

Touch Not – Magazine of the Clan Chattan Association



Chairman's Welcome 2016

Dear Clansfolk

Greetings from Edinburgh and a very warm welcome to you all, in this the fifth edition of Touch Not. The cover and contents continue to be very popular and many are still remarking how striking the cover is. I hope that you like the colour this year, I thought it was time for a blue one.

There are within the following pages, some fine articles, including a piece from Shelagh Macpherson-Noble and William Shaw of Easter Lair.

During the past year we have had representatives at The Battle of Culloden memorial ceremony, where a wreath was laid on behalf of the Association. Then in July we were fortunate enough to be given a very prominent position in the Clan Village tent at the Inverness Gathering in Bught Park, where many remarked on our display in particular our Touch Not Cat.

On a very wintry 13 November, we attended The 300th Anniversary of The Battle of Sherriffmuir. There is an article about the day, later in this magazine. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Association of Highland Clans and Societies for their continued hard work and keeping us up to date.

This year we hope to attend the Culloden Ceremony and the Inverness Gathering once again.

Our own Gathering is already in preparation and this year we are looking forward to welcoming a large group of McBains to Inverness in August. They are coming to re-dedicate the McBain Park at Dores, and will be joining us at the Lochardil House Hotel on Thursday 4 August for our AGM and Gathering Dinner. No doubt some will also come to the Highland Field Sports Fair on the Friday and Saturday where we will have our Clan Tent. There are more details about the Gathering later in the magazine.

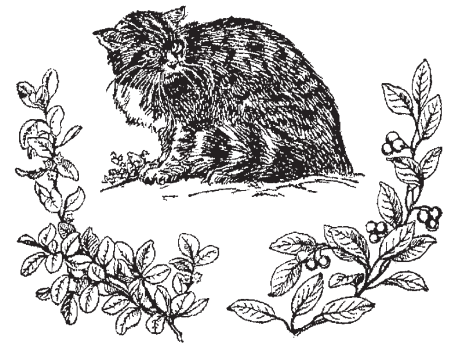
Denise and I are also very much looking forward to attending the Loon Games in New Hampshire with Rob and Anna MacIntosh of CMNA in September 2016.

For some years now we have been contemplating a re-write of the very popular, but now out of date, Clan Map which is officially titled 'On the Trail of Clan Chattan'. This year we hope to have the revised and updated version ready for our Gathering in August.

During the past few months Norman McPherson agreed to join us on the Clan Chattan Association Council, and we look forward to his input and experience of Clan matters.

Enjoy.

Donald McIntosh



Touch not the cat bot a glove

THE ANNUAL GATHERING OF THE CLAN CHATTAN ASSOCIATION

4-6 August 2016

**The Annual General Meeting
of The Clan Chattan
Association will take place in
the Lochardil House Hotel,
Inverness**

Thursday 4 August

4pm: Gather together.

**5pm: The AGM of the Clan
Chattan Association**

**The Clan Chattan
Association Dinner -**

**6pm: Join us for the
pre-dinner gathering**

**7pm: The Dinner –
2 courses and coffee**

**8.30pm: Entertainment
Bob Pegg, Storyteller**

£30 per person

Book online or email:

**clanchattanassociation
@btinternet.com
for more information**

McBain Clan Memorial Park – August 2016

The McBain Clan Memorial Park near Dores, Inverness-shire has slowly been refurbished after many of the features were damaged or stolen since its founding in 1960. The cats, the Memorial Plaque, the directional sign on the road, most of which were made of bronze were taken and presumably melted for scrap. The new replacements are not made of any scrap value so we hope they will last for many years. The main plaque was placed in the park two years ago and the cats will be replaced this summer. A delegation of Clansfolk will be visiting the park this summer.

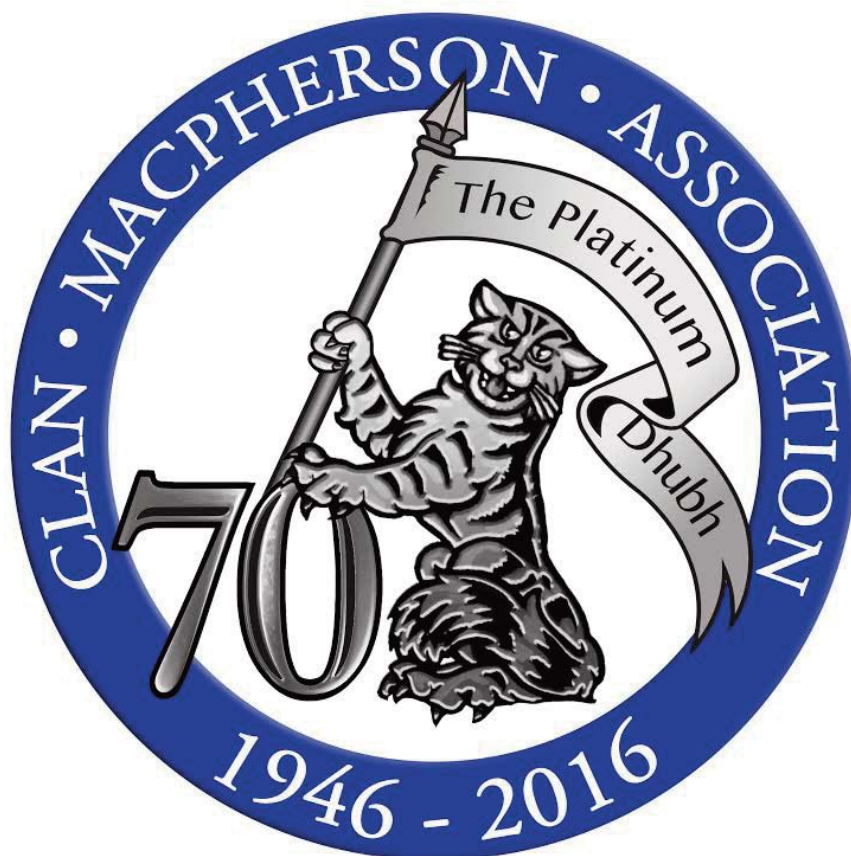
90th Birthday to Cluny Macpherson

Clan Chattan Association wishes Cluny Macpherson a very happy 90th birthday on 1 April. A very special birthday for a very special man.



Photo of Cluny

Clan Macpherson 70th Rally – August 2016



The Clan Macpherson Association Rally this year will be extra special on this year of our 70th or Platinum anniversary of the Association. Although we only opened bookings at the beginning of January, I believe we have already taken over the whole of the Duke of Gordon Hotel in Kingussie with firm bookings and have registered over 65 bookings for most of the events over the full week of festivities which we have planned. Special events for this year will start with guided walking tour of Edinburgh with afternoon tea starting on Wednesday 3rd August followed by a visit to Pitlochry with a fashion event on the Thursday before arriving in Newtonmore/Kingussie for the main Rally. A guided walking tour of Kingussie and a golf competition will be held prior to the main ball, which this year will be held in a massive marquee capable of holding 350 erected behind the Duke of Gordon Hotel. The Saturday will have the AGM followed by our customary Macpherson kilted march to the Newtonmore Games and then a Haggis Supper and ceilidh in the evening. Sunday sees us attend the Kingussie Parish Church before heading up to the cairn for our picnic. Whisky tasting also looks to be a sought after event before finishing the Sunday with a Hog Roast prior to another ceilidh in Ruthven Barracks which we have taken over for the evening before we march back to Kingussie accompanied by pipe band and flaming torches. Monday has another guided walking tour in our historic clan grounds followed by a clan related talk in Kingussie. Tuesday is intended for a visit to the Highland Folk Museum in Newtonmore where we will have a private viewing made available to view the contents of the new storage building which is not normally open to the public.

As you can see it will be a really exhilarating week long rally which we hope will be attended by around 350 members from all over the world. In fact the present bookings have been made before the full itinerary has been made available to around half our membership who are based overseas although this will be fully broadcast by the end of this month. There could also be further surprises at some events to enhance their memorable appeal.

Norman G McPherson

Clan Chattan Activities 2015

Culloden 2015



March to memorial Service 1



March to memorial Service 2



Memorial Service



Lochie Maclean of Dochgarroch lays CCA wreath



Donald and Clan Mackintosh stone



Coffee after service

The annual memorial service was held at the Clans Cairn Monument at Culloden on 18th April. This year the event was blessed with clear skies, sparkling and blazing sunshine, and a large enthusiastic crowd of clans and their supporters, young and old. What a difference such kindly weather can make. The long highland winter seemed long gone.

There was colour everywhere, tartan of all shapes and sizes. There were bonnets and sashes everywhere. The badges and buckles gleaming in the sunshine, many were dressed in period custom. Flags and huge banners were flying as the sound of the piper led off the procession of perhaps 500 folk. In the distance, there was still extensive snow on mountains, but at Culloden we were basking in the spring sunshine. It was a spectacular scene.

We walked to the Monument where a Pibroch was played, prayers were said in Gaelic, the annual Address was given, and then each of the groups laid their wreaths around the base of the Cairn. Lochie Maclean of Dochgarroch laid the wreath on behalf of CCA. Simple ceremony, but it was as usual very moving. At the end of the formal ceremonies, the base of the Clans Cairn was surrounded with the wreaths.

This was the day when old memories were stirred once again at this historic setting. Clan marker stones across the battlefield were once again sought out and groups had their photos taken at these sad spots. Later the groups dispersed across the battlefield, some holding their own commemorative events. Other groups retired with friends for a bite to eat in the Visitor Centre.

The Clan Chattan Association and representatives of the clans which make up the Association were present. There were also other groups from across of Scotland, England, and Ireland, and there were also voices from Nova Scotia, and there was even a cry of 'Vive La France' at one stage. Earlier, we saw [and heard] a group of bikers arrive, coming from many miles south, far from the Highlands. They left their bikes in the car park, and joined the parade.

This was an extraordinary day when old friends met again, and some new faces learnt about more about their highland clans' history.

Inverness Highland Games July 2015



CCA stand



Clan Macpherson stand



Norman G McPherson

The Clan Chattan Association was present with several other clans in the Clans Tent organised by the Association of Highlands Clans & Societies at the Inverness Highland Games held on 18 July. This year the Games were held in Bught Park.

It was a wet day and the location of the Clans Tent within the Bught Park Highland Games complex was possibly not the best. However it was still a good day. The Clan Chattan Association stand [located right at the entrance to the tent] enjoyed a steady flow of visitors with Donald and Denise McIntosh once again putting on a great display.

Handing over of 2009 Band of Union to Highland Archives Inverness – August 2015



Allan Maclean and Alison Mason



Allan Maclean, John and Vanessa Mackintosh of Mackintosh



Allan Maclean speech



Rex and Ruth Davidson



Deputy Lieutenant Douglas Young, Lord Lyon, Lady Provost, Alison Mason, Councillor Roddy Balfour

The great event for the Clan Chattan Association in 2015 was the handing over, for safe keeping, of the 2009 Band of Union, with 800 signatures to the Highland Archive Centre in Inverness, along with the duplicate signatures of the Chiefs and Council, which was handed over to the Lord Lyon King of Arms, to be kept at the Lyon Office in Edinburgh.

The Band of Union was signed on 6th August 2009 at Eden Court, in commemoration of the original Band of Union of 1609, as part of an impressive ceremony at which the Gaelic titles of the chiefs were read out by Seanachaidh, Brigadier John Macfarlane. Later many more clanspeople signed the Band 'on line'.

This impressive document was indexed and, along with the Gaelic patronymics and genealogies, then bound by 'Bookbinding by Crawford', in Leith, and provided with a splendid slip cover. At the same time a duplicate was made and bound for Moy, and a further 'working copy' was made, so as not to spoil the original. One of these is to be kept at Moy, where clanspeople can inspect it. A further framed copy of the chief's signatures was made for display at the Archive Centre.

On Thursday 6th August, at the Highland Archive Centre in Inverness, in the presence of the Lord Lyon King of Arms; The Provost of Inverness [Helen Carmichael], Deputy Lieutenant Lt Col Douglas Young TD and Councillor Roddy Balfour, the Band of Union was handed over by Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch, who had organised the 2009 signing ceremony, to Alison Mason, Highland Archivist at the Highland Archive Centre. A framed copy of the Chief's signatures was also given, for display.

The duplicate of the Chief's signatures was then given to the Lord Lyon, Dr Joe Morrow, for retention at the Lyon Office.

Speeches were made by John Mackintosh of Mackintosh, who was accompanied by his new wife, Vanessa, by the Lord Lyon, and by Alison Mason, who then invited the assembled group of clanspeople to have a special behind-the-scenes tour of the Archive centre. This included the strong rooms and the conservation centre, before visiting the exhibition centre, where a large and very full display of many interesting documents and genealogies concerned with the history of the Clan Chattan and its associated clans was on show. Our council member, Anne Fraser, had been instrumental in the choice of documents, and people lingered so long in looking at them that the start of the subsequent Council Meeting was nearly delayed!

Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch

AGM, Dinner at Lochardil – August 2015

We had a very enjoyable evening at the Lochardil Hotel in August. This was the first visit of Vanessa Mackintosh of Mackintosh, John's new wife, to our clan gathering. She captivated everyone with her warm smile and engaging conversation and very much enjoyed meeting clan members. At the AGM, Vanessa was presented with a beautiful brooch and was welcomed into the clan gathering.

Following our dinner, we were entertained firstly by an excellent talk by Dr Joe Morrow, the Lord Lyon, describing the role of his office. He was thanked by Stuart Cross who had been one of his lecturers when he studied Law as a mature student at Dundee University! We then had a wonderful fashion show of beautiful tartan creations by Loch Dress with our very own Anne Fraser as one of the models. The final piece of a breakdance by Anne Fraser's nephew in red suit with tartan trimming took our breath away.



Anna McIntosh, Ruth Davidson, Sheila Chisholm Mackintosh, Joan McIntosh



Vanessa Mackintosh of Mackintosh and Gerald Chisholm Mackintosh



Rex Davidson



Cluny Vote of thanks



Sonia Cameron-Jacks, Cluny and Lady Hilary Burnham



Denise gives Vanessa brooch



Cherry Frizzell, Denise and Joan McIntosh



Tables 1



Stuart Cross and Glen Cook



Lord Lyon Dr Joe Morrow



Tables 2

Battle of Pairc Reconciliation – August 2015



The Clan Chiefs celebrate the reconciliation of the clans: Brodie of Brodie, Caberfeidh [the Chief of the Mackenzies], The Lord Lieutenant of Ross and Cromarty [Mrs Janet Bowen], Hector Munro of Foulis [Chief of Clan Munro], Lord Macdonald, and Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch, with Graeme Mackenzie behind, on the steps.

In August, the Clan Mackenzie, as part of their Clan Gathering decided to commemorate the Battle of Pairc, by a reconciliation between the Mackenzies and the Macdonalds. The date of the battle is not certain, but it was about 1490, and the fight was effectively concerned with the future of the Lordship of the Isles, and its power and influence. It led directly to the final forfeiture of the Lordship.

There are many later legends about the aftermath of the battle, but little is recorded about the battle itself, except that the vanguard of the Macdonalds was led by Lachlan MacTearlach Maclean, 'the ablest and strongest man, and one of the principal officers on the Macdonald side', and that he was killed by a Macrae warrior.

Lachlan was a son of Tearlach [Charles] Maclean of Carna, Constable of Urquhart Castle, who joined the Clan Chattan. Charles was succeeded by his son, Hector Maclean

[who married a daughter of the Mackintosh chief], but little was known of his brother Lachlan, until Drs Steer and Bannerman in about 1970 managed to read a previously unknown black-letter inscription on a tombstone at Lochaline, in Morvern. This confirmed the traditional account, for it showed that Lachlan Maclean succeeded his brother Hector as chieftain, and died about 1490.

I was invited to take part in the historical symposium that was held at Strathpeffer, as part of the commemoration. I took with me a wonderful rubbing of the tombstone, made by Marianna Lines in natural dyes. The stone is very fine, and about 9 foot high, so I had to hang the rubbing [which is on linen] to a basketball hoop, and wind it up towards the ceiling, so that everyone could see it!

The symposium was followed by a ceremony

outside the Strathpeffer Pavilion. The Mackenzies marched up the hill from Castle Leod direction, and the Macdonald contingent marched, appropriately, from the west end of the village. The Lord Lieutenant of Ross and Cromarty read out a message in the name of the Queen, asking for the Clan Chiefs to be reconciled, and there was an exchange of swords and a shaking of hands, before we all marched in amity to Castle Leod for a banquet and ceilidh.

I was very pleased to talk about, and represent, my predecessor Lachlan Maclean, whose father engrafted my branch of the Clan Maclean into the Clan Chattan Confederacy.

Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch

Memorial service for the fallen in the Battle of Sheriffmuir, 13 November 1715.

13th November 2015 was the 300th Anniversary of the Battle of Sheriffmuir. Clan MacRae and The 1745 Association arranged a memorial service at the Memorial Stone next to the Clan MacRae Cairn. The Association of Highland Clans and Societies arranged another service at the Gathering stone.

The weather that day was very cold and snow and sleet relentlessly fell on Sheriffmuir. Those of us who were attending the services gathered at the Sheriffmuir Inn. Young Kyle Orr did his best to raise our chilled spirits by playing his bagpipes. We were coached in batches to the roadside site of the Memorial stone and Cairn for the first of the services. After prayers and the singing of the 23rd Psalm, James King recited a poem which he had written specially called Allan Waaters.

As Allan Waater pipes its patter – a sweet refrain tae ocean,
It's peace belies, past forlorn cries, o' conflict's cruel commotion,
Whaur on a dreich November day, when harr, the sun concealed.
Oor hieland host in battleboast - fur freedom claymores wield.

In wild array, their pipers' play the sang o' kin and nation,
As clansmen force their banners forth in righteous indignation,
Whaur dooniwassels whirl their tassels – in splendid mock conceit,
And hieland ponies pirouette, tae drummer's primal beat.

As families staun in battle thrawn, wi pounding herts and targes,
Their prayers arise roon battlecries – ower fearsome hielan charges.
Then worlds' collide in crimson tide, as hooves assail like thunder,
Whaur muskets flash and bodies crash, tae grapeshot's murd'rous plunder.

Then pipes lament, fur kin weel kent, as gloamin's shadow gaithers,
As time stauns still, ower moor and hill, while sons seek oot their faithers.
Whit cud hiv been, their mithers' keen, in death's wails ower the river,
And freedom's cause, bleeds moor and haughs, still battle banner's quiver.

A crammsey moon, bathes Dunblane toon, through fleeting wispy clouds.
As daylight fades, prood tartan plaids mak hallowed bloodied shrouds,
Whaur sorrowed sighs, and anguished cries, implore ower Laighills braes,
The gaithered stanes, watch ower remains o' bonnie lads MacRaes.

James King.

After this very moving poem, the commemoration was completed with the playing of 'The Lament for the Children' by Piper Jimi McRae.

Once this service was finished Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch invited us to follow him through the wood and across the moor to the Gathering Stone. There we had another service beginning with Brigadier John Macfarlane reciting 'A song to the Battle of Sheriffmuir' in Gaelic. Wreaths were laid in commemoration of the fallen by representatives of some of the Clans and the Rev. Colin Renwick of Dunblane Cathedral said prayers.

At the end of the service Kyle Orr played the lament 'The Battle of Sheriffmuir'.

We all returned to the Sheriffmuir Inn where we had very welcome warm refreshments.

Denise and Donald McIntosh

THE CLAN MACGILLIVRAY 2015 GATHERING



Our sons of the Clan's Piper Duncan MacGillivray playing at Strathnairn



In front of the Dunlichity cemetery, clansmen wearing kilts in the three MacGillivray's tartans: left, Bruce MacGillivray, hunting; centre, Gianni Lombardi, ancient; right Dan Hyde, modern (photo by E. N. MacGillivray)



The happy crowd on the lawn in front of the Dunmaglass estate main house (photo by E. N. MacGillivray)



The MacGillivrays at the banquet (photo by E. N. MacGillivray)

The Clan MacGillivray has a good tradition of successful Gatherings, all of which held in Inverness, close to Strathnairn and the ancestral homelands. The first Gathering leads back to 1992, the second to 1997 and the third to 2002, all of them with Ishbel McGillivray, the Clan's British Commissioner, upfront in the organisation. Afterwards, there was a long pause, due to a

number of factors including high costs in Scotland; the 400th Anniversary Gathering for the signing of the Clan Chattan Band of Union in 2009; lack of sufficient energy on the part of the CMIA (Clan MacGillivray International Association).

However, when the President of the US Clan MacGillivray Society expressed the wish to hold their annual meeting of the Society in Inverness in 2015, it was thought that it could be a good chance to organize an International Gathering. Indeed, a debate was going on among the MacGillivrays and their societies about the need for appointing a Clan Commander, as our Clan has been armigerous since 1941. George B. MacGillivray of Thunder Bay (Ontario, Canada) was nominated Commander in 1994, but died after just five years of intense activity on Clan matters. The Gathering was a convenient opportunity to hold a derbhfine or at least discuss the matter.

The CMIA Committee met in England, where Ishbel McGillivray lives, in November 2014 and agreed on the main lines of the organization. Subsequently, most of the burden of the work fell on Blair (son of Ronald MacGillivray, the ex-CMIA President) and Elizabeth N. McGillivray - from London and Dundee respectively - who did a great job.

The Gathering kicked off on Wednesday 5th August with a welcome reception, a drink and fork buffet at the Kingsmill hotel where the Clan's headquarters were located. Over 80 participants joined together, with a strong contingent from the US, and Clan members from Scotland, England, Canada, Holland and Italy. The next day was dedicated to a visit to the Culloden exhibition and battlefield with Alexander MacGillivray Well of the Dead and the Clan MacGillivray's stone. Many of the participants had already been there, but it is always moving to walk through that ample field so full of memories. Later on, we visited the Old Petty Kirk site, seven miles NE of Inverness. Here, near the Mackintosh Mausoleum, was buried the valiant Alexander MacGillivray, Commander of the Clan Chattan regiment in 1745. All day long we were accompanied by the Clan Piper Duncan McGillivray and his six sons and daughters, all of them proficient in one or more traditional Scottish instruments.

In the evening, we were guests of the Farr Community Hall. Outside, in a beautiful sunny evening, we witnessed a performance by the pipers of the Duncan family, joined by William Peters, Master Corporal and piper of The Lake Superior Scottish Regiment of Thunder Bay (Ontario, Canada), which wears the MacGillivray tartan. A meaningful presence from a country where so many MacGillivrays emigrated and thousands of descendants live. After a hog roast meal and plenty of free drinks, a story teller brilliantly entertained the public with tales of the Culloden battle. The

storytelling part was followed by a short self-introduction by the participants, to get better acquainted with one another. Musical entertainment by a band absorbed the last energies of the Clan's members.

Friday was an eventful day. In the early morning we went to Clach An Airm, where the MacGillivrays, together with other Clan members, assembled to sharpen their swords, knives and dirks, even before the Culloden battle. On top of a small hill, in the middle of grassy fields and sporadic pine trees stands a prehistoric monolith that has been used throughout the centuries to sharpen weapons and tools. In that morning you could see an assorted group of people of all ages walking through the grass and stepping up on cattle souvenirs to touch the mythical stone, which is by now the subject of many pictures in the homes of Clan members. But we also carefully avoided stepping on precious eggs of a Mallard duck (?) nest hidden in the turf.

From Clach An Airm we proceeded to the Dunlichity cemetery and to the Chief enclosure, where two Clan Chiefs - John Lachlan X Chief (1782-1852) and Neil Hon XII Chief (1827-1886) - together with nine other Clan Chiefs relatives are buried. Stone plaques connected with the recent life of Clan MacGillivray are mounted inside and on the outer wall of this enclosure. One of these stones, placed on the outer wall in 2009, in remembrance of the 400th anniversary of the Clan Chattan Band of Union, reads as follows: "In memory of their ancestors buried in this sacred place, Clan MacGillivray participated in the year of homecoming 2009 and the commemoration of the Band of Union signing 1609".

The next stop was the Steadings Hotel (near Farr), featuring carpets and curtains of the MacGillivray tartan and a favourite of any MacGillivray visiting the native lands. Moreover, on the hotel outer grounds, along the B851 road, is the statue of the "The Stag on the Stone", donated to the CMIA in 2003 by the family of Ronald MacGillivray, who was the hotel owner for many years. It "symbolizes the strength of the kinship shared by those who bear the MacGillivray's name throughout the world".

The picnic lunch took place in an exclusive location: the 14,000-acre Dunmaglass estate, held by the MacGillivrays as early as the 16th century and unlucky lost in 1890 after a series of financial failures following the death of XII Chief Neil John. After undergoing several changes, the estate was bought at the end of last century by the late Sir Jack Arnold Hayward and is now owned by his heirs. The Clan's crowd happily walked around in the park, in the garden next to the 19th century Chief's house, across the bridge on the local stream, smelling the memories of the Clan's inheritance.

We then went down to Fort Augustus, circling Loch Ness and making a short stop at the Urquhart castle, from which we enjoyed a magnificent view of the other side of the lake, where the Clan MacGillivray's lands are. The afternoon of this intense day ended up northeast of Inverness, with a sunshine-blessed visit of Fort George and its exhibitions.

Back to the hotel, an important meeting was held among all the MacGillivray participants to debate the future of the Clan, as our last Chief died in 1942 and we only had a Commander from 1994 to 1999. In various periods, a renewed search for Chief's heirs was carried out, but with no success. Members of the CMIA Committee had lengthy contacts with the Lord Lyon's office in order to identify the best way to have a better structure for the Clan and Elizabeth N. McGillivray presented the different options. After a brief but intense debate, the meeting unanimously agreed on two lines of action: i) promoting our mission with appropriate means and get the Clan's associations involved, with a view to finding suitable candidates for the position of Clan Commander and, in the spring of 2016, organising a derbhfine for a five-year period election; ii) intensifying the search of Chief's line descendants, to explore the possibility of establishing a new Chief line.

In the evening, the Kingsmill hotel hosted our traditional reception and ceilidh. With canapés on arrival including haggis and black pudding bonbons, Cullen skink as a starter, Scottish beef, cranachan and shortbread, Highland fudge and the haggis ceremony, tradition was fully respected. The guest of honour was Dr. Joseph Morrow, recently appointed Lord Lyon King of Arms, who toasted to the Clan with an impressive speech, after the welcome address by Duncan MacGillivray, CMIA Chairman, the introduction of guests by Elizabeth N. McGillivray and the remarks by Dan Hyde, President of the Clan MacGillivray Society USA. Highland Music by the Clan's Piper Duncan MacGillivray and his family followed and the evening was crowned by traditional dancing and a final, choral, loyal toast to the Clan.

Gianni Lombardi

Stop Press...

The Clan MacGillivray's last Commander died in 1996. After 20 years, a Family Convention was held at Culloden on 15 April 2016 under the supervision of the Lord Lyon's office. Participants came from UK, the States and Netherlands. There were four candidates and Iain MacGillivray was elected with 11 out of 12 votes of the voting panel. Iain is in his thirties and is the oldest son of Duncan, the Clan's piper.

Highland Field Sports Fair and Clan Tent – August 2015



Clan Tent 1



Clan Tent 2



Clan Tent 3



John and Vanessa opening the Fair



Inverness Castle
a grant of £15m has been obtained to create a tourist hub.
There is talk of this including a Clans Centre, on which the CCA is keeping a close eye

News from MacThomas

Clan MacThomas Society have just agreed a bursary to Dundee University for a student with a name of one of the MacThomas septs.

Finegand at Stone Mountain Games, Atlanta, Georgia 14-16 October 2016

I am able to confirm that I, together with my son, Tom, will be distinguished guests at these games on the above dates.

We shall both be staying at the host hotel, the Hilton, North East Atlanta.

The other guests this year include the Duke of Hamilton, Patrick Johnstone, Chief of Clan Johnstone, Lord Montgomery, Younger of Montgomery, (son of the Earl of Eglinton) and Andrew Morrison, Viscount Dunrossil

Andrew MacThomas of Finegand

The History of the Clan MacThomas

compiled by **Andrew MacThomas of Finegand FSA Scot.**
published by **The Brompton Print Company in 2009**

Andrew MacThomas, the 19th Chief of the Clan MacThomas, the author and editor, has produced a well-illustrated hard back book covering the long history of the Clan MacThomas and its septs. The clan country in Perthshire and Angus is defined with good clear maps, and high quality photographs. Glenshee and other historic locations in this area are really important to this clan.

There is a detailed timeline, together with the Chief's family tree and a careful selection of the historical family portraits, which together provide an excellent way of understanding this ancient family.

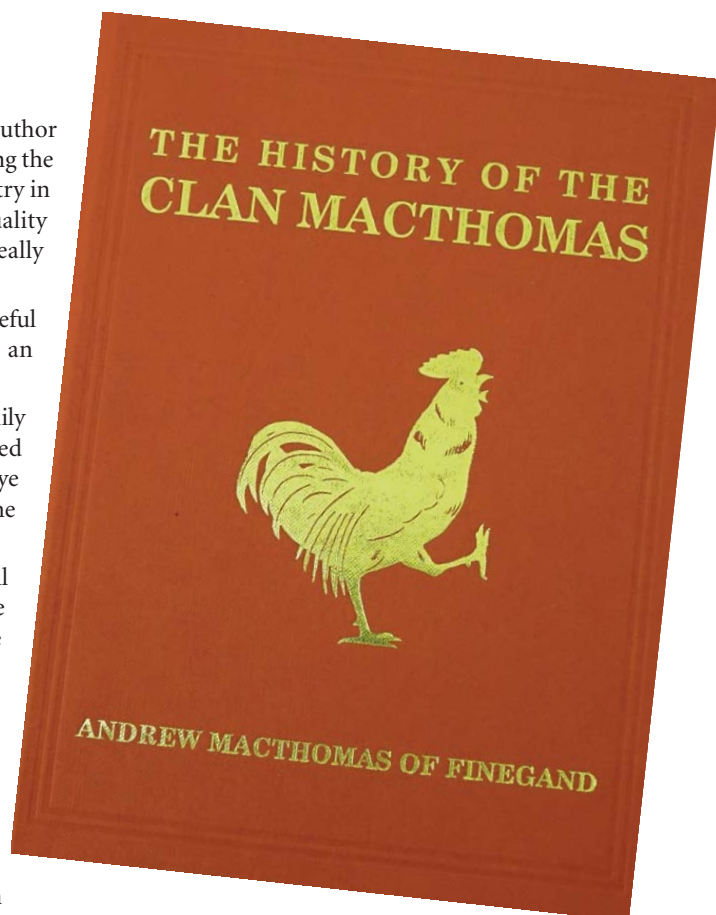
Andrew has brought together not only the framework of his inherited family history but also the previously published work of other distinguished members of the Clan MacThomas Society such as the late Roger Fulton Pye and Colin Gibson. Thus we are provided with a wide ranging view of the history of this clan.

The historical link between the Chief's family and the Clan Chattan is well covered, and the family's heraldry illustrated here includes some of the shared heraldic images such as the Scottish wild cat in the crest, and the traditional galley set in the shield. Examples of the Modern and Ancient MacThomas tartans are also illustrated.

Andrew has included copies of the some key poems associated with the Clan MacThomas, and there is also a chapter covering the Songs, Pipe and Dance Tunes. Best of all, he has made sure there is useful index for this book.

This is a fine book for anyone with ancestral links to the MacThomas clan family and its associated sept names, as well as anyone interested in the wider connection with the Clan Chattan.

Nick Hide



'An Clachair'



Allan McCauley

My interest in family history developed from information that was shared with me by my grandmother, Ella Mackintosh. When I was young, I remember my grannie telling many stories about family members who had gone before me and my interest in researching my ancestry can be attributed to those early discussions.

Before I go on to share some of the detail, I should explain the title I have given this article and my reasons for using it. 'An Clachair' is

Gaelic for 'The Stone Mason' and both my great-great grandfather and also my great grandfather were employed in that trade. My great grandfather, John Mackintosh, worked on Moy Estate and was known as 'The Clachair'.

In terms of my family history, my grandmother Ella Mackintosh gave me the following information:

Her grand-father, Alexander Mackintosh was a stone mason born circa 1798 who married a Jane Grant. They had at least six children: William, Alexander, Elizabeth, George, Thomas and her father, John who worked on Moy Estate.

John (The Clachair) married firstly Ann Macbean, daughter of James Macbean, farmer in Dalarossie and his wife Catherine Macgillivray. They had seven children including my grandmother, Ella. Sadly, Ella's mother died a month after giving birth to a younger brother, William, when Ella was only six years old.

I was told that Ann was given a present of a Mackintosh tartan silk shawl by her husband.

When my grandmother, Ella, was about 15 years old, she was invited to attend a function at Moy Hall and she was given this silk shawl to wear for that event. The shawl became greatly treasured in the family and was stored in a box. It has been passed down through the generations and recently featured at the christening of my grand-daughter.

After Ann's death, John went on to marry Lizzie Neil and had a further two sons.

When my grandfather John, worked at Moy, it was evident that he was a very popular man both with his fellow workers and also with the Mackintosh family themselves. Given the nature of his trade it is likely that John would have been involved in the erection of many of the buildings around the estate.

I am told that John regularly walked the sixteen miles to Inverness to attend market and also to collect essential supplies. I still have in my possession the horn cup that John owned and which he may have used on these journeys to collect a drink of water from a stream or maybe a drop of 'the cratur' from a neighbour on the way.

In those days there was no retirement age but when it was time for 'The Clachair' to take a back seat, he was presented with a signed portrait of the then Mackintosh of Mackintosh standing outside the old Moy Hall with the Clan crest across the bottom.

My grandmother told me that when John died in 1916, aged 85 years, he was laid out in a coffin in his house as was the custom. The Mackintosh came round to say 'goodbye' to his old friend. According to my grandmother, The Mackintosh was very emotional when he said his final farewell and she always said that John went to his grave with The Mackintosh's tears on his face.

Allan McCauley

All Things Must Pass....



David and Heather McGillivray

As the song suggests change is all around us and this applies to the 'changing of the guard' within Clan Macgillivray Society in Australia.

After many years Clan stalwarts Mr. David McGillivray and his wife, Heather have decided to stand down from their respective roles within the society.

David and Heather have been members of the society since day one in 1976 and David became Assistant Secretary and Treasurer in 1981 and Secretary in 1985. Heather was the unofficial Archivist for many years before being officially appointed to the position in 1990. Another major task they were heavily involved in was the erection and setting up of a Clan tent.

The Clan Macgillivray tent continues to be a feature at many Highland Gatherings held at various venues throughout the summer months and is a draw card for the number of folk who visit, many claiming descent from MacGillivrays or from some other Clan Chattan Association name.

The tent has a background of the Macgillivray tartan and a suitable large banner creates a pleasing and eye-catching display, whilst callers are invited to browse over copies of Clan History and other appropriate literature,

back copies of Journals, information bulletins, etc. The tent was manned throughout the day by David and Heather (ably assisted by other committee members) greeting one and all who approached the tent and with a smile on their faces welcoming those who shared an interest in all things Macgillivray.

I, on behalf of many, would like to thank both David and Heather for all their hard work and commitment as it is a huge task to set up and manage a tent on a regular basis. Their attention to detail and maintaining a presence to promote not only interest in the Macgillivrays but also Scottish culture and heritage has been gratefully appreciated by all.

Personally I would like to thank them both for their friendship, warmth and generous hospitality. David and Heather always made me feel very welcome and the environment they created enabled me to be not only involved but also able to share information with the wider community with regards to the Clan Chattan Association.

David and Heather will still be active members of the society and we wish them well as they devote more time on their love of future travels and their family.

Rob McIntosh, Australia

News from the Clan Davidson



Clan Davidson: AGM



The Chief and Brenda

It has been a significant year for the Clan Davidson.

It was on Boxing Day 2014 that we sadly lost our Chief, Alister 'Jock' Davidson. In May 2015, Grant Guthrie Davidson, Alister's eldest son, was sworn in and acclaimed as the new Chief of the Clan Davidson Association. This unique event took place at a moving and colourful ceremony held in Christchurch, New Zealand organised by the Clan Davidson Society of New Zealand. Representatives from the Clan Davidson Societies of Australia and the UK also took part. We understand that Grant is the only chief of a Scottish Clan based in New Zealand. This inauguration event was certainly a first ever held for New Zealand.

The Clan Davidson Association in the UK held our AGM/Gathering during the last weekend of September at the North West Castle Hotel, Stranraer in South West Scotland this year. We deliberately hold our events in different parts of Scotland as a way

of attracting new members. This was the first time we have met in this part of Scotland. Some 80 members from across Scotland, England, Ireland, Australia, and South Africa took part in what was perhaps the most successful event we have held in recent years. Wonderful weather and good company made this a memorable weekend.

In 2016, we return to the Central Highlands, to our Badenoch roots with our event now being planned for at an event near Aviemore. We continue to publish three Newsletters a year, as well as our well established annual journal, The Pheon. We also maintain an up to date website www.clan davidson.org.uk

We also maintain strong links with the Clan Davidson Societies in Australia, New Zealand, and the USA, all of which are thriving and doing well. Throughout the last year, we have been able to meet up with Davidson visitors from Australia, Canada, Europe, Ireland, New Zealand and the USA, meeting them either in Scotland or elsewhere during their visits to the UK.



Pheon

Our Clan Davidson Room at Tulloch Castle Hotel, Dingwall, near Inverness continues to provide a focal point of reference for visitors interested in history of the Davidsons.

Behind the scenes, the Clan Davidson Association has a Clan Council which meets three times per year to agree policy and plan future events.. We are very active on the research front with major on-going projects covering historical portraits, heraldry, and family history. We respond to all enquiries. We will follow up anything relevant. We also take part in community projects. As a result, the Davidson Archive Collection continues to expand rapidly.

As members of the Clan Chattan, representatives of the Clan Davidson have taken part in events at Culloden, The Inverness Highland Games, Clan Chattan AGM, The Moy Field Sports Fair, and the preparation/publication of The Journal.

2016 looks like another busy year already

Nick Hide

**Friday 5 and
Saturday 6 August**

THE HIGHLAND FIELD SPORTS FAIR AT MOY

The Clan Tent

Relax and enjoy some Highland hospitality in the Clan Tent. Browse through some of the past journals and visit the museum or take a walk up to the Lachlan Mackintosh memorial and enjoy the view. Council members will be on duty throughout the day, and refreshments will be available.

The Clan Tent will be open Friday 5 August
10am - 5pm and
Saturday 6 August
10 am - 2pm

Please note that there is an entry fee for the Field Sports

New Members

Rose Root-Hudson, USA

Julian Mac-Fall, UK

Ron Bogart USA

Michael Allen, USA

Donna Rucks, USA

Beth DuRant, USA

Russell Allen, USA

Len Gilbert, USA

Edward Smith, Canada

Scott McElvain, USA

Evan Thomson Cattanach, USA

Marion Mackintosh, UK

Karen Halkett, UK

John Cooper, UK

Katherine Ann McIntosh, UK

Larry Donaldson, UK

Philip Farquharson, UK

Sharon Archibald, Canada

Wendell Ritchie, USA

David Elder, Jr, USA

Deborah Ogden, USA

Shelly Reynolds, USA

Margaret Dewey, USA

Charles Crarer, UK

Allan MacBain, UK

Darlene Gorman, USA

John McIntosh, UK

John Hardy, UK

Paul Richard Shaw, UK

THE GREEN LADY - THE GHOST OF NEWTON CASTLE

By Shelagh Macpherson Noble, Vice President Clan Macpherson Association

Newton Castle, the home of our chief Cluny, is a beautiful and fascinating place and like a lot of ancient buildings, it is reputed to have its own ghost, The Green Lady. There exists a delightful ballad entitled “The Green Ladye o’ Newton”, written in the old Scots language, which tells the story of how she became the ghost of Newton Castle. The origin of the ballad is obscure; however, as Cluny says, “it is fun”.

Back in the mists of time, Lady Jean Drummond, daughter of the castle owner, fell in love with a young man named Ronald; however he did not return her love. Dejected, but refusing to give up, Lady Jean tried to gain Ronald’s affection by wearing all her finery. “A grey auld wife” was not impressed by Jean’s efforts and persuaded her to try a different tactic.

The auld wife’s advice was strange:

“Gae cut a bout o’ the kirkyard grass,
An’ a branch frae the rowan tree,
That stan’s by itsel’ on the Gallows Knowe, Whar they hang’d the murderers three.
“Gae twist an ell-lang rashy wyth,
An’ tak’ them doon alane, To the Coble Pule, ‘tween the licht an’ the dark,
An’ sit on the Corbie Stane ..”

Lady Jean followed the instructions. She bound the grass and the rowan branch together and as dusk came down, she sat on the “Corbie Stane .” in the River Ericht. She closed her eyes and soon heard a strange sound coming from the water. A voice said:

“Warlocks, wabsters, ane and aa
Weave the witchin claith
Warp o’ grass and weft o’ rash,
Weave the wab o’ death”



Newton Castle, Blairgowrie. The “round” tower is on the left of the building

Newton Castle Blairgowrie. The “round” tower is on the left of the building Jean remained on the Corbie Stane all night. “An’ at the dawin’ o’ the day, whan she ope’d her steekit een.2”, she found she was clothed in the “witchin claith of green”, or the fairy green. She returned to the castle and found Ronald awaiting an audience with her. He was duly bewitched by her appearance and they were wed. Whilst the wedding feast took place, Jean heard a terrible voice, repeating the verse about the warlocks that she had heard the night before. She collapsed. Ronald carried her up to their bedroom at the top of the round tower of Newton Castle and there she died. Lady Jean was buried on Knockie Hill. Legend says the fairies claimed her spirit for stealing their “claith”. It is said that on Hallowe’en, Lady Jean walks down the hill to Newton Castle and climbs the stairs to the bedroom at the top of the tower seeking her lost lover. The last verse of the ballad says: “An’ the Ladye Jean comes oot frae the mools, An’ doon tae the Newton Ha’ – Frae sic a sicht on that ghaistly nicht, The gude Lord keep us a!”

Please find translations for two of the expressions in the Ballad. We trust the rest will be reasonably clear to the reader: 1. Corby Stane—Crow Stone 2. steekit een”, - closed eyes

The author wishes to thank Sir William Macpherson for his kind advice and assistance with preparing this article. Although Cluny has not yet seen the Green Lady this doesn’t mean he may not.

Shelagh Macpherson Noble, Vice President, Clan Macpherson Association

Children of Alba

After the Jacobite Risings of 1715, 1719 and 1745, many Highland families were scattered by the cruel forces of political and cultural repression, market economics and famine. Many were forced from their clan lands and their native shores and came to live and thrive in a wild and unsettled place called America.

The New World

As explorers, warriors or farmers, many Highland émigrés came to the raw frontier and raised families, worked the land, fought, hunted and built new lives far away from home.

Throughout early American history, there are many instances of a blending of Highland and Native American cultures. In the 1740's, Lachlan MacGillivray, a cousin of the Clan Chattan Chieftain MacGillivray of Dunmaglas married a Princess of the Creek Nation in Georgia and Alabama. His son Alexander became Chief of the entire Creek Confederacy in 1783 and negotiated several treaties with the new American Government.

John Mackintosh from Inverness was a cousin to the Mackintosh of Mackintosh, the Chief of Clan Mackintosh and Clan Chattan. He married into another important family of the Creek Nation in the late 1730's. His son, William Mackintosh commanded a unit of Creeks fighting for the British in the Revolutionary War. Both of these families numerous descendants today are proud vigorous and loyal members of both their Scottish clan and Oklahoma tribe.

Here in modern-day Washington State, my late uncle William Shaw of Easter Lair was adopted into the Yakima Nation in sweat lodge ceremonies in 1939. With red hair and freckles, he was granted the name 'Spotted Calf'. Uncle Bill became known for his skill and knowledge in Native American tribal and ceremonial dances.

The American Frontier

President Woodrow Wilson, the son of a Scots Minister said it best: "Every line of strength in American history is a line coloured with Scottish blood".

When the great Jacobite heroine Flora Macdonald immigrated to North Carolina after the 1745 Rising, she saw the opportunity to 'begin the world again, anew, in a new corner of it'. Flora joined many Highlanders who had sailed the rough and dangerous passage to settle in family and clan groups in the Carolinas, Georgia, East Jersey, and in Upstate New York's Mohawk Valley.

Ever-rugged and hard-working, industrious

Scots soon established themselves as tobacco farmers in Virginia and Maryland, and were the first to blaze trails with Daniel Boone through the Cumberland Gap and into Kentucky.

Books and Bibles

From the smallest Highland village and clachan to the great Universities at St. Andrews, Glasgow or Paris, education has always played an important part in Scottish society. Even in the most primitive frontier conditions, most headmasters of these simple schools in the colonies south of New York were Scottish or of Scottish ancestry. Scots arriving in the New World soon established universities, colleges and other educational establishments such as Princeton University in 1746. These schools were fundamental in the education of America's new future leaders. Doctor John Witherspoon, who signed the American Declaration of Independence was a Scottish educationist who took the belief of the Scottish Enlightenment to America. Witherspoon was influential in getting the framers of the Constitution to strictly separate State and Church in politics.One wonders what Dr. Witherspoon would have to say about the blurring of this vital separation of church and state in today's politics!

1776

With fire, steel, lead and powder, for the sake of liberty the United States was also forged in thought, reason, words and action. Many of its military and political founders were sons of Scotland or products of its education and upbringing. The greatest speaker/orator of his generation was Patrick Henry. Then and today, this son of a Scot's words ring out over 225 years to galvanize and to remind our nation: "Give me Liberty or give me Death".

In 1320, Scotland's sacred document of Freedom, the Declaration of Arbroath was written. It formed the spiritual template for the revolutionary Thomas Jefferson when he composed the Declaration of Independence in June of 1776. Nearly half of its signers were of Scottish blood.

Adding wood, sail and chain-shot to Jefferson's quill pen, parchment and ink, a bold Scotsman named John Paul took the nom de guerre of John Paul Jones. Under his command, a rag-tag collection of six lightly armed genteel pirates and privateers became the fledgling US Navy. Bringing the war to the Hanoverian Government, Jones often sailed off of Scotland's west coast to harass the Royal Navy. Thomas Jefferson, who later was our first Secretary of State and second President

was of Scots descent. Our 3rd President, Alexander Hamilton and our first Secretary of War Henry Knox were both of Scots blood as well.

In the desperate time when the War of Independence was barely hanging by a thread, an interesting spotlight on the colonial Scots and Irish of the day was penned during the freezing winter at Valley Forge. General George Washington wrote:.....

"...and If all else fails, I will retreat up the Valley of the Virginia, plant my flag on the Blue Ridge, rally around the Scots and Irish of that region, and make my last stand for liberty amongst a people who will never submit to British tyranny whilst there is a man left to draw a trigger."

A generation after their ancestors crossed the Appalachian Mountains into Kentucky and Tennessee, many Scottish Americans crossed the Mexican border into Tejas. In 1836, two frontiersmen from the Blue Ridge Mountains of Scots descent once again stood their ground for liberty on the ramparts of the Alamo. As they listened to John MacGregor play the pipes, Davy Crocket and Jim Bowie loaded their long-guns and primed a brace of pistols each, grimly testing the sharpness of their blades as General Santa Ana's troops charged the battered walls. Their deaths were avenged by a Scots Irish Virginian, Texas patriot Sam Houston.

The War Between the States

Many historians suggest that Celtic influence was a central feature in Scottish and Irish cultural traits on the American southern frontier. From its agrarian society and farming practices to frontier folklore; from mournful Appalachian ballads to the "rebel yell", many aspects of the Scots/Scotch-Irish/Celtic gentility lay just below the surface of antebellum southern society. The "Stars and Bars" Confederate Battle flag was reminiscent of the Scottish Saltire. The President of the Confederate States of America, Jefferson Davis was of Scots descent. As were the Confederate Generals that served him: Joseph Johnston, John Brown Gordon and John B. Magruder.

Up North, Chicago and New York each raised a Scottish-American regiment that fought for the Union. New York's 79th, which modeled its uniforms after the famed Black Watch, remains the most celebrated of these Scots Union military contingents. A grandson of a Jacobite who fought at Culloden, General Winfield Scott commanded US forces during the American/Mexican war of 1846-48. Another son of a Scot's name was also writ large in this War Between the States: General U.S. Grant.

The Pacific Northwest.

My own beloved region was inhabited on the coast and inland sea by the native Salish tribes and in the interior by the plains Indian culture. The Pacific Northwest was at the edge of the known world. Before Lewis and Clarke's Expedition, the region was explored by Scotsman Alexander MacKenzie in 1793. Most people do not realise that when Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery marched west from the Falls of Ohio in 1803, they had McKenzie's Voyages from Montreal (1801) as their guide.

When Lewis and Clark By 1810 our region was traversed by mountain men – most of whom were Highland and Islesmen voyageurs from Montreal. These were the tough men of the North West Company and later Hudson's Bay Company.

Warriors, entrepreneurs, explorers, poets and free spirits - all ranged the Rockies heading ever west in search of lucrative and valuable Beaver pelts. By canoe, horseback and on moccassined feet, they came down the Columbia Basin, explored the passes of the mighty Cascade Range and first saw the possibilities of the lush Puget Sound Country.

Everything north and west of the mighty Columbia River basin was claimed as British territory. British forts were established at Spokane House, Fort Vancouver (on the Columbia, Vancouver B.C. was not yet established), Langley and Nisqually, and many other smaller outposts. Each night at sunset, Fort Vancouver featured two pipers playing revile as the gates were shut. When the Factor took his war canoe up the Puget's Sound to visit his staff, he took a piper with him - as that was what the Highland staff recognised as a symbol of authority.

Eventually, wave after wave of Americans flooded north up the Oregon Trail in great numbers to Oregon and Puget Sound country. The righteous idea of American Manifest Destiny overwhelmed British commercial and military possessions in what would later be the states of Washington, Oregon and Idaho. However, with their wits and canny entrepreneurialism, with their bravery, guts and fortitude and with their determination for independence and freedom – the strong legacy of Scots and Scotland have continued to be writ large in the destiny of the United States, Canada and the great Pacific Northwest.

William Shaw of Easter Lair

Images of North East Scotland

While it may pain us to admit, other countries have flora, fauna and topography which equal that of our Scottish Highlands. What is it, then, that allows us to claim superlative descriptions of land and seascape? Perhaps it is the light which is the filter of our perception; a filter affected by season, by moisture, by a fine cleanness which reveals or conceals, which shapes softly or sharply. The light holds or perception captive, presenting us with the vibrant colours of wild flowers near the harbour in mid summer, or the darkened, bare spectral woods of winter.

And the sea. The sea which is an animate scape, but yet absorbing, reflecting, returning the light not just by season, but by moment.



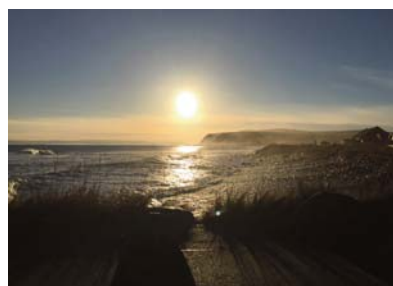
Navidale, Helmsdale, Sutherland, early September.



Balintore Harbour, Easter Ross, early August



Hill of Fearn, late December.



Shandwick Bay across to Hill of Nigg, late December.

Glen Cook of Kingerly

Far and Near

One of the great things about Clan associations such as the CCA is the opportunity it presents for us to meet with people from around the world with whom we have at least some interests in common. We are inevitably reminded of the very significant numbers of people who left the Highlands to settle in other countries, often with very little choice in the matter. We automatically tend to think of North America, Australia and New Zealand, though in fact over the centuries very few countries around the world didn't receive an influx of Scots seeking to make a new life for themselves. Before the trans-Atlantic route developed (and here I have to recommend James Hunter's book *A Dance Called America*) many arrived in France, the Netherlands, Sweden, Poland and elsewhere.

Of course many others migrated from their homes but travelled less far and settled in less exotic locations. I have long been aware of a McIntosh link to my hometown of Romford. There is a McIntosh Road and I'd heard that this family was the last private owner of Romford's marketplace. However, a chance discovery provided much more information and a link directly to the Highlands.

A few years ago my workplace, the Guildhall in the City of London was closing its bookshop. All stock was to go and I couldn't resist seeing if there was anything of interest. One book caught my eye, bearing the Romford Brewery Gates in gold print on a mock leather background. Intrigued I picked it up and discovered it to be *Memories of Old Romford*. What really struck me was the dedication though; To David McIntosh, Lord of the Ancient Manor of Havering- Atte- Bower (an area which includes Romford).

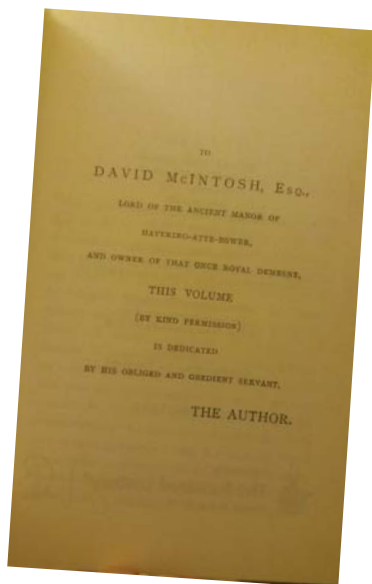


Photo of David McIntosh book cover

Discovering a, near, namesake, who I subsequently discovered had lived very close to my secondary school set me off to do some digging. This led me on a path which takes us from Romford, to Milltown of Kildrummie (by Nairn), via Tower Hamlets, Lancashire and the Forth and Clyde canal.

David's uncle, Hugh McIntosh, was born in 1768 in Milltown of Kildrummie. He attended school in Inverness and was clearly good at maths and science. He moved south to work as a navy on the Forth and Clyde Canal where he seems to have developed skills as manager and contractor that would see him employed on similar works in Lancashire and then in East London. By the time he was established in London he was a man of means. He worked with the great engineers of the day including Telford and Isambard Kingdom Brunel. He was also moving into real estate development and bought a sizeable amount of land in Poplar, East London. This is now the site of the Aberfeldy Estate but the local road names (including Nairn, Findhorn and Culloden Streets) are a reminder of Hugh's Highland origins. In addition he was involved in the refurbishment of Buckingham Palace and building some of the first railways into London.

Business was clearly doing well as in 1828 Hugh purchased the Manor of Havering from the Crown (it had been the site of a Royal Palace since Anglo-Saxon times). In addition to the marketplace this included a number of significant properties and a swathe of land which is now the basis of Havering country park, and is, by Essex standards, quite hilly.

David McIntosh duly inherited this estate and was clearly a local benefactor worthy of the dedication provided by the local historian. David died in 1881, but his wife, Charlotte, continued to live in the house he had built until 1923 (during this time the local council purchased Romford's marketplace). This family is now locally remembered in the road that bears their name and in a number of bequests, including the provision of three bells for the very fine church that stands in Havering village.

So a chance find in a bookshop links my hometown and school, my name and an area which many of us often visit in the summer. More significantly it's a reminder that the great out flowing of people and talent from the Highlands and Scotland didn't just benefit far flung lands. The evidence can literally often be found just around the corner.

David Mackintosh

Clan Chattan's Journal Revived....after 5 years.

2015 saw the publication of *The Journal*, for the first time in five years.

Since 2010, the Clan Chattan has successfully introduced its annual newsletter, *Touch Not*. However, The Council of the Clan Chattan Association has also wanted to revive *The Journal*, not as an annual but as a periodical. This was achieved when the latest edition was published in July this year to coincide with the Clan Chattan's AGM held in Inverness.

Behind the scenes, this project proved quite a task. Council Members Allan Maclean and Nick Hide took on the role as editors. Earlier this year, Nick spent two days reading all back numbers of *The Journal* held in the Highland Archives in Inverness, to understand what had been previously included. Clan Chattan members may not realise what a treasure trove of history there is in these back numbers. This publication first appeared in the early 1930s, and through the good work of all the editors and contributors, there is now an extraordinary archive which documents the history of the Clan Chattan.

The latest edition included a wide range of illustrated articles about people and places associated with the Clan Chattan. We kept much of the traditional format, including the wrap around photo used for the cover of *The Journal*. This year we used a photo of a classic highland view taken in recent years from the sitting room of James D. G. Davidson's home at Newtonmore. What a view. James has been a long-time member of the Clan Chattan Association, and is one of the founders of the present Clan Davidson Association, as well as a contributor of several articles included in previous editions of *The Journal*.



Cover of 2015 Edition of the Clan Chattan Journal

A Slice of Scotland.....



Melbourne Tattoo

Over the St. Valentine's Day weekend, Etihad Stadium in central Melbourne was the venue for the The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. This occasion was only the fourth time the Tattoo had been performed outside Scotland and what a show it was. 'Spectacular' was the word on the lips of the many thousands (including my wife Linda and I) lucky enough to attend.

With over 1,200 performers showcasing a blend of military ceremony, music and entertainment, combined with an extraordinary, life-size replica of the Castle façade including the famous drawbridge as a backdrop, it gave Melbourne audiences a true slice of Scotland.

The stirring sights and sounds of the magnificent Massed Pipes and Drums of Scotland's famous regiments together with military and police bands from various parts of the world including Australia, the UK, Fiji, Tonga, Norway, Switzerland and New Zealand were widely received and highly entertaining. Each group whether it be the pipes, drums and/or fiddles brought their own brand of magic to the venue.

The cultural diversity of the music and dance from the various countries performing was entrancing. The Scottish Highland dancers were magnificent - resplendent in kilt, hose and pumps and thrilled the crowd with their performance.

The light show throughout the event complimented the performances from sombre moods to highly energetic movements amongst the participants.

The grand finale included the entire cast for the international song of love and friendship, playing and singing a wonderful rendition of 'Auld Lang Syne'. During the course of the show if you shut your eyes just for a wee moment you would think you were back again in Scotland.

Then finally....It would not be a Tattoo without 'The Lone Piper', standing high on the castle ramparts, piping a heart stirring close which brought a tear to many an eye followed by a wonderful fireworks display, leaving memories that will be treasured forever.

Rob McIntosh, Australia

Life in 50's South London

Our friends were devoted to the old man, he had an almost mythical status. Brian thought he was as suave as David Niven. He not only treated our mates as adults, he would get our mates to work for him. He worked them hard and paid them adult rates.

It was early on a Saturday evening when Mac bundled Angus, Brian and little Geoff into the Morris Traveller.

First stop, the Ritz. The sixteen year old, Brian had never experienced neat gin before, a whole new world was about to open up for him. He later recalled how aromatic the gin was and, when leaving the Ritz, how blurred everything seemed. Mac was sorry to discover Nobby, his old friend and the barman in the Ritz for years, had recently been sacked for deliberately jamming the goodwill Christmas tree in the hotel's revolving doors.

Next stop, a pub in good old Shepherds Market and then on to another pub in Sloane Square, every one greeted Mac like a long lost friend. Mac showed the boys the proper way to drink a generously filled glass of the strong liqueur, Green Chartreuse. You hold on to the base of the glass and swallow its contents in one go.

Brian mentioned the drive back South was very exciting. Mac insisted on driving in the centre of the road, using those handy white lines as a marker.

Those handy white lines lead our intrepid gang to the Shortlands Tavern for a nightcap. Angus, who had spent the drive back, on the floor of the car, managed to upset an enormous



arrangement of flowers perched precariously on the bar.

Our party downed their drinks in one, apologised to the innkeeper and followed the white lines back to Beckenham.

A last stop, the Jade Room, a well known Chinese Restaurant, for some well earned, late night nosh, before returning to Mackenzie Road.

The merry pals, eventually, arrived at the front door of number 148. Mother, wearing the face she reserves for those special occasions, her Teutonic face, opened the door. Angus, on seeing his mother's face was immediately turned to stone and collapsed in a pile of dust at her feet.

Unperturbed, she stepped over the remains of her second born son, to clear away, what was left of little Geoff.

Geoff had passed out on the garden path, had rallied for a short while but now appeared to be in a catatonic trance. Brian, bid Mrs Mac a good evening, protesting that as much as he would love to stay, he really should be getting back home, as it was late. Somehow he managed to scoop up, little Geoff and the pair bid a hasty retreat down the road.

A thoroughly worthwhile night out was enjoyed by everyone.

Nigel James Mac-Fall

Remembrance Corner

Russell Allen - from Texas was a new member, his son Michael purchased the membership for him and he remains a member.

Ellen Braley – from Doncaster, UK, was an annual member for the best part of 30 years.

Dr A P McBain – From Banff, UK had been a life member from 1972. His daughter let us know that in fact he passed away in 2014.

Dr J R McPherson – From South Australia, became a life member in 1980.

Mr F S Ogg – From Aberlour, UK, had been a life member from 1979.

Mr J B Ritchie – From San Francisco, USA, also became a life member in 1980.

Mr W A McIntosh – Known as Alec, From Dunning, Perth, Scotland, Had been a life member from 1970. He was an active member in the earlier days and attended the Gathering in Inverness on several occasions. As a keen photographer he and Robert MacGillivray (our previous journal editor) became good friends and many of his pictures appeared in the Journal.

Miss Margaret Macphail – Margaret, along with her sister Catherine joined the Association in 2008 when they attended the Gathering in Inverness with their nephew. From Stornoway on the Isle of Lewis they captivated the Gathering with their island lilt and outgoing friendliness. Catherine remains on Lewis.

Mr Norman Frizzell, husband of Cherry Frizzell, brother-in-law of the late John Sanderson and uncle of James and Lesley Sanderson and cousin to the Mackintoshes of Moy. He attended the gathering in Inverness on a number of occasions.

Margaret Sanderson, widow of the late John Sanderson

Mrs Sheila Chisholm Mackintosh – a lovely, warm lady who regularly attended our Gathering in August with her husband Gerald

Council of the Clan Chattan Association

President

John L Mackintosh of Mackintosh BA(Hons),

Vice Presidents

Captain A.A.C. Farquharson of Invercauld, M.C.; The Hon. Sir William Macpherson of Cluny T.D.; John Shaw of Tordarroch ;
Very Reverend Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch; James H. McBain of McBain; Andrew P.C. MacThomas of Finegand.

Elected Vice-President

Pauline McGillivray

Honorary Vice President

Nigel Mac-Fall

Chairman

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