

An Drochaid - The Bridge

Discover, Share and Celebrate Our Scottish Heritage

Vol 53 Issue 3

Summer

2025 Newsletter

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Tynninghame Bridge

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Frae the Chair

It is with a sigh of mixed pride and profound regret that I must confess I have become a classic victim of a perfect storm of mostly self-inflicted time-goblins.

These merciless vortexes of “need-to-do-now” demands are constantly pulling my time and energy down the drain of going nowhere—or at least, nowhere near my infinite to-do list.

The pride, of course, comes from being a victim of our own success here at Scots of Canada. Since the last newsletter, we’ve added 15 new organization members and launched household memberships—a win that has enthusiastically piled on work in emails, accounting, website updates, and the design and deployment of more banners and posters than I can comfortably blame on anyone else.



All this is happening while my own household mutinously demands attention between attending what feels like every festival in this season’s roadshow.

My wife, Sylvie, laughs supportively every time I claim I’m “retired.” (Let’s be honest: she’s really laughing at me.) Seriously, though, she remains my hard anchor for sanity and perspective throughout this glorious chaos. Where would we MacGregor men be without salvation by our ladies?

The inevitable result of all this positive momentum? This newsletter tried its best not to be published. My old tactic of just plowing through was no match for the onslaught of new material combined with an incessant spawn of more to-dos. For every item I crossed off, two more boldly took its place—like some kind of administrative hydra.

So, as a short-term solution, last week I surrendered to reason. I broke with tradition and switched to publishing only time-sensitive material and new member announcements, leaving the rest of the articles queued up for a special edition—coming soon(ish) to an inbox near you, once the festival dust settles.

Sylvie and I will be at Niagara Celtic (US), LBA Highland Games (QC), and the Fall Celtic Festival (ON). Meanwhile, our fantastic vice-chair out west, Kirstin Hunter, has almost wrapped up her tour with only Canmore Highland Games left. (We don’t talk about her efficiency especially with her threats of two more members joining! It’s demoralizing.)

Once our tents are finally closed for the season and the last bagpipe fades into the mist like my ancestors of old, we’ll compile a comprehensive tracking report in our “End of Festival Season” special edition. Until then, please accept this slightly abbreviated edition—and my apologies to my lawn, which now officially qualifies as a wildlife preserve.

William Petrie

Chair, Scots of Canada

chair@scotsofcanada.ca

Coming Soon - Invoices for Annual Dues

Renewals this year are an evolution of the invoicing we've implement over the past couple of years as Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada. Part of the change is to help simplify accounting by holding off on invoicing until close to the end of the current fiscal year and dating the invoices to be in the next one. In our case, this end of fiscal being August 31, 2025. Subsequently the receipt and recognition of income will be dated after the beginning of the next fiscal year. This being September 1, 2025.

Due to the bylaws adopted this past April, another change is the modernization of how membership in Scots of Canada works.

The current bylaws may be examined [here](#). The relevant excerpts on organization membership dues are:

16. Membership term, year, dues and status

- a. Membership term for Organization Members and Household Members is perpetual, ending only per termination as described in Termination of Membership.*
- c. The membership year for Organizational Members and Household Members shall be an annual period with anniversary date as determined by the Board for one, several or an entire class of membership.*
- d. Organization Members and Household Members may have a status of Active or Inactive with rights, privileges and benefits for said status as determined by the Board on an individual basis or for one or more members at the discretion of the Board.*
- e. Members shall be notified in writing of the membership dues at any time payable by them and, if any are not paid within a prescribed period set by the Board, the member will be deemed to be in a status of Inactive until such time as the dues for the current membership year are paid or the Board, at its sole discretion, designates the status for the member to be Active.*

What this all means is that, in the next few days following this newsletter, organizations which need to pay membership dues for the next Scots of Canada fiscal year will receive an invoice with the following.

Annual Active Status Dues - Organizations

All memberships are perpetual and require an annual fee payment for the member's status to be in an 'Active' state.

1

\$50.00

\$50.00

Please note that legally we are required to issue the organization dues renewal invoice to all applicable organization members. If an organization does not want to be invoiced as a way of terminating membership, this can't legally be done. The organization has to formally resign from Scots of Canada or, as a bizarre option, be expelled from membership through due process by the Board of Directors.

Please feel free to let us know if there are changes to whom we should be sending the invoices to.

Additionally If you've questions and/or need further clarity on the invoicing, please reach out to us by email at treasurer@ScotsCanada.ca

Ailsa Craig Highland Games and Scottish Festival - New Member



Fourth Saturday in July

Website:

<http://www.ailsacraighighlandgames.ca>

Email

info@ailsacraighighlandgames.ca

About the Festival

Ailsa Craig (Gaelic for “fairy rock”) is a vibrant village of nearly 1200 people, located just 20 minutes north-west of London, Ontario. Founded by Scots, the Village’s namesake is the Island of Ailsa Craig, off the western Scottish coast in the Firth of Clyde. The Island is famous for its high-quality microgranite, and it is only one of two sources in the world for the granite used in curling stones. Both the Island of Ailsa Craig and the Scottish Thistle are featured prominently in the Village’s official crest. Scottish pride runs deep in “the Craig.”

Clan Anderson Society - New Member



Website: www.hopevereanderson.com/about/

Membership: Constance Anderson

constanceanderson@bannockburn.scot

Crest: An Oak Tree, Proper

Motto: Stand Sure

Septs: Andrew, Anderson, Andrews, Gillanders, MacAndrew, M'Anderson

Modern



Ancient



Weathered



Clan Cunningham International - New Member



Website: www.clancunninghamintl.org

Membership : Kelly Cunningham

iamkellycunningham@yahoo.com

Crest: A unicorn's head couped Argent, armed Or

Motto: Over Fork Over

About

Our organization was formed in 2002 and was chartered/ incorporated in the state of Tennessee as Clan Cunningham USA. We attended and represented Clan Cunningham at The Gathering in Edinburgh, Scotland in 2009 and received such a widespread interest that we decided to expand to worldwide. Changing our name in late 2009, we became Clan Cunningham International and have representatives in Scotland, Canada, New Zealand and the USA. We are the only Clan Cunningham organization recognized by our Chief

Spellings (C or K)

Cunningham Cuninghame Cunyngam Cunyngame Cunneggim Cuningham Cuninghame Cunungsby
Cunygan Cunyngam Cunyngame Conyngam MacCunnegan

Associated Family Names (Septs)

(*) indicates that a clan also exists of that name

Boyd* Chancellor Coon Cooney Dunlop Dunlap* Flack George Giffen Gunion Hackney Hair Hare Hairt
Hemphill Paisley Powers Stair Stairs Starrett Steritt Stirrat Stirie Stirey Winchester Woodburn

Modern



Hunting



Cunningham #2



Clan Matheson Society - New Member



Website: www.clanmatheson.org

Membership: Charles Matheson

cmatheson1959@gmail.com

Crest: Issuant from an eastern crown or, a dexter hand holding a scimitar, in fess all proper

Motto: "Fac et Spera" (Do and Hope)

About

The Society was primarily established to bring together individuals from around the world who share the same Highland heritage. It is now made up of many branches that span several continents and as recognition of our efforts increases, we will continue to grow into a stronger organisation.

Septs : MacMath, MacPhun and Mathie.

Matheson Dress



Matheson Hunting



Youngs of Scotland - New Member



Website: youngsofscotland.co.uk

Membership: Laura Young

4scottishthistles@gmail.com

Delegate to Scots of Canada:

Douglas A. Young

Convenor and Candidate for Commander

clanyoung@hotmail.com

Crest: Lion rampant holding a sword

Motto: Robore Prudentia Praestat (Prudence excels strength)

Septs: Yonge Yunge Yang Yong Yeong Younge Jung Jong Ljung Lejeune
Lajeunesse Younger and other spelling variations

Who we are

Greetings to all Youngs, their kin and friends. This site is a resource for members of our Youngs of Scotland Society, informally known as the "Clan Young". Our society is for those interested in researching their family history, promoting reunions, attending Scottish events, learning about their Scottish heritage, visiting their homeland and socializing with others with like minds. There are four active societies today, in the UK, US, Canada and Australia. To become a member of our society you must fill out an application form and submit it along with the fees. "Cuimhnich air na daoine o'n d'thainig thu." (Remember the people from whom you came!!) Our society was founded in 1987, by Edward A. Young of Orlando, Florida and 20 other charter members. Since that time, other national societies have sprung up, some founded by the original charter members who were from other countries, with similar objectives. The Canadian society, although affiliated with other national societies, became autonomous in 2008.

Modern



Christina/Christian



Weathered



Antigonish Highland Society - New Member



Website: <https://antigonishhighlandgames.ca/>

Email: admin@antigonishhighlandgames.ca

Our History

The Antigonish Highland Society was founded on April 22nd of 1861, by a group of our Scottish forefathers to aid the poor and needy, to promote the improvement and general welfare of our native country and to preserve the national spirits, dress, music, customs and traditions of the Caledonians; to perpetuate the language, literature and athletics of Scotland.

The all-male (at the time) society adopted a uniform that consisted of a plaid and bonnet. They celebrated their culture at picnics, dinners, Highland balls and held meetings to discuss how to best promote their traditions. The first celebration was a dinner held on St. Andrew's Day on November 30th of 1861. Honouring the patron saint of Scotland has been one of the important traditions that the Society has preserved since its inception.

In the past, the challenges have been many, yet the descendants of the first Caledonians have survived and prospered. Today, their descendants can be found through Antigonish County and beyond.

The Antigonish Highland Society continues to promote and preserve the dress, music, customs, traditions, language, literature and athletics of the Caledonians and Scotland. The Society, largely through the initiative of Rod J. Chisholm, influenced the Town of Antigonish decision to dub the community "The Highland Heart of Nova Scotia."

Our Vision

To be a community organization that serves past, present and future generation of Gaels. We are providers of and advocates for authentic living expressions of Highland Scottish heritage.

To create a living and vibrant Scottish culture in Antigonish and be the conduit for the North American Gael to their heritage.

Fall Celtic Festival - New Member

The Fall Celtic Festival is a Growing Annual Two-Day Celebration of the Cultures of Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Cornwall, Brittany and the Isle of Man. Begun in 2018, the Event Brings Celtic Traditions and Fun to All the People of the Greater Toronto Area and Invites Them to Explore a New Culture or Connect With Their Celtic Heritage.

The Festival is Held Outdoors on the Grounds of the Toronto Rock Athletic Centre, 1132 Invicta Drive, Oakville, Ontario L6H 6G1. Oakville is Located Roughly Halfway Between Two of Ontario's Major Cities, Toronto and Hamilton (About 32-38 km/20-23 Miles Either Way), and About an Hour's Drive from the U.S.A. Border Crossings at Lewiston, Niagara Falls, or Buffalo, New York.



DATES: Saturday, September 27th and Sunday, September 28th, 2025

TIMES: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Daily

ADMISSION: Free

TICKETS: To Help Us Keep Track of Growing Attendance Numbers, Please Reserve Your Optional Free Tickets for Each Festival Date You Plan to Attend at **Eventbrite** at: <https://bit.ly/4k6WfWc>

For the Latest Updates on This Year's Schedule of Performances and Attractions, Please Visit the Festival's **Website** at: <http://www.fallcelticfestival.ca>

The Fall Celtic Festival Features:

- Live Celtic Music Performed by Local Bands, Orchestras, Singers, and Choirs
- Highland, Irish, and Folk Dancers Live Celtic Theatre, Beer Tent and Inflatable Pub
- Exhibition Matches of Celtic Sports
- Exhibits Showcasing Traditional and Modern Celtic Culture Through Arts, Crafts, Food, Beverages, Folklore, Storytelling, Languages, Travel, History, Genealogy, and More!
- Celtic-Themed Demonstrations, Workshops, and Immersive Play and Learning Experiences that Bring Celtic Culture to Life for Kids and Families
- Kid Zone with Bouncy Castle, Barbeque Food Tent
- Vendor Stalls Selling Edible Treats, Beautiful Craftwork, Souvenirs, and Other Intriguing Items
- Wheelchair Accessible, Gender-Neutral Washrooms

Fall Celtic Festival - New Member



Canadian Hemochromatosis Society - New Member



A Message to Our Scottish Cousins: Watch Your Iron!

Did you know that if you have Scottish ancestry, you may carry a genetic condition that causes your body to absorb too much iron?

It's called **hereditary hemochromatosis** — a condition that is especially common in people of Northern European descent, including those of **Scottish, Irish, English, and Scandinavian** heritage. In fact, it's often referred to as the "Celtic Curse."

What Is Hemochromatosis?

Hemochromatosis is an inherited disorder that causes the body to absorb and store **too much iron** from the food you eat. Over time, this excess iron builds up in vital organs — such as the liver, heart, and pancreas — and can lead to serious health problems like liver disease, heart failure, diabetes, arthritis, chronic fatigue, and more.

Why Should Scots Care?

Statistically, **1 in 300 Canadians** of Northern European descent are affected by hemochromatosis — and **1 in 9** are carriers. That means if you have Scottish roots, there's a good chance someone in your family could be living with undiagnosed iron overload.

The Good News

Hemochromatosis is **easily treatable** — if caught early. The key is **awareness and early diagnosis**. A simple blood test (called a ferritin and transferrin saturation test) can reveal if your iron levels are too high. If necessary, treatment is as simple as regular blood donations to reduce iron levels.

What You Can Do

- **Learn your family history.** Has anyone had liver problems, arthritis, diabetes, or unexplained fatigue?
- **Talk to your doctor** and request iron tests, especially if you're of Scottish or Celtic descent.
- **Spread the word** among your family and community. Awareness can save lives.

Visit us at: www.toomuchiron.ca for more information and resources.

Join Us in Our Mission

The **Canadian Hemochromatosis Society** is dedicated to raising awareness, providing education, and supporting Canadians affected by this common but often overlooked condition.

Together with *Scots Canada*, we're calling on the Scottish-Canadian community to take action. Let's turn awareness into prevention — and help ensure no one suffers unnecessarily from too much iron in their blood.

<https://youtu.be/F2AoQRHfaw8>

Arnel Bernabe

Executive Director

Canadian Hemochromatosis Society
executivedirector@toomuchiron.ca



Website:

www.gaelicsocietytoronto.com

Email:

Valerie MacDonald : gaelictoronto@gmail.com

Membership: www.gaelicsocietytoronto.com/ballrachd--membership.html

About

Our mission is preserving, supporting, celebrating and sharing the Scottish Gaelic Language, Heritage and Culture

St. Andrew's Society of Montreal - New Member



Website:

www.standrews.qc.ca

Membership:

Margo Pollock

margo@standrews.qc.ca

About us

Founded in 1835, the St. Andrew's Society of Montreal is a charitable society dedicated to the assistance of Montreal's Scottish community, to education, and to the preservation of Scottish arts and culture.

United Scottish Cultural Society : ScotFestBC - New Member



Website: <http://scotfestbc.com>

Membership: Peter Richards
president@scotfestbc.com

About us

We are the premier group of Scots in Vancouver, embracing the individual founding societies of Pipers and Drummers, Highland Dancers, Royal Scottish Country Dance Society (Vancouver Branch), The St Andrews and Caledonia Society and The Gaelic Society.

Every year we sponsor and organise ScotFestBC, the BC Highland Games, on the 3rd weekend in June.

The Games are a continuation of a 128-year tradition that originated with the original Scottish settlers in the Vancouver area. The Scots were not only the earliest immigrants, but also one of the most influential to the city and region as it grew.

Despite wars and changing demographics, BC has continued to be a hotbed of Scottish culture through piping, drumming, pipe bands and highland and Scottish country dancing, supported by the descendants of those early settlers, the many new arrivals and 'Scottish Canadians' who come to the Games to celebrate their heritage. BC continues to produce world class Scottish pipers, dancers and championship pipe bands.

What makes a highland games different than any other cultural celebration?

Highland Games originated among the Scots' ancestors in the "old country" and became a customary part of their life. Tossing the caber, putting the stone, throwing the hammer and competition in bagpiping and Highland dancing formed the core of the Games, pitting the best musicians, dancers and athletes against each other to determine the best.

A full day of competition, some great music, dancing and maybe a bit of Scottish whisky made for a great day in the highlands. As economic times changed in Scotland, emigration dispersed the Highland Games idea and brought it to North America where they have flourished throughout Canada and the US.

Bradan Press - New Member



Website

<https://www.bradanpress.com>

Contact

info@bradanpress.com

Publisher

Emily McEwan emcewan@bradanpress.com

About

Bradan means “salmon” in Scottish Gaelic and refers to the Salmon of Wisdom in Gaelic oral tradition. We publish books about Scottish Gaelic culture and more, from an inclusive perspective

Bradan Press connects readers worldwide with Scottish Gaelic language and culture. Founded in 2016 in Halifax, we are proud to continue the 180+ year tradition of Gaelic publishing in Nova Scotia.

We are a traditional book publisher focusing on children’s picture books, middle-grade novels, poetry, graphic novels, nonfiction, and more in Gaelic, English, French, and Irish.

Dr. Emily McEwan is the founder and president

The Devil's Brigade - New Member



Website:

<https://thedevilsbrigade.net/>

Email

info@thedevilsbrigade.net

About

From Scotland to Japan, Italy to Cuba, Spain to Guam to the Middle East, and across North America this electrifying group is embracing Celtic, rock, world music, and more with daring, skill, and a wee bit o' cheek

The DEVIL'S BRIGADE, formally known as the First Special Service Force, was a highly decorated Canadian/American commando unit in WWII. Their legendary heroism struck fear into the hearts of Nazis and their legacy can be traced directly to the Canadian Special Operations Regiment and Green Berets.

The American Rogues have long supported Veterans and by becoming THE DEVIL'S BRIGADE in 2023 we honour those who serve and also reflect our own Canadian/American identity. We are not in league with Satan!

Ship Hector Society - New Member



Website:

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

Email

info@shiphector.ca

Background

250 years ago, 189 Scottish settlers landed on the shores of Pictou Nova Scotia after a harrowing 11 weeks at sea. This voyage was the beginning of an incredible journey of the first permanent, enduring Scottish settlement in Nova Scotia.

Those who arrived aboard the Hector, as well as those Scottish settlers who followed, made enormous cultural, political, intellectual and industrial contributions that shaped Nova Scotia and the rest of Canada.

This historic voyage marked the beginning of a massive wave of immigration that would shape the future of North America and gave Pictou the honour of being called "The Birthplace of New Scotland".

In 2000, the replica of the Ship Hector was launched in Pictou Harbour. The Ship and the Hector Heritage Quay Interpretive Centre allows visitors to experience the life of passengers and their crucial relationship with the Mi'kmaq

About the Society

We are a non-profit society that supports the Hector Heritage Quay Interpretation Centre and replica of the ship Hector. The Hector sailed from Loch Broom, Scotland to Pictou, Nova Scotia in 1773 with 189 Scottish Immigrants on board. Our interpretation centre tells the story of the Mi'kmaq people of Nova Scotia and the Highland Scots that sailed into Mi'kmawki over 250 years ago starting a wave of Scottish immigration to Canada that earned Pictou the title "Birthplace of New Scotland".

Walk the decks. Trace your roots. Discover the living history at the Ship Hector Quay.

[Book your visit today.](#)

Clan MacEwen USA Branch - New Member

Website:

www.clanmcewen.com

Membership:

Maggie McEwan

magmcewan@gmail.com

Delegate to Scots of Canada:

James "Jim" McEwen

James.McEwen14@gmail.com



CREST: a large oak stump, clearly the base of what was once a large oak tree, which despite having been cut down, is now sprouting new branches

MOTTO: Reviresco

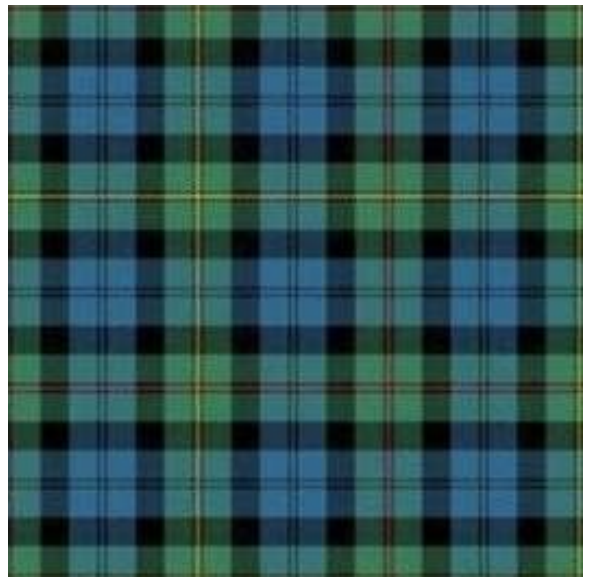
(I Grow Strong Again)

Any and all spellings of the name are accepted.

Modern Dress



Ancient



twenty-fourth annual

NIAGARA CELTIC

Heritage Festival



*Ny's
Largest!*

September
13 & 14
Niagara Co. Fairgrounds



Saturday After Hours Ceilidh



Sunday Grand Finale Show



5 Regions to Explore | Highland Games | 5 Music Stages w/ 40+ Performers | 70+ Vendors
Food & Drink | Clans | Attractions | Pipe Bands | History Groups | Pageantry & Ceremonies
Kid's Wee Folk Shire | Animals | Artisans | Competitions | Special Events | Storytellers

— Tickets, Lodging, Complete Line-Up at —

NiagaraCeltic.com

Tickets \$12-35
Cash only at-the-door
Kids 12 & Under Free



STV Children's Appeal - Diaspora Survey Request



I'm writing from STV Children's Appeal, and we're embarking on an important project to better understand and connect with Scottish communities worldwide.

As a Scottish organisation, we recognise that Scotland's story extends far beyond our borders through the millions of people of Scottish heritage around the globe.

We want to learn how we can better serve and connect with these communities - not just to benefit our work, but to create meaningful opportunities for diaspora Scots to engage with their heritage and each other.

We've developed a survey to gather insights directly from the Scottish diaspora about their experiences, interests, and how they'd like to connect with Scotland.

Rather than assumptions, we want to hear authentic voices from your community.

Participation is completely voluntary and anonymous, and we're committed to sharing our findings with participating communities. We see this as the beginning of an ongoing conversation, not a one-time data collection.

[Click here to take our survey.](#)

If you'd like to know more about our organisation, our approach to this research, or have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch. The survey will be open until the 12th of September.

Thank you for considering this, and for all you do to keep Scottish culture and connections alive in your community.

Warm regards,

[Eilean Duncans](#)

Team Assistant

STV, Pacific Quay, Glasgow, G51 1PQ T. 0141 300 3000

St. Andrews Society of Toronto - Celtic Island Music Festival


Let's end summer with a great party on Toronto Island!

After selling out last year, the Celtic Island Music Festival has expanded to two days. There will be cold drinks, great food and unbeatable views on the best patio in the city.

Both days will be filled with music and dance performances from Ireland, Scotland and Canada.

Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. [Click here for more info and tickets.](#)

Children under 12 are admitted for free when attending with a paying adult.



CELTIC ISLAND MUSIC FESTIVAL

TORONTO ISLAND BBQ & BEER CO.

September 13 & 14 2025
\$15 Advance • \$20 Door • 12-6PM

Celtic Life International



The Summer 2025 edition includes a special 3-page report on the 2025 State of the Clans including an interview with William Petrie, Chair - Scots of Canada.

Click [HERE](#) or the image below to read the full article.



The Summer 2025 edition also included the ad to the left for Scots of Canada following the State of the Clans article.

Your input on the ad are most welcome.

Please email your insights to

editor@scotscanada.ca



Scots
Canada



NO FRILLS CRICKET COOKOUT

ICC CRICKET WORLD CUP LEAGUE 2



VS



Match 1

AUG 31st

Sunday

Match 2

6th Sept

Saturday

MAPLE LEAF CRICKET GROUND, KING CITY, ON

**GRILL, CHILL AND CHEER
FOR CANADA**

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING CANADA'S WORLD CUP QUALIFICATION
WITH AN END-OF-SUMMER CRICKET PICNIC!

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



**LIVE
BARBECUE**



**COMPLIMENTARY
FOOD & DRINKS**



**GAMES &
ACTIVITIES**

FREE ENTRY

Sunday, 31 August – Canada vs Scotland

Saturday, 6 September – Canada vs Scotland

These are international games and part of the cycle to qualify for the 2027 Cricket World Cup. See the full ICC schedule [here](#).

The Scottish Banner

Dear Friends,

Please find attached the latest issue of the Scottish Banner if you wish to share with your membership.

Some of this edition's content will also be available on our website throughout the month at:
www.scottishbanner.com/category/article/

We hope your membership enjoys our content and we invite all Scottish community organisations to keep us posted on their news or events (Submit an event | The Scottish Banner) for future editions.

Keep up with what is happening across the Scottish community, with the world's leading international Scottish event listings, at: www.scottishbanner.com/events/

Please encourage your membership to subscribe with us, in order to help to continue to create our unique content for the international Scottish community at:
www.scottishbanner.com/subscribe/

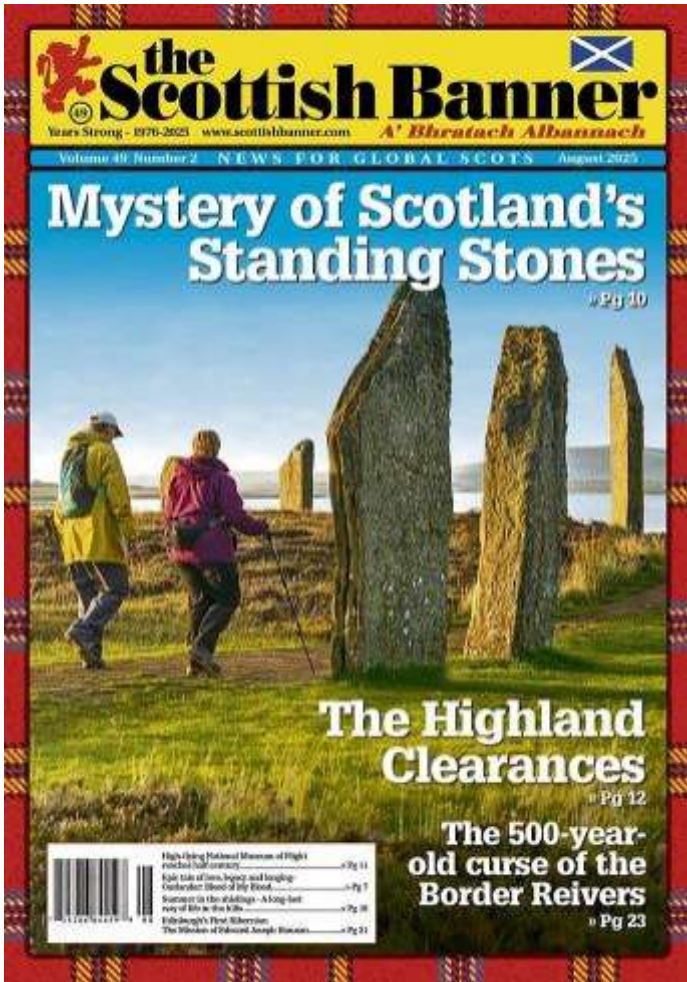
Any queries please do get in touch.

Kind regards,

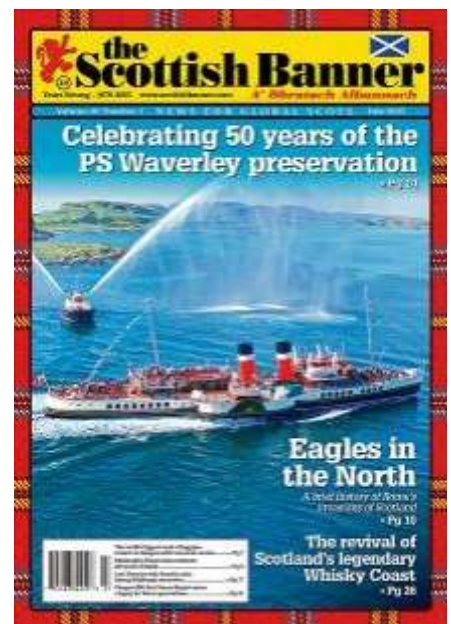
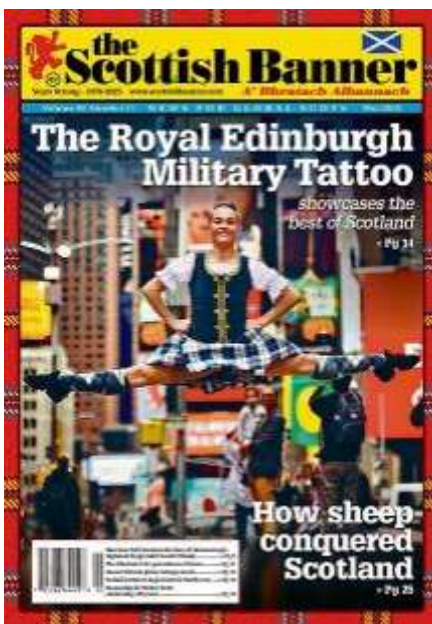
Susan Leslie

The Scottish Banner

E: info@scottishbanner.com



The following May, June and July editions are also available for download. Click an image to view.





Clan Pride in Costa Mesa

California Event Means Fun, Family and Friend

Tent Convener Suzanne Davidson gathered Clan Davidson members and friends for the first day of the 2025 Scottish Fest (above), which took place May 24-25 in Costa Mesa, California

Held each Memorial Day weekend, Scottish Fest is Southern California's largest Scottish-Celtic-American Festival. It includes two days of world-class Celtic music, piping and drumming competitions, Highland dancing contests, Scottish heavy athletics, Scottish gifts and foods, Scottish clans and genealogy and more.

Turnout was lighter at the Clan Davidson tent on the Sunday of the event but people stopped by all day for hugs and smiles.





Georgia Mountain Highland Games

Former Blairsville Event Debuts New Venue

Easy Set-Up in New Wooden Booths! Tent Convener Richard Davis Halliley in Region 9 was pretty excited about the Clan Davidson "tent" at the [Georgia Mountain Scottish Festival and Highland Games](#).

The event outgrew its venue in Blairsville, Georgia, after 19 years and moved to the Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds in Hiawassee, Georgia in time for the 2025 games, held on June 7-8.

"The new venue is fantastic," Richard wrote on Facebook. "All clans have permanent wooden booths for easy set-up as well as rain protection." He snapped the photo above to show how the Clan Davidson booth looked before the crowds arrived.

Clan Buchanan



Interpretative panels & Clan identification signs

A clear thing we can do in Scotland is identify historic sites and re-introduce the footprint within clan lands. Not only will that serve to share our heritage, encourage preservation and impart our relevance; it will forge links to local stakeholders and encourage tourism.

And so, we are initiating the first major fundraising project for CBSI: Interpretative panels & Clan identification signs

The initial aim is to install 25+ signs on significant Clan Buchanan sites, that both identify and educate the sites, BUT ALSO promote our involvement in Scottish heritage.

More than that, we hope that other Clans follow suit (not the least of which is because many sites share a history between several clans, over time) and all of Scotland re-learns Clan history.

To make this project even more successful, we will need heaps of information about sites and towns; history and culture

- A stand-alone website or App for more information
- Government grants and funding
- Landholder approvals and permissions
- Sponsorship and local business involvement

To do this, Clan Buchanan has created a Not-For-Profit organisation in Scotland : the Clàr-Innis Foundation, with the aim of developing these artistic projects in Scotland

Learn more here: <https://www.theclanbuchanan.com/signs>

Hutchison House Museum

Anyone driving or walking on Brock Street between Aylmer and Rubidge streets likely will notice a distinctive stone house on the north side. This is Hutchison House Museum, owned and operated by the Peterborough Historical Society (PHS) since 1978.

The house was built by community labour so the story goes, of local limestone, as an inducement to keep one of Peterborough's early doctors, Scottish-born John Hutchison, from moving to a bigger community where he could better support his growing family. Dr Hutchison, his wife Martha (nee Holland), and their five boys (all under the age of ten years) moved into their new home early in 1837. Six more children followed before the doctor died in 1847 during a typhus outbreak, and Martha and her remaining family moved to live with family in Toronto.



The house's second owner was businessman James Harvey, who bought it from the doctor's estate in 1851. The property stayed in the Harvey family when his daughter Elizabeth and her husband Peter Connal purchased it. In 1969, their descendant bequeathed the house to the PHS, who then restored its interior to how it may have looked in the Hutchison and early Harvey/Connal eras.



Today, Hutchison House Museum is open year-round, and offers guided tours by trained interpreters, teas and special heritage meals, workshops, school and public programmes, and other public events and activities for all ages. These are run by a small staff and a core of knowledgeable volunteers. The gardens are designed to reflect a local garden circa 1860s/1870s, and also are maintained by dedicated volunteers.

The museum's busiest annual day is 1 January when it celebrates "Hogmanay", the Scottish New Year, with music, dancing, special Scottish food and drink, and traditional ceremonies for everyone's enjoyment. All are welcome, and it is a fun way to start off any year!

For more information about upcoming Hutchison House events, to register for a camp or programme, to arrange for rental, or to book a bus tour and tea, etc. contact us by :

Web : www.phs-hutchisonhouse.ca

Email : info@hutchisonhouse.ca

Call : 705-743-9710.

We hope to see you soon.





Story of the Moving of a Monument

In 1989 the Province of Nova Scotia allotted a parcel of land for Clan Donald to place a Clan Memorial Monument at the entrance to the Town of Pictou.

Over the past several years the province gave the land and tourist bureau buildings on it to the Town of Pictou, forgetting that the monument had been placed there. The town, as part of its redevelopment of the area, placed the portion of the land the monument is located on up for sale. This is when several of the Clan members became aware of the problem. If the land was sold outside of the government, then the monument would become the property of the purchaser.

After 3 years of many phone calls and in-person meetings, a grant application and the commitments of time, labour, machinery and money, the 4000lb monument was finally moved, from the old site at the rotary entrance to Pictou, to a new Park being created on Cladah Avenue on the waterfront in downtown Pictou. The park is presently under development and will house our Clan Monument as well as a Rotary Club Peace Pole, Stones from the original Pictou Train Station, a town directory, gardens, walkway and benches. There is plenty of room for Clan activities. A rededication of the monument will be held at a later date upon completion of the landscaping.

We would like to acknowledge the participation from the Town of Pictou, the Province of Nova Scotia Dept. of Culture and Tourism, Heritage Monuments, McLaren's Funeral Home and North Shore Ballast & Cement. Without the grant and donations we would not have been able to accomplish this project.

Submitted by Catherine MacDonald, Project Co-Ordinator



Armada Castle – Historic Home of the MacDonalds of Sleat

The estate on Skye, which was home to the Macdonalds of Sleat, includes a mansion house dating from the 1790s. It was enlarged and extended over the years to include the castle. A large part of the structure was gutted by fire in 1855. The Macdonald family left the estate in 1925. In 1971, the property was purchased by the Clan Donald Lands Trust funded and supported by Clan Donald members worldwide.

Due to financial challenges, the 20,000 acre estate is now listed for sale. The property, including the Castle, Museum of the Isles, Café, and Walled Garden will remain open to visitors over the summer months of 2025.

For Sale



Drochaid Glagan-glùine: Skye's Historic Footbridge

The footbridge over the Boreraig Burn on the Isle of Skye is famously known as the "**Glagan-glùine**" bridge, which translates from Scottish Gaelic as the "**Knee Knock**" or "**Knee Bump**" bridge. Its story and significance:

Name: "Glagan-glùine", The name is a combination of the Gaelic words "glagan" (meaning a knock or a bump) and "glùine" (meaning knee). So, it directly describes the action required to cross it.

How to Cross: The bridge is not a typical arched or flat bridge. It consists of three large, flat stepping stones placed in the stream. To cross, a person must step from one stone to the next, a motion that involves raising your knees high and likely "knocking" them together as you balance and step—hence the name "Knee Knock."

Historical Context and Purpose

The bridge is located near the abandoned settlement of **Boreraig (Boraraig)**, on the Strathaird Peninsula.

Cleared Village: Boreraig was a thriving community until it was brutally cleared in the 1850s by the MacDonald landlords to make way for more profitable sheep farming. The ruins of the village's houses and barns are still visible today, making it a powerful and somber historical site.

Path to Suisnish: A path leads from Boreraig to another cleared village, Suisnish. The Glagan-glùine bridge was a crucial part of this path, allowing residents to cross the burn easily, especially when it was in spate. It connected communities and was part of the daily life of the people who lived there before the Clearances.

Who Made It? The bridge is a classic example of vernacular engineering—built by the local people for practical use, not by a named engineer or architect. It was made by the residents of Boreraig themselves, using the large, flat slabs of sandstone that are native to the area. Its simple, effective design has stood the test of time for well over a century and a half.

The Bridge Today

Hiking Destination: The bridge is now a key feature on a popular and historically significant walking route. Hikers walk from the end of the public road at Kilmarie to explore the ruins of Boreraig and Suisnish.

A Tangible Link: Crossing the Glagan-glùine bridge is a powerful experience. It is one of the few original structures from the time of the settlements that is still used exactly as it was intended. Physically stepping on the same stones that the dispossessed villagers stepped on creates a direct, tangible connection to the past.

Symbolism: For many, the bridge is a symbol of resilience and the ingenuity of the Highland communities. It's a simple but enduring monument to the people who lived and worked on the land before the Clearances.

Click the image to the left for the source page on Wikipedia Commons.





Gaelic Foundations: Living Cultures

Next program begins September 2025

In partnership with Cape Breton University, this fresh, new program delivers an innovative, broad-based, foundation year meeting first year Arts program requirements. Offered through the language of English, students gain a deep understanding of Gaelic culture by focusing on key subject areas, from the ancient past to the present day.

This is an interdisciplinary program that delves into culture to provide a better understanding of the wider world, and develops well-honed practical skills such as critical-thinking, research, writing, debating, self-directed learning and learning in a group

CONTACT US

32 MacDonald Rd, Mabou, NS B0E 1X0, Canada

admissions@beinnmhabu.ca

info@beinnmhabu.ca

(902) 623-0455

Join our online classroom this fall.

Members of your group/society save an automatic 5% on any course fee. Connect with Kenneth for more info. 



LBA Highland Games

Calling all Clans & Celtic Vendors!

The LBA Fall Festival is back from September 19–21 and we're looking for passionate participants to join the festivities!

Whether you're a Highland clan ready to represent your heritage or a vendor specializing in Celtic goods, clothing, or crafts — we want YOU to be part of the magic!

Interested in participating? Visit our [website](#) or email manager@expoormstown.com for more info. Let's make this year's Fall Festival one to remember!

WEAR YOUR TARTAN WITH PRIDE AT THE LBA HIGHLAND GAMES!



CALLING ALL CELTIC CLANS AND VENDORS!
COME ON OUT AND SHOW OFF YOUR
WARES

EMAIL [MANAGER@EXPOORMSTOWN.COM](mailto:manager@expoormstown.com) FOR DETAILS



APPLY FOR THE
**SCOTTISH
CONNECTIONS
FUND 2025-26**

The Scottish Connections Fund 2025-26 is now open for applications.

We're looking for innovative ideas from individuals and organisations that promote Scotland and bring together our diaspora around the world.

If you're based outside of Scotland, you can apply for a grant of up to £5,000 to support your project. This year's funding has increased to a total funding pot of £75,000 – meaning we can support a minimum of fifteen projects in 2025-26.

Some of our successful projects so far have spanned from business networks to Burns Night, and from teaching to tapestries – showing the creativity and passion of our diaspora networks.

The closing date for applications is 5pm on 9 (UK Time) September 2025.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE FUND

Bagpipe, Kilt and Caber – 2025 – 08 (Unicorns)

All great nations have an animal to represent them, a mascot, if you will. Russia has the brown bear; England has the lion; India, the Bengal tiger; China, the Giant panda/Chinese dragon; the U.S., the Bald eagle and Scotland has the Unicorn. What?

All those animals mentioned above represent strength and power. They are all predators except for the panda which is a bamboo-eating bear, and the unicorn. If the panda is too cute and cuddly, the Chinese have a dragon to back it up. What's with the unicorn? It's not even a real animal (of course the dragon isn't either, but it does represent strength and power!)

Alexander the Great, a 3rd Century B.C. Macedonian general, boasted that he rode one into battle. Julius Caesar reportedly sighted one while campaigning against the Gauls in the mid-50's B.C. Pliny the Elder, a Greek historian wrote about them in 79 A.D. and Marco Polo mentioned them in his travels to the Orient in the late 1200s. No less authority than Leonardo da Vinci wrote about how to capture a Unicorn.

One of the last "significant and reliable" sightings of a Unicorn occurred when one approached Genghis Khan (1162-1227) as he was preparing for an invasion of India. Khan interpreted this as a sign from heaven not to attack and turned his army away. The Jewish Talmud makes several references to Unicorns. Jewish folklore says the Unicorn is the fiercest of animals and able to kill an elephant with a single thrust of its horn. There are seven references to Unicorns in the Old Testament.

Because of its Biblical connections the Unicorn has come to represent purity and virtue. In Christian circles, they are usually portrayed as good, selfless, yet solitary and always beautiful creatures. In medieval times they came to represent Christ himself. It's believed that the horn of a Unicorn can neutralize poison and thus serve as a protection against evil. Ceremonial drinking cups were supposedly fashioned from them, and French kings used eating utensils made from them. The royal throne of Denmark was reportedly made of Unicorn horns. Queen Elizabeth I of England owned a complete Unicorn horn, which was valued at 3,000 ounces of gold (nearly six million dollars today). The Queen's horn and the Danish throne were probably tusks from narwhals (a whale with a single protruding tooth).

Inspired by the purity and strength of the Unicorn and the belief that Unicorns are the natural enemy of lions (England's symbolic animal), it's no surprise that King Robert III, incorporated it into the Royal Seal of Scotland about 1400 A.D. While some other heraldic portrayals of Unicorns show them collared, indicating that they have been tamed, the collar on the Scottish Unicorns have broken chains symbolizing freedom from bondage and refusal to be taken again. No wonder the Scots have embraced this mythological animal, it truly represents the Scottish ethos/view of themselves as hard to tame, wild, elusive and difficult to pin down.



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Unicorns are everywhere in Scotland from the doors of the King's quarters in Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh to the seven large "Mystic Hunt of the Unicorn" tapestries in Sterling Castle, to the British Coat-of-Arms to the tops of the Mercat crosses in town centers across the country.

Then there's the eleven warships that have born the name "HMS Unicorn". One of the earliest of these was a 36-gun ship captured by the English in a raid on Edinburgh in 1544. Another was a 56-gun ship launched in 1634 that her first commanding officer claimed was too narrow and "could hold no sail". She was placed in the shipyard and made 20 inches wider before being put into service.

A 38-gun, three-masted fast frigate launched in 1824 was another to bear the Unicorn name. Since she was built right after the wars against Napoleon ended, she never received her masts and riggings. A superstructure was built over her main deck and for the next 140 years she served in numerous capacities.



Narwhal (All Photos: Wikipedia)



Museum Ship Unicorn Bowsprit

She was used as a floating gunpowder storage ship and a drill ship for the Royal Navy Reserves. Between 1939 and 1959 she was renamed *Unicorn II* and *RMS Cressy* (see *HMS Unicorn (I-72)* below). During World War II, she was the center for training more than 1,500 women for the Women's Royal Navy Service. Since 1968 she has been tied up alongside a pier in Dundee, Scotland as a museum ship. With her covered superstructure, she is the most original old ship in the world, the oldest ship in Scotland and one of the six oldest ships in the world. A \$12 million restoration program is currently in process.

In 1941, a light aircraft carrier *HMS Unicorn (I-72)* was launched. She saw action at the Allied landing in Salerno, Italy in 1943. She was subsequently transferred to the British Pacific Fleet in Australia where she participated in the invasion of Okinawa. She spent most of the Korean War ferrying aircraft, troops and supplies. Notably, she is the only aircraft carrier to have conducted a shore bombardment with her guns when she attacked North Korean observers on the coast. She was sold for scrap in 1959.

Lastly is *HMS Unicorn (S43)*, one of four diesel-electric submarines launched in 1992 that were sold to Canada in 2001. The Canadian Navy changed her name and hull number to *HMCS Winsor (SSK-877)*. She is currently homeported in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Until next time, may your kilt keep its pleats, and your sporran stay full!!

© RG



HMS Unicorn (I-72)



Museum Ship HMS Unicorn



HMCS Winsor (SSK-877)

Clan Logan - Scotland, Here We Come

By: Steven Logan, FSA Scot



This year marked a significant milestone for all of us at Clan Logan. The Clan Logan Society International, an organization I was part of for over nine years as their Commissioner of Canada, initiated the process to establish the Clan Logan Commandership. Since its inception, I've worked tirelessly to promote this initiative at Highland games and special events through my own organization, Clan Logan Canada.

My goal has always been to connect with fellow Logans and emphasize the importance of registering to have a voice in this historic event, which took place in Kirknewton, Scotland, from April 23rd to 27th, 2025, at the Dalmahoy Hotel. There were three nominees in the Convention organized by Clan Logan Society International: Robert Logan from Inverurie, Scotland; Kevin Logan, President of Clan Logan Society International; and myself.

Going back to Scotland after 11 years was an emotional experience. I didn't go alone, Laurent Audar, my Vice-Director, joined me for this grand occasion. Although Canadian-born, I am Scottish by descent through my mother, Margaret Logan, who continues to inspire my work with Clan Logan in Canada.



Being a nominee for the Clan Logan Commandership was both an honor and a challenge. It tested my readiness for future leadership. Over the years, I've held various roles within Clan Logan Society International: starting as their Clan Logan Representative of Quebec, then Chief Ambassador, later Representative of France, and eventually Commissioner of Canada, a role I cherished until July of last year. When circumstances changed, I couldn't let the Logans of Canada down. I had come too far to walk away from something I love. So, I founded Clan Logan Canada, a standalone organization dedicated to preserving and promoting Logan heritage. Since then, I've continued to participate in Highland games and cultural events across the country. Years of involvement have taught me how to lead independently, something that hasn't always been well received by everyone. But I've learned to stay focused on what matters: serving the community.

Naturally, every nominee hopes to be chosen as Commander. But a commandership isn't a competition, it's a historic gathering where the family comes together to vote for the person they believe best suited for the role.

Before arriving in Scotland, I already knew I hadn't been selected. Most votes went to Kevin Logan (*Left*), influenced by various factors. One thing I've come to understand through years of hosting tents and events is that a vote is just a moment in time. People choose based on who they feel most connected to. It's not a personal rejection. What I offered was built through years of dedication. It may not have resonated with everyone, but here in Canada, it has been more than enough. I've helped establish Clan Logan in regions where it had no prior presence, built strong ties with groups like Scots of Canada, and contributed through deep community involvement, both within and beyond Scottish circles. This time, that wasn't what voters were looking for in a Commander. And that's okay. Every candidate brought something unique. Robert Logan, for instance, impressed me with his knowledge and poise. He would have made an excellent Commander.

The event in Scotland gave me the chance to reconnect with many people I've known for nearly a decade,

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including President Emeritus James C. Logan, with whom I used to host in California after attending the BC Highland Games. I also saw many supporters who told me they had voted for me and appreciated my work in Canada. Still, I was surprised that some people seemed uncomfortable or avoided me altogether. I had looked forward to seeing them and catching up. But I've come to accept that when you leave an organization, it's not uncommon for those who take a new path to be met with silence or distance. But I've come to understand that change often makes people uncomfortable, and that's okay. I remain proud of the work I've done and the relationships I've built. Fortunately, in Canada, I've found unwavering support. I no longer seek approval and truthfully, I don't think I ever needed it. I went to Scotland to celebrate our collective achievements, including my own.

One of the most inspiring moments was seeing Madame Pauline Hunter of Hunterston, Chief of Clan Hunter, in attendance. The last time I saw her was at the Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games. She remains a source of inspiration, and I hope my work continues to honor the legacy of leaders like her. I also had the pleasure of meeting Ross M. McEwen of Clan MacEwen, who delivered a moving speech at St. Margaret's Church. He spoke about the importance of heraldry and encouraged Logans to seek their own Coat of Arms. To my surprise, he cited me as an example in Canada. It was a proud moment. After years of effort, I was granted my heraldry as part of the Canadian Honours system, in recognition of my work for Clan Logan.



Ross acknowledged this in front of Clan Logan International and everyone present. At the time, there was some confusion around my heraldic recognition, which led to differing interpretations. While it was a difficult chapter, it ultimately led me to new opportunities—including my current role with the Laurentian branch of the Royal Heraldic Society of Canada.

After the speeches, Kevin Logan was named Commander-elect. I congratulated him warmly and offered a gift. He mentioned the possibility of future collaboration. Time will tell. I look forward to seeing how this new chapter unfolds, and I hope it brings meaningful action and renewed unity to the Logan community worldwide.

Upon returning to Canada, I was welcomed by a wide array of organizations: the 78th Fraser Highlanders Fort St. Helen's Garrison, the Montreal Saint Andrew's Society, my Lions Club, my Royal Canadian Legion Branch 004, Scots of Canada, and others. I've even taken on new roles, including Board Member for Les Anciennes Troupes de Montréal, Compagnie de la Franche Marine, and Councilor of Greater Montreal for the Crown Society of Canada.

Life, at its best, is simple: purpose over politics, kindness over criticism, and peace over pride. I've found joy in the work I do and the people who believe in it. That's where I choose to stay. Far from drama, close to heritage, and always moving forward.

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 Scots of Canada,

Clan MacLennan Canada has registered our Clan at 3 Highland Games this summer beginning with the Cambridge Scottish Festival on Friday, July 18 to Saturday, July 19; the Glengarry Highland Games on Friday, August 1st to Sunday August 3rd and the Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games from Friday August 8th to Sunday August 10th. The Guest of Honour for Glengarry HGs will be Colin Patrick MacDonell of Glengarry who is the 24th hereditary chief of Glengarry. The 1st MacDonells arrived to what is now Glengarry County in 1784 as United Empire Loyalist refugees after the American Revolution.

The Fergus Scottish Festival and HGs is celebration their 80th edition. The Lord Lyon and visiting Chiefs will be at the Games as part of the Celebrations. The 2025 Featured Guest will be Charles Vandervaat who plays William Ransom on the T.V. series Outlander.

Clan MacLennan was an Early Medieval Clan, traced back at least to A.D. 565 to St. Finan, one of the tutors of St. Columba, who came to Scotland that year. Our Clan's Gaelic name, MacGhillie Finan means "son of the lad Finan" The MacLennans claim descent from the ancient Royal Celtic families of Ireland and Scotland. King Colman Rimid, circa 600 gave the family the motto "Dum Spiro Spero" (while I live, I hope) still borne on the clan arms today. It was from the ranks of the noble families of Ireland that most of the early leading churchmen came and among other notable ecclesiastics the clan can claim kinship are St. Adamnan and St. Columba. As well as being leading figures in the church, the MacLennans were also renowned warriors who held sway in Fermanagh, Armagh, Co. Down and elsewhere in Ireland.



The Five Sisters of Kintail

Sometime around the sixth century the MacLennans, together with other Gaelic clans, settled along the west coast of Scotland, displacing the native Picts. The principal seat of the MacLennans, recorded by St. Adamnan, was in the vicinity of Kintail. The mountains known as "The Five Sisters of Kintail" were named after the sisters of a kinsman, St. Colmen MacLenin.

Legend states that one sister married a Norse prince who said he would return with lovers for the other four. They waited in vain, eventually taking the shape of mountains.

The MacLennans along with the McRaes were custodians of the Clan Mackenzie's Eilean Donan Castle on Donnan Island.



Eilean Donan Castle

In view of our clan's history of desperate struggles against more numerous clans, it is disastrous defeats that figure most prominently in clan memories. One of these was the Battle of Drumderfit. In 1372 at the hands of the Frasers, and MacRaes of Aird, the MacLennans were defeated at the Battle of Drumderfit, hence Clan War Cry "Druim na Deur", or Ridge of Tears. The account of the fight at Drumderfit as given by Anderson in his "Family of Fraser" seems to fit authentic history. About the year 1372 the MacLennans pillaged Tain and Chanonry after which, marching eastward, they encamped on rising ground between Munloch, and the ferry of Kessock. The Laird of Lovat, having raised a number of his own vassals, and some belonging to the Earl of Ross, surprised the invaders early in the morning at a place called Drumderfit. Of the vanquished, but one escaped and he is said to have owed his preservation to a country peat sledge called a Lobban, still occasionally used as a substitute for a cart, under which he concealed himself. His descendants to this day inhabit the neighbourhood and have assumed the surname of Loban. They have been so long tenants there that the local proverb says "as long as the Lobbans of Drumderfit".

Another battle of great consequence to the Clan, resulting in the near extermination of the name, was the Battle of Auldearn in 1645. The men of Kintail, led by the 33rd Clan Chief Ruairidh, a red bearded giant of 6 foot 8 inches, were bearing the standard of Lord Seaforth, fighting in opposition to the brilliant Marquis of Montrose. The tide of battle turned in favour of Montrose but unfortunately a runner sent to the MacLen-

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Clan MacLennan Canada

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nans with the order to retreat, was killed before he could deliver his message. The MacLennans stood firm around the standard but they were cut down one by one by Montrose's circling calvary until only Chief Ruairidh was left. He must have been an awe-inspiring sight, shouting defiance at the Gordon calvarymen, with his claymore in his hand and his body transfixd with arrows. The enemy in admiration offered him an honourable surrender but he refused and was then shot dead. A bronze plaque erected by the National Trust at the nearby Doocote records his courage and there is a memorial stone for him on the west gable end of Auldearn church. The loss of the chief and eighteen of his captains was a serious blow to a small clan. The widows married their servants, the MacRaes, who thereby became a very strong clan in Kintail. (Battle descriptions mostly from Chief Ronald MacLennan's newsletter of 1986)

The decimated MacLennan Clan played little part in the Rising of 1745. Eleven MacLennans are recorded as taken prisoner after the battle. A party of MacLennans on their way to join Prince Charles Stuart heard news of the defeat at Culloden and dispersed.

After the Battle of Culloden the clan system gradually disintegrated and many Highlanders emigrated to other parts of the world. Emigration was partly due also to higher rents charged by the Lairds after the French Wars and an increase in the Highland population because of better nutrition (growing potatoes) and decrease in childhood deaths after the discovery of the Smallpox Vaccine in the late 18th century. In 1796, British physician Edward Jenner demonstrated that an infection with the relatively mild cowpox virus conferred immunity against the deadly smallpox virus. Cowpox served as a natural vaccine until the modern smallpox vaccine emerged in the 20th century.

Chief Ronald George MacLennan of MacLennan was commissioned by his grandfather to go out into the world, to do good and to unite the Clan. After many years of effort and research inspired by his grandfather he was recognized by the Lord Lyon King of Arms as the 34th Chief of the Clan after not having a chief for over 300 years. Today our hereditary chief is Chief Ruairidh Donald George MacLennan of MacLennan, son of Chief Ronald who passed away in 1989. The Worldwide MacLennan Clan has members in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, United States of America, France, South America, Belgium and the UK.

MacLennan Pioneers have mountains, rivers, parks and counties named after them such as MacLennan County in Texas and MacLennan Mountains in Nova Scotia and New Zealand.

This park (*next page*) in Ochre River, Manitoba was named after Dr. Finlay McLennan, originally from Stormont County, ON, who was the only physician in Ochre River for many years.

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Our Clan was one of the first to have a worldwide website – starting in the 1990’s– up to the extensive site we share today at **www.clanmaclennan-worldwide.com**

Each region of the world has its own home page and we enjoy extensive Genealogy resources – including now 65,000 individual ancestors’ names supported by evidence like citations, census information, news and other reports.

There are more than 26,000 supporting media items: birth, death and marriage certificates, headstone photos, and headshots of individuals contributed by members. And members enjoy over 90 Clan books that can be read from the website. All this is available for a modest subscription to a Clan association.

See you at the Games!

Barbara Tyson MacLennan
Vice President

Fanning the Ancient Flame:

Raising the Next Generation of Scottish-Canadians

My name is Nathan Thomson, and I am the Ontario Regional Commissioner for Clan MacTavish. My name, Thomson, has a number of points of origin, but it is an Anglicized form of the name MacTavish (son of Thomas) – an alias used by MacTavishes in Argyll as early as the 1300's. I became aware of this connection in 1997 when the first Chief of the clan in 200 years, (Edward Stewart) Dugald MacTavish, appeared in a TV interview to talk about him being the first MacTavish Chief to matriculate his arms since 1797, and he spoke of some of the clan's history and various names associated with the clan. I was about twelve years old at the time, and my father had seen the interview and excitedly shared the news with me.



I've pretty much always had an interest in my Scottish heritage. The fact that I was aware enough of my heritage at age twelve to take note of the connection between my name and Clan MacTavish should speak to that. I'm a first-generation Canadian on my father's side with my father having been born in Australia, his father in Northern England, and his father born in Glasgow as the family relocated to England from Fife where my ancestors had moved to about 200 years previous to that. Every generation moved to a different country for three generations, and so the only constant has been our Scottish roots. As proud as my grandfather is to be a Geordie, the family's Scottish legacy is something he's still always been proud of. As much as my father is proud to have spent the first six years of his life in the Land of Oz before he was moved on to Canada, he is equally proud or more to have grown out of Scottish roots. This passion for my family's story has been passed on to me, and I actively think of myself as a Scottish-Canadian.

My heritage means something to me and is a large part of my personal identity. A question that I'm sure that many of us parents - and even grandparents - struggle with is whether the family story will matter to our children and grandchildren. What if they don't care and our history gets lost on the winds of time? If it is lost, will future generations rediscover it? What if my family so quickly forgets about where we've come from – forgets about me...? I certainly struggle with this issue as I raise three sons (now aged 14, 11, and 8) with the Thomson name in a Canadian landscape that is becoming ever-more multicultural, and as the strength and significance of the Scottish demographic here declines.

Our community likes to talk about traditions and keeping Scottish traditions alive. We have the Highland Games and various cultural festivals and events each year with Scottish sports, foods, dress and fashion, and music and dancing. Some still choose to celebrate traditional holidays like Samhain and Beltane, and even Robbie Burns Day. These are one-off events that only happen a few times throughout the year, how-

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ever, and they're not things that are regularly lived. We go to a festival and feel Scottish for the day, but what about after we leave? How do we continue to stay connected enough that it imprints on the younger generations? Traditions are beliefs and practices that are passed down through generations so that even if they change somewhat with time, the core essence of what has always been done continues to be done. Are the kilts we wear today the same as what our ancestors wore? No, but the essential aesthetic and function are still there, and they still identify us with the ancient culture of that land. Do we eat the same foods today as our ancestors once did? Not exactly, but many are likely very similar still with neeps, tatties, beef stew, shortbread, oatmeal, etc.

The thing about traditions though, is that if they're not being actively practiced and shared, then they're not traditions – they're just memories. My heritage was there for me to grasp on to because it was displayed in my home with a family crest plaque mounted prominently by the front door, and my father spoke to me of it. We would occasionally go to Highland Games, and my father, older brother, and I would also seek out movies related to Scottish history. Say what you will about the historical accuracy of Braveheart, but thirteen-year-old me was absolutely amped by that movie to learn more! (Don't worry, my parents wouldn't let me see the worst bits at that age)

I have had the added challenges of my wife's family being of Spanish and South American origins, and us living five minutes from her parents, but two hours from my parents and sister who cannot travel to the Toronto region where we live. So, for most of their lives, my boys have been far more immersed in the food, language, and cultural traditions of Spain and Argentina. That's not to say that that part of them isn't equally important – only that it's felt like their exposure to their cultural heritage had been very imbalanced for a long time.



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Clan MacTavish

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Having been entrusted with representing Clan MacTavish in Ontario has given me a rare gift in being able to involve my children in their Scottish heritage more, and to then live out the traditions with them. Now, we are able to get the boys out to a couple of Highland Games events each Summer, and they see me in my kilt engaging with others in their kilts and Scottish attire. They also help my wife to make hundreds of shortbread cookies made with my mother's family's recipe for me to hand out at the Clan MacTavish tent beforehand. I am also working on organizing community events for MacTavishes across Ontario to connect us more and to make kinship about more than just shaking hands at a clan tent once a year. It's taken a couple of years, but now that the exposure has become more routine, the boys are looking forward to going to the games and engaging with our family's Scottish roots each year. My youngest, Andy, has especially started to show a real interest in engaging with it.

Last Summer, I was generously gifted with an old full-length lady's skirt in the MacTavish/Thom(p)son Blue tartan by our esteemed Scots of Canada Chair, William Petrie. The waist was TINY, and I don't know what adult woman it would have ever fit... Not being sure of what to do with it, I got the idea to have it cut up and made into kilts for my younger two boys. When Andy hurriedly tried it on and eventually got over his giddy excitement about having the ability to flash people with ease, he took his top off, grabbed my dirk (with my permission), and imagined himself as an ancient warrior as he stared at his reflection in the mirror. Then he earnestly asked a question that was music to my ears: "How can I look more Scottish!?". My boys are starting to live out the traditions and connect with their heritage in real, meaningful ways.



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“Munro History Night”

In honour of our 50th Anniversary, from member Lesley Dunning: I have looked through much of my Munro paraphernalia, trying to think what little story about it might interest a Munro reader, but nothing mind-blowing came to mind. So, I thought maybe I could tell a little story of the "Munro History Night", that I put together and held at my house, for my Munro siblings. My house just happens to have been built on my Grandfather's land.

My Grandfather, Albert Munro tried to get all his 7 children and us Grandkids, inspired about our last name, when he took a trip to Scotland in the 1950's. He brought back many yards of Munro plaid, kilt pins, flags, wall plaques, a dozen crest brooches, a few ties, etc. My mom, being thrifty, went for the plaid right away and made skirts of various styles for each of my 3 sisters and I, while other family members picked out their favorite items. As a little kid, I didn't know what all the Munro gifts meant, I was just

delighted that Grampa gave us something special, and that one day, I would make the effort to find out, what it all meant.

As I grew up and began my own family, I bought a Clan Munro book at a bookstore. I wanted to know more about the Munro's, but my Grampa died unexpectedly in the mid 60's and all the relatives were too busy with life and kids, to spend time learning or telling us kids, about the Mun-ro's. However, in the 1980's the computer be-came a household appliance, and I began to search.

So, now that my hair has changed colour for good, and all my Munro aunts and uncles have passed on, I thought it would be fun, to see if I could inspire my current Munro family, to want to know more about their past. What difference could a particular last name possibly make? Would knowing something about our Clan Munro, help explain how or why my Grampa grew up the way he did with his 11 brothers and sisters, writing poems and stories, saving his original 1st automobiles, having an airplane, being a con-tractor, the trauma of Wars, and keeping the family together as a Munro? His efforts were amazing!

So I started putting a summary, starting with the earliest Clan Munro beginnings, in chronological order. Luckily, I have the book that Grampa had bought, inscribed in, and mailed to his dad back in Canada, when Grampa was in Edinburgh, Scotland during WW1, on May 23, 1918. The book was called, "History of The Munros", dated 1898. It blew my mind to know of just how many Munros are behind us, allowing us to continue progressing in a positive and respectful way. I briefly consolidated the main facts and eventually weaved in my Grandfather's family, then my dad's family and finally my own Munro family, in an informative, funny, but now understandable, "Munro History Night". I added photos, old documents, genealogy, maps, stationary and I made some oat cookies too.

Understandable is right, as now my family knows why our Name is called Munro, how Foulis Castle came into being, and why many of my uncles and cousins we/are all named after either a George, Donald, Robert, William, etc. We also can easily see why our dad loved his cars (Canadian carriage Company in our home town, and the Munro & McIntosh Carriage Co. Ltd.), airplanes, cameras, building things, oat cookies, apple trees, the River, piping music and drawing. I also showed them Grampa's membership card, when he received his subscription as a "life member of Clan Munro (Association)", for 2 pounds, 2 shillings, dated May, 1961 and signed by H. Munro. Perhaps, this is what inspired him to start collecting the names and addresses of all the Munro's he could find, who also wanted a Clan Munro in Canada. There were over 4 lined pages of names, back and front.

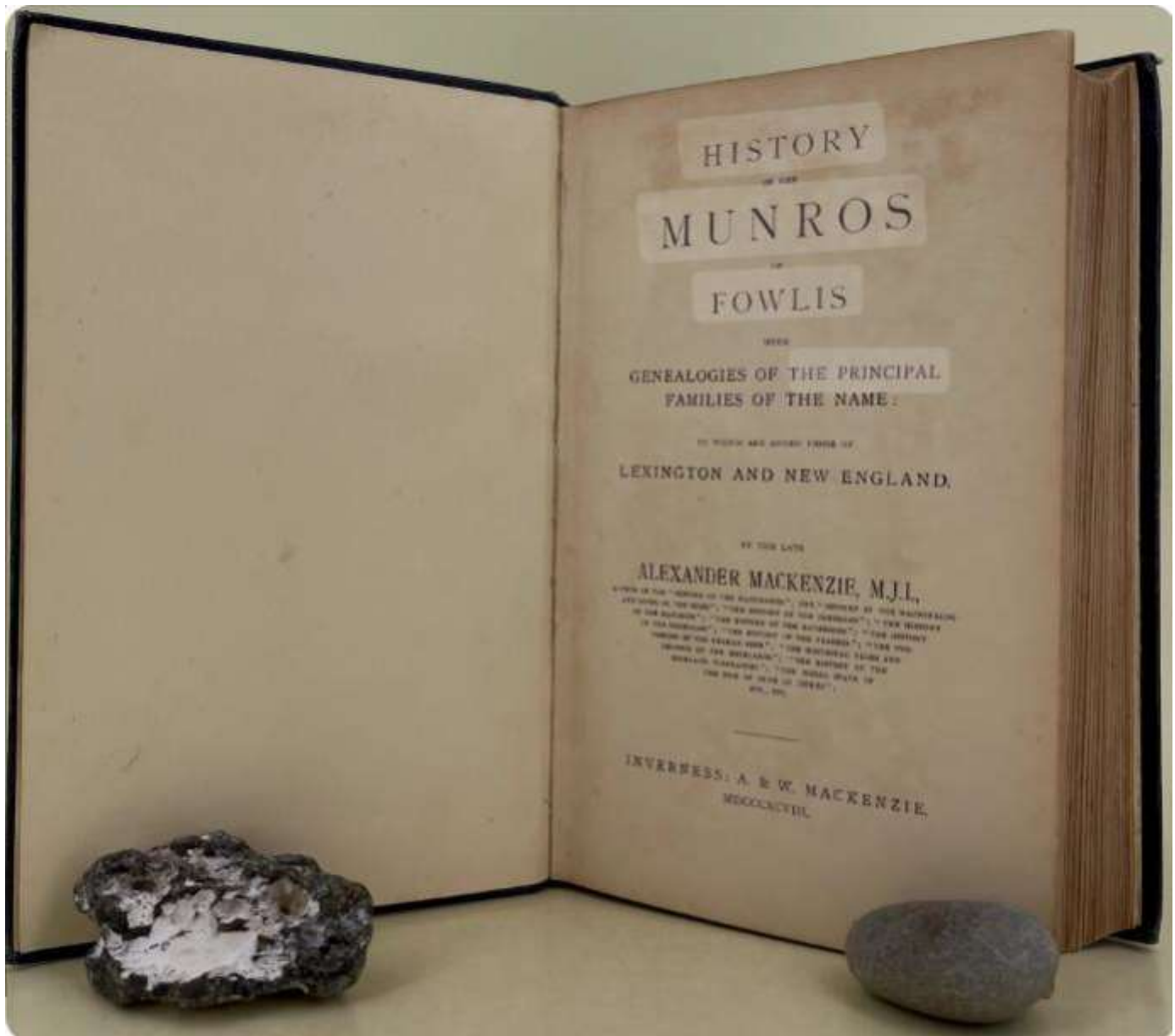
Perhaps, having a "Munro History Night" was the best way for me, myself and I, to better under-stand how or why

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my Grampa was so devoted to his Munro Clan. It inspired him to carry on, even though, the death of his young brother and friend in WW1 took a lot out of him. And who knew, that over the many centuries, the Munro's have earned their place as one of Scotland's most enduring clans. In fact, we're simply, invincible. So, in case you ever feel lonely or are having a difficult day, just remember, if you're a Munro, then you have what it takes, to conquer anything!

My little get together, was just a confirmation for my family, to see that we're all on the same page, and going forward with each other, together.



Editor's Note: The above photo is from AbesBooks, a seller of rare vintage publications. [Click here to see more.](#)

The Scottish Studies Foundation



Dear members and supporters,

The Centre for Scottish Studies at the University of Guelph is pleased to announce the new date for *Gaelic in Scotland, Gaelic in Canada: Challenges, Prospects, Connections* - the inaugural Scotland-Canada Academic Partnership Lecture delivered by Professor Robert Dunbar, University of Edinburgh.

The event will take place online on Wednesday, September 10, 2025, from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. EDT and you can register via Eventbrite at the following link:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/gaelic-in-scotland-gaelic-in-canada-challenges-prospects-connections-tickets-1582259584009?aff=oddtcreator>

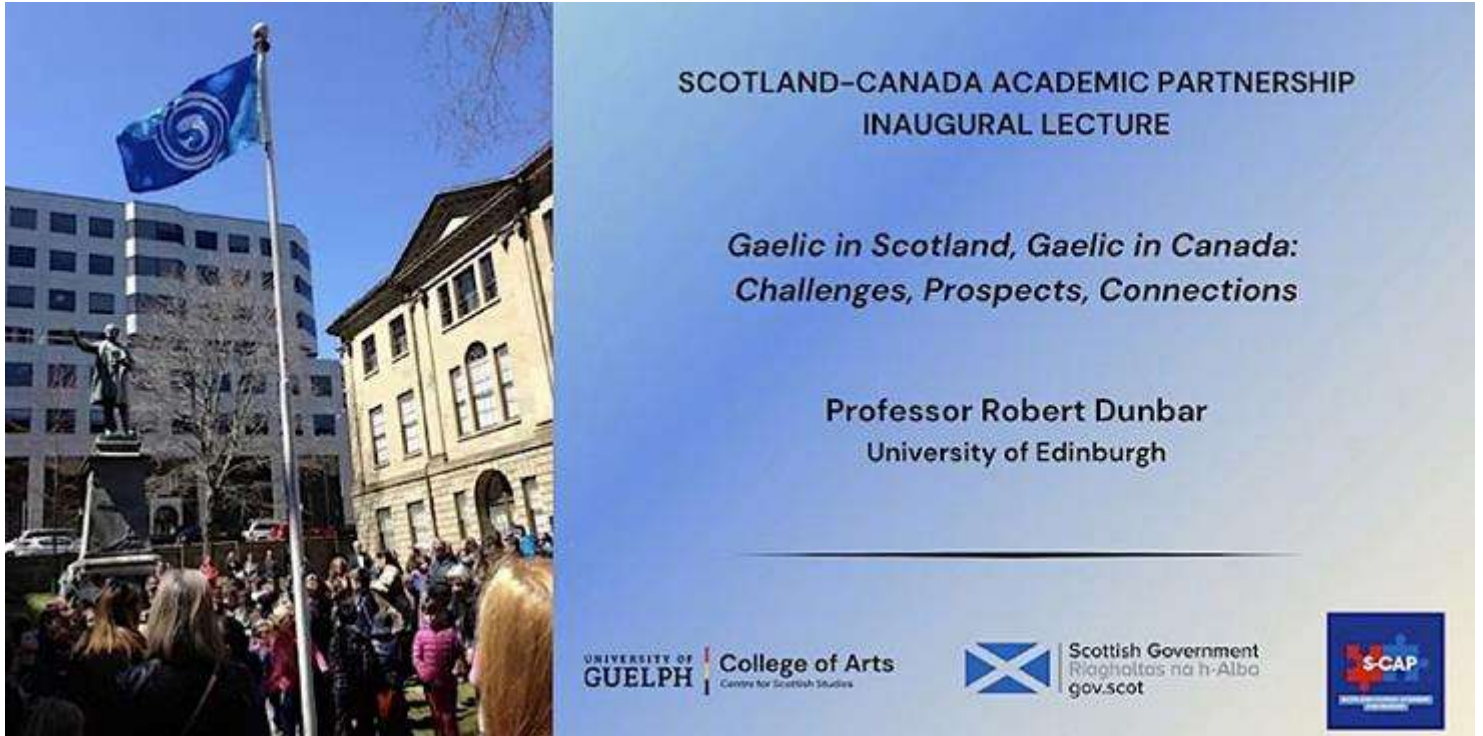
Gaelic has been spoken for perhaps 1,500 years or more in Scotland, and for over 250 years in what is now Canada. Many Scots are not aware of how widely spoken Gaelic once was in Scotland, and most Canadians are unaware of the fact that at the time of Confederation, Gaelic was likely the third most widely-spoken language in Canada. It is now a highly vulnerable minority language in Scotland, and is in an even more precarious position in Canada. Many factors help to explain the decline, but neglect by, and sometimes hostility of governments played an important part in the story.

Over the last fifty years in Scotland, and more recently in Canada - specifically, in Nova Scotia - things have changed. In this presentation, in addition to tracing the historical trajectory of the language in both Scotland and Canada, Professor Robert Dunbar will explore efforts by individual activists, communities and governments to support the language and its speakers in both countries. Prof. Dunbar will also explore the ongoing links between these two sea-divided language communities, and what they can learn from each other, and we can learn from them.

Robert Dunbar is a Canadian and is Professor of Celtic at the University of Edinburgh. A graduate of the University of Toronto and Osgoode Hall Law School, he practiced law in Toronto before doing an LL.M. in International Law at the London School of Economics and a PhD in Celtic at the University of Edinburgh, where his thesis was on the Gaelic poet



The Scottish Studies Foundation



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John MacLean (1787-1848), known in Scotland as *Bòrd Thighearna Cholla* (The Bard to the Laird of Coll) and in Nova Scotia, to which he emigrated in 1819, as *Am Bòrd MacGilleain* (The Bard MacLean).

In addition to Professor Dunbar's work on Gaelic literature and culture, particularly in the 19th century and in Canada, he played an important role in the development of the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005. He is a member of *Bòrd na Gàidhlig* and is also a member of the Committee of Experts, a Council of Europe treaty body which oversees the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, the only treaty in the world created to support languages such as Gaelic and their speakers.

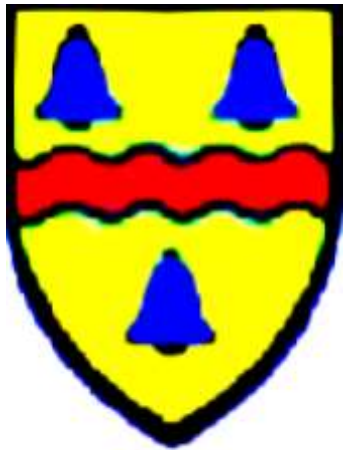
The Scotland-Canada Academic Partnership (S-CAP) lecture is generously supported by the Scottish Government Office in Canada. S-CAP is a partnership between the Centre for Scottish Studies at the University of Guelph and the Scottish Government Office in Canada.

I do hope you find this of interest. Best wishes and thank you for your support.

David Hunter
President
Scottish Studies Foundation

Clan Bell

All my life I was assured I was English, even though I had a Scottish Grandfather, an Irish Great Grandmother, and a Scottish surname. As my father was dying in New Zealand, he revealed that his side of the family had been Scottish but because his Dutch grandmother hated her husband (it happens) the Scottish side had been well repressed. On retirement I decided to do some research and found CBNA (Who we all know & Love).

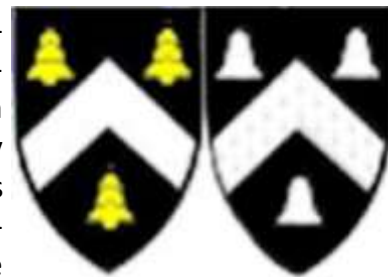


Blazon of the van Belle family before 1056

I then found out that I was descended from thieves and cattle rustlers, while this did not surprise me as we have always been argumentative and fighters as a family (not me of course – very gentle soul) I thought I knew what was going on. I continued my researches and learned from the Grand Master of the Ordo Balliolensis, an order of chivalry I have applied to join, that Bells descended from a family in Flanders (which was part of northern France before Belgium was created). His theory states that we were originally part of the Roman Administration locally being educated to manage the wool trade between Flanders and Britain.

When the Romans retreated in the 5th century, they left our family in charge and so we acquired great wealth. He found evidence of Sir Roland Bels who witnessed the treaty of Verdun in 843; he was a supporter of the Carolingian kings of France. His noble line also served the Merovingian kings etc. and so into the middle ages. Noble Bells supplied support to whatever king was in power.

Over the centuries we Bells prospered and acquired land and castles supporting local aristocratic lords until the 11th century where there is evidence that we were so powerful we could send a nephew to help William the 1st (Duke of Normandy) in 1066 and 30 years later another family member to help Godfrey de Bouillion in the first Crusade (1099). “Help” as in men at arms, money, horses and weaponry, as even minor lords travelled with a retinue. All of this money came from the wool trade with the NE coast of England, think Newcastle or Berwick where even today the greatest concentration of the surname ‘Bell’ still exists but this might also be explained by the migration eastwards of the family in the 17th century.



*Left - Bels of Bruges C1250
Right - Bells of Westmoreland C1300.s*

Robert Bels states: “When in 1066, William the Conqueror invaded England, there were among his soldiers and Knights, some Balliols (mistakenly or intentionally made Normans although they originated from Flanders), Bels and Belle of Flanders. The Balliols of Flanders were put in charge of some defensive counties, “marches”, along the Scottish border, went up North and installed themselves in a place they named Barnard Castle (North of England near Durham) in memory of their first Lord: Bernard 1st of Balliol (Rainald’s son). Their land and big domains in the north east of England and Scotland (in Northumberland, and in the region of Durham), were granted by King William the Redhead, son of William the Conqueror, in 1095.”

After the success of the Norman invasion and change of King, it was normal for the new King to reward his knights with land stolen from the Saxon and Scottish kings and I suspect our forebears asked for their reward on the borders of Scotland where their English/Flemish family already existed. (Bear in mind Blacket House our 17th Cent. ancestral home is only 5-7 miles north of today’s England/Scotland border) and I suspect they also moved and appropriated land inside the Scottish border too.

By now the family in Scotland had adopted the Latin version of Bell derived from the old Flanders lan-

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guage which was Balliol The patronymic Belle (de-van) was the toponym, (place name), of the Flemish city of Belle (in Diets, the local language of what is now Flanders) where the knights and lands of the Bell family were situated or Balliol (in Latin) and much later, in the XVIIth century, Bailleul (in French). The old patronymic “Balliol” is also encountered in Normandy, England, and Scotland but originated from the city of Balliol (or Belle in Diets) in Flanders.

There is another document undersigned by Sir Bels in 1014 who was a witness at the court of the Count of Montcada in Vacarisses (NW of Barcelo-na). We Bells get about a bit. There is evidence to suggest that Bell/Bels/Belle was used in everyday use but the latinised version Balliol was always used for Documents.

After Margaret of Norway (Queen/Regent of Scotland) had died, there was no obvious direct descendant of the Royal line. Thirteen claimants put themselves forward, one of which was John Balliol, and he was eventually chosen. Unfortunately he was not the greatest King/Regent in the land and only lasted four years; but not before he had endowed Balliol College Oxford, which even today is known as “the Scottish College”. John’s son Edward also tried to be King several times but he only reigned briefly, albeit many times.

The kingship passed to the Stewarts, and our line descended after spending so much money on trying to attain and support the kingship of Edward. During the next 200-300 years the Bell/Bels/Belle family carried on, sometimes supporting the English king and sometimes not, so you can see we were well placed to make excellent reivers with our estates on the borders and our past wealth and influence. (By the 14th century, the Scottish/English wool trade with the continent, mainly through Flanders had dried up, and so reducing our family wealth. The Flanders branch continued to prosper, but that’s another story.

There is no historical data to support the hypothesis of our lineages’ active participation in the Templar organization or the Crusade against the Cathars. They must have acted very diplomatically, in this extremely dangerous time, avoiding at all costs taking any unconsidered risks. This may explain why one of our family Castles, the Castle of Belcastel-et-Buc (Castle of the Bell family) is one of the few castles through-out the south of France, (in the area of the Cathars) that was spared by the Church’s army.

Unfortunately, their wise caution did not prevent the castle from being ruined by the inexorable passage of time. Today, only a tower and a few walls exist of the original.

There is so much more evidence showing what a noble, educated, important, wealthy and influential family we were, and one would argue still are, I had to share a minor portion with you.

I owe all of this information and all the research to Robert Bels, Grand Master of the Ordo Balliolensis who has spent 35 years researching our family’s pre-history, with the help of James Elton Bell (CBNA) His essay on the Bels Bell Balliol Dynasty is available. I have just extracted and paraphrased for our in-house magazine.

Article submitted by Peter Bell



Membership Report

The following lists our current 129 members and who they represent. New members, since the last report, are highlighted. Entries with (#) are multiple entries for a member.

Clan and Family Members

Clan Anderson Society

Clan Baird Society Canada
Clan Bell North America
Family of Bruce International
Clan Buchanan Society International
House of Burnett International
Clan Cameron Canadian Branch
Clan Campbell Society (North America)
Clan Carruthers Society International
Clan Chisholm Society Canada Branch
Clan Colquhoun of Canada

Clan Cunningham International

Learned Kindred of Currie
Clan Davidson Society of North America
Clan Donald Canada
Edmonstone Clan Society
Elliot Clan Society of Canada
Clan Farquharson Canada
Clan Fergusson Society of North America
Clan Forbes Society
Clan Fraser Society of North America
House of Gordon Canada
Clan Graham Society Inc
Clan Grant Society Canada
Clan Grant Society UK
Clan Gregor Society - Canada Chapter
Clan Gunn Society of North America
Clan Hay Society
Clan Hope of Craighall Society
Clan Hunter Association of Canada
Clan Irving
Clan Irwin Association
Clan Johnston/e in America
Kennedy Society of North America
Clan Kincaid Association International
Clan Lachlan Association of Canada
Clan Lamont Society of North America

Clan Lennox
Clan Leslie Society International
Clan Logan Society of Canada
The Clan MacAlpine Society
Clan MacAulay Association
Clan MacBeth
Clan MacDougall Society of North America(1)
Clan MacDowell (1)
Clan MacEwen Society

Clan MacEwen Society - USA Branch

Clan MacFarlane Worldwide
MacFie Clan Society in Canada
International Association of Clan MacInnes
The Clan MacKay Association of Canada
The Clan MacKenzie Society of Canada
Clan MacKinnon Society
Clan MacLellan of America
Clan MacLennan Canada
Clan MacLeod Societies of Canada
Clan Macnachtan Association Worldwide
Clan MacNeil in Canada Association
Clan MacNicol Society of North America
Clan MacPherson Canadian Branch
Clan MacRae Society of Canada
Clan MacTavish
Clan MacThomas Society

Clan Matheson Society

Clan Munro Association of Canada
Murray Clan Society of North America
Clan Ramsay International
Clan Shaw of Canada
Clan Sinclair Association of Canada
Clan Skene Association
Clan Strachan Society
Clan Watson Society

Youngs of Scotland

Membership Report

Societies

Ailsa Craig Highland Games (2)

Antigonish Highland Society (3)

Canadian Hemochromatosis Society

Celtic Students Society of Univ. of Guelph

Commun Gàidhlig Thoronto - The Gaelic Society of Toronto

The Flagstaff Scottish Club(4)

Greater Moncton Scottish Association(5)

Halifax Highland Games and Scottish ...(6)

New Brunswick Scottish Cultural Association

Scottish Society of Ottawa

Scottish Studies Foundation

The Ship Hector Society

St Andrew's and Caledonian Society of the City of Vancouver

St Andrew's Society of Toronto

St Andrew's Society of Montreal

The Thistle and The Fleur De Lys

United Scottish Cultural Society (7)

Westman Scottish Association

The Zorra Caledonian Society(8)

Games, Festivals & Events

Ailsa Craig Highland Games(2)

Antigonish Highland Games(3)

Almonte Celtfest

Cambridge Scottish Festival

Canmore Highland Games

Embro Highland Games(8)

Fall Celtic Festival

Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games

Georgetown Highland Games

Glengarry Highland Games

Halifax Highland Games & Scottish Festival(6)

Kincardine Scottish Festival & Highland Games

Kingsville-Essex Highland Games

LBA Highland Games

Greater Moncton Highland Games and ...(5)

Montréal Highland Games

National Capital Highland Games

Niagara Celtic Heritage Festival & Highland ...

North Lanark Highland Games

Northumberland Scottish Festival & Highland ...

Orillia Scottish Festival

Red Deer Highland Games

ScotFestBC(7)

Sherwood Park Highland Games

Sydney Mines Highland Games

The Gathering of the Clans Highland Festival(4)

Uxbridge Scottish Festival

Victoria Highland Games and Celtic Festival

Enterprise, Media, Sports and Historical

Bradán Press

The Devil's Brigade

The Old 78th Fraser Highlanders -

2nd Regiment of Foot - Fort Calgary Garrison

Hutchison House Museum

Burnett's & Struth Scottish Regalia Ltd.

Celtic Life International

House of Cassidy

Clan Designer

Rugby Canada

Guthrie School of Dance

ScotlandShop

The Scottish Banner

Sheena's Scottish Shortbread

Taylor's Tartans

Tay Piping

William Glen & Son Canada Ltd

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

Piper	Locale	Contact Info
Rory Sinclair	Toronto	http://www.caledoncounty.com rorygus.sinclair@outlook.com
Mike Chisolm	Greater Vancouver Area	604-628-8140 http://bagpipervancouver.com
Callum Gauthier	Ottawa / Rideau River / Toronto	613-620-1014 Callum.gauthier5@gmail.com
William Morrison	Western Ontario	226-600-3472 piperwilly@hotmail.com
Jenna Denisson	Greater Montreal Area	514-835-6320 www.jennadennison.com dennison.jenna@gmail.com

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

Media Guidelines Reminder

As we become more engaged with various forms of media, we need to set boundaries for acceptability when content affects our fellow members and the public as a whole, particularly regarding what reflects on **Scots of Canada** as an organization. **Scots of Canada** is an organization formed to promote Scottish culture and heritage.

Here are guidelines to help with this:

- No media content is allowed that promotes a political viewpoint, whether for a party, government, labor organization, or activist activity, without the advance consent of the Board of Directors.
- No media content is allowed that violates the terms of membership as set out in the bylaws, specifically regarding the making of false statements, defamation, intimidation, or the attribution of false or defamatory statements, or any dissemination of misinformation or unsubstantiated information specifically meant to bring disrepute to an individual or group.
- No media content is allowed that promotes the violation of intellectual property and copyright laws or that lessens respect for the laws and standards of heraldry in Canada and internationally.

About Scots of Canada

Founded in 1976 as Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada, our 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;

There are two types of membership now available in Scots of Canada.

Organizational Memberships are 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.

All of the original memberships in Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada have now been converted to the equivalent Organizational Membership class

Household Memberships are open to any household with a postal address where one or more residents of the household identify with a Scottish Heritage by birth, descent or an inclination. Over the next couple of months a new site scotsofcanada.ca will be extended to provide registration, services and benefits to this new membership class. Extension of the same will be extended to Organization Members over the next few months.

Patrons:

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

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

Meetings 2025: Fall Annual General Assembly, TBA for end of November

Websites and Emails:

We are now in the process of transition for our web and mail services from a legacy domain of cas-soc.ca, a transitional domain of scotscanada.ca to a new domain of ScotsOfCanada.ca. During this time we will be using all three domains for email with automatic readdressing or forwarding depending on where we are in the migration of services and email accounts

Equivalent email addresses are in place for each domain name. Your patience is much appreciated.

An Drochaid - The Bridge

This Summer 2025 editions features as its cover the Drochaid Glagan-glùine, a historic stepping-stone bridge, built by the villagers of Borerraig, named for the knee-knocking action needed to cross it. It remains a poignant landmark on a walk through the hauntingly beautiful landscape of Skye's cleared villages.

For more information see the article on page 32 in this publication.

An Drochaid - The Bridge is usually published quarterly for each season.

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

Whenever possible, please provide Word, RTF or text formats

Submissions are due as follows :

Summer: April 11, Summer: July 11, Fall: October 11, Winter: January 11.

Note that a special End of Festival Season edition is planned for September/October

Any member of Scots of Canada may submit an article or ad at no cost. 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. Scots of Canada assumes no responsibility nor liability for submitted content in terms of factual correctness or right of use. All submissions will be published with the implied or explicit attribution of source.



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