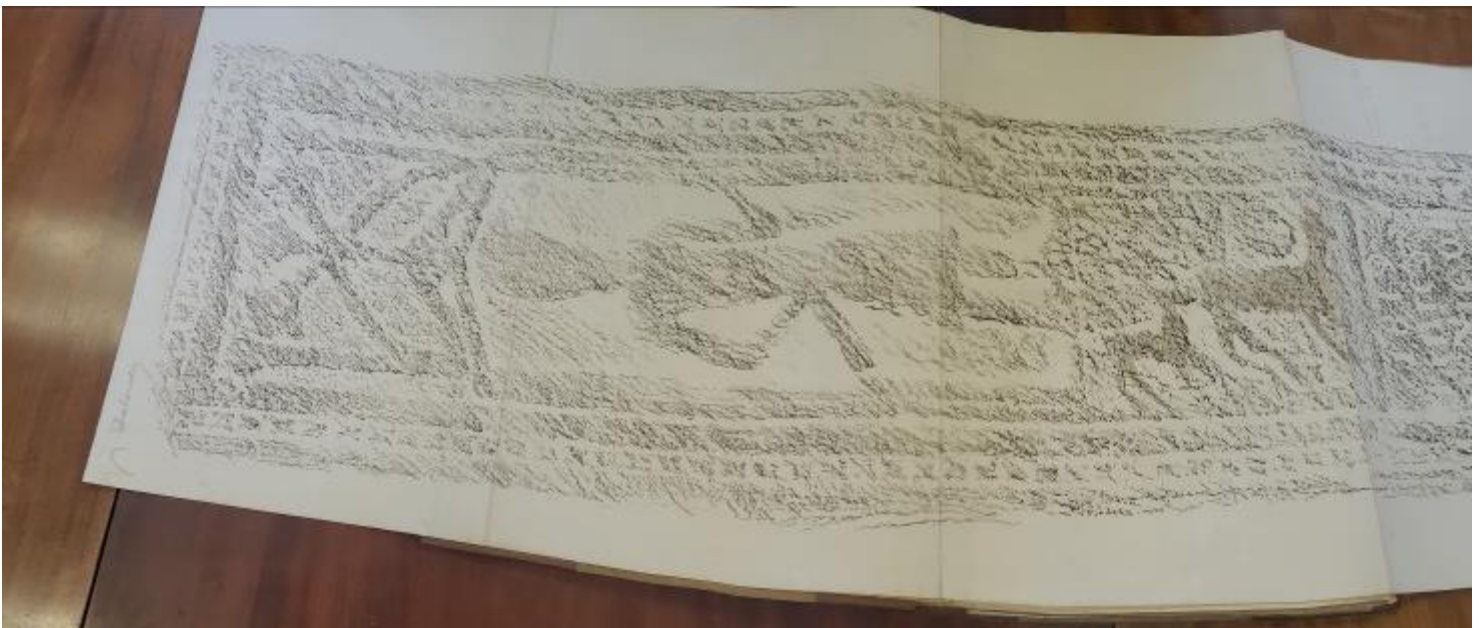
(Continued from page 126)

- **Thursday:** Access to the archives at Inveraray Castle. Due to space constraints, only twelve from each group could enter the archive room. We viewed charcoal “rubbings” of the Dalmally stones, commissioned by Lord Archibald Campbell in the late 19th century, featuring some of the stones now residing in the Dalmally Kirk.

(Continued on page 128)



Charcoal rubbings of some of the stones at Dalmally



Clan Gregor - 200th Anniversary Gathering 2024

(Continued from page 127)

- **Friday:** The Bicentennial Commemorative Banquet at Crieff Hydro Hotel. We enjoyed fine dining, lively pipers, and joyous merriment. The bar even ran out of Guinness! Here's a photo of the Canadians in attendance.

(Continued on page 129)



The Maple Leaf MacGregors at the banquet



The Petrie lads, Alex, David and Michael, being part of the merriment at the banquet

Clan Gregor - 200th Anniversary Gathering 2024

(Continued from page 128)

- **Saturday:** Lochearnhead Highland Games. The MacGregors triumphed in the clan tug-of-war against the MacLarens. My son Alexander Petrie , center below, played a crucial role in our victory, earning some well-deserved bragging rights!



The 2024 Clan Gathering was a celebration of heritage, community, and unforgettable experiences. It was a privilege to share these moments with fellow MacGregors and to delve deeper into our rich history.



An Drochaid - The Bridge

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.

Our Fall cover is Sligachan Bridge on the Isle of Skye. Image taken July 23, 2024 during a tour of Scotland and the 200th Anniversary Clan Gregor Gathering.
Credit and Copyright 2024 - William Petrie

An Drochaid - The Bridge is published quarterly for each season.
Submissions are welcome, though articles may be edited for length or content.
CASSOC assumes no responsibility for content including dates for events.
Please verify event dates by contacting organizers, visiting websites and other sources.
Whenever possible, please provide Word, RTF or text formats
Please try to provide submissions by the first day of the season of publication.
Spring: March 21, Summer: June 21, Fall: September 21, Winter: December 11.

Submissions should be emailed to editor@scotscanada.ca

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Taylors Tartans is a home based business in rural New Brunswick that sells product made out of our provincial tartans.