

Touch Not – Magazine of the Clan Chattan Association



John E Mackfall. Chairman of the CCA

Chairman's Welcome 2017

Dear Fellow Clansfolk,

I would like to thank the Clan Chattan Council and our members for electing me as your Chairman for the next three year term of office. It is a great honour for me personally as I have been a loyal member of council for 25 years and did not expect to ever become Chairman. I originate from a farming background and since leaving farming I have been a member of the Police Service for the past 31 years. I do keep very busy and fill every minute with work of some type. Myself and my wife Cheryl live with and show Rhodesian Ridgeback dogs (you never own a Ridgeback) and I also Judge at Championship show level. Currently we show our Champion dog Senator, which takes up most weekends throughout the year. I am also a life long motorcyclist and bike builder and mechanic. This is something I have done since I obtained my first motorcycle a Honda 50 back in 1968 at the old age of eight. I have never had a day without a bike since, over a hundred to date. I am also a local councillor for our area near York, Yorkshire (just in case). However the one big project that has taken up half of my life is my obsession with investigating and writing family and clan history. I have published two books to date, "The Clan

Phail, The History of a People" and latterly "The History and Pedigree of the Mackfall family". I am also the founder President of the Clan Phail Society which is one of the CCAs constituent clans made up of MacPhails and their derivatives McFall, MacFaul etc. Tied in to all of this is my dedication to the Clan Chattan and all its stands for including keeping the Scottish Highland traditions alive to those who have an interest and the bringing together of all our families from across the world to celebrate our mutual proud history and recording for future generations the highland lifestyle.

I hope I will continue the great work that my predecessors and not least Donald McIntosh who has been a credit to the association for many years. I hope that our association can continue to build from strength to strength.

The aims that have been set for me are to move the association forward and try to encourage more younger members to take part in our events and to include more items that will interest the next generation to become involved. I also hope they can also contribute more to our worthy journal and "Touch Not" news letter, which I'm sure you will agree, is an excellent publication and through its friendly and informative editing and excellent creative layout and images, is among one of the best annual news letters around. The new "On the Trail of Clan Chattan" information booklet is new for this year to the Association and it is intended to inform prospective new members to a brief history of Clan Chattan and its constituent clans. This booklet is a fantastic design and holds first class information, something to be treasured.

Please bear with me as I find my feet and hopefully create new ways to enrich our association which sometimes may be viewed by some as thinking "out of the box" on some aspects of our association, but I have never been "in the box" in the first place so lets hope we have an exciting and unpredictable journey together.

Yours faithfully

John E Mackfall.
Chairman of the CCA.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

In search of a Clan
Commander

*

Yvonne Holton -
Herald Painter

*

MacBean Tour of
Scotland

*

Aigas Scottish
Wildcats

*

Photo Gallery

*

World Gathering of
MacIntyres 2018

*

AND MORE

Touch Not Cover 2017

The new CCA Chairman put down his copy of the Ladybird book of Rhodesian Ridgebacks for Beginners and in a heavy, no nonsense Yorkshire accent agreed to a suggestion from Donald, his diligent deputy for an updated image to grace the latest cover of the clan magazine Touch Not.

“Get that superannuated, soft southerner to pull his finger out and come up with something soon or I’ll give him some ‘clog!’” (I believe what he actually said was, “or ah’ll gi tho some ‘clog!’”) I spent a happy few days googling things Moy in search of a new image for the cover and as luck would have it I unearthed this rather excellent marine painting entitled Nancy-Off-Moy-II, I needed to know more.

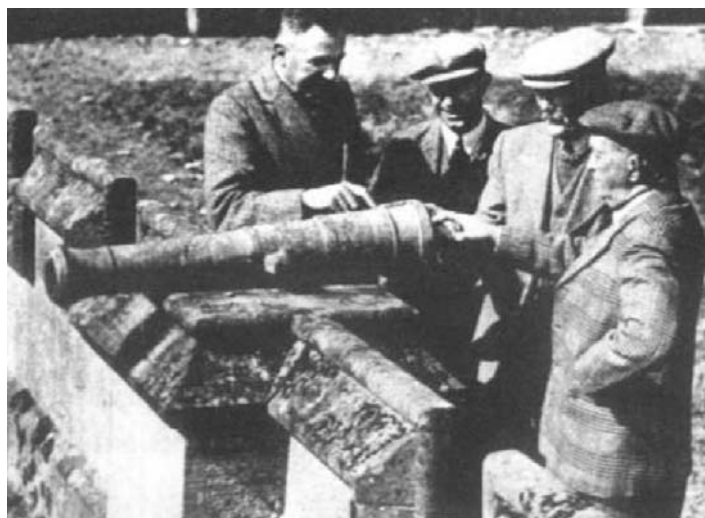
I dug deeper because I thought this brilliant picture was the work of an old master but no, it was painted by Peter Rindlisbacher a Canadian in 1996. Peter is a very well-known and respected marine artist, his work is highly sort after. I contacted the artist because I thought his picture would make a great cover for Touch Not and I wanted his permission before I went any further.

Peter was delighted, especially as he was born a mile away from Mackintosh Wharf which is situated on the old Moy Hall site in Windsor, Ontario and, incidentally, the location of the painting.

I knew nothing about the illustrious career of Angus Mackintosh (1755-1833) in North America prior to him becoming 25th Chief of Clan Mackintosh and 26th Chief of Clan Chattan and moving back to Scotland. Angus Mackintosh was a very successful fur trader, land speculator and shipbuilder, Moy Hall II was his home in Canada.

It is the heroic exploits of the fine Mackintosh vessel HMS Nancy during the 1812 war with the US which is the subject of the painting. There is also an exhibition centre dedicated to the history of the Nancy on an island formed where the Nancy sank on the Nottawasaga River.

What is particularly interesting for me is the story of the splendid ships cannons which were removed from the Nancy before she was blown up in 1814. Following the war, the cannons were taken back to Scotland where they now defiantly guard Moy Hall having done their job of sorting out the Yanks and saving Canada they now protect the Chief.



Chief Lachlan Mackintosh of Mackintosh with one of Nancy's guns at the old Moy Hall

WORK ON THE WEBSITE

www.clanchattan.org.uk

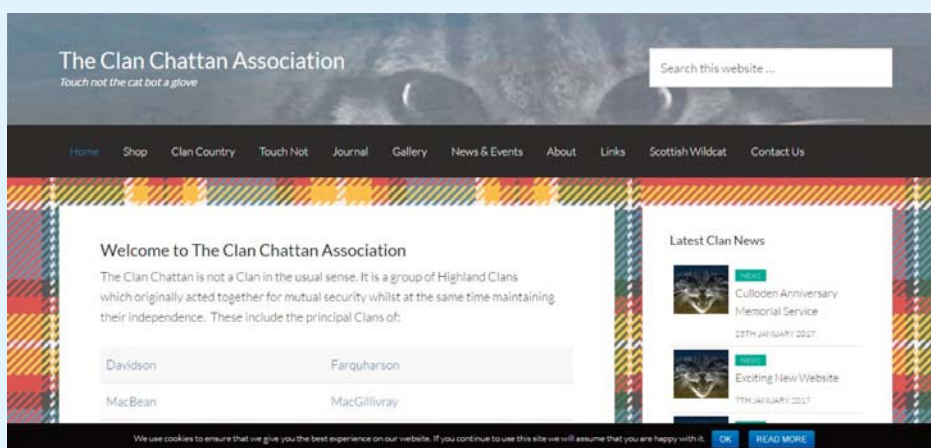
Over the past months Donald and Denise McIntosh of the Council of the Association have been working with Mark Cargill to update the image of the Clan Chattan Association website. Very challenging for Mark who has a wealth of experience in setting up websites, to work with Donald and Denise who have very little knowledge of the workings of computers and websites. However after several conference calls and e-mails back and forth they are happy, so far, with the look of the site.

There is still some work to do but when you visit the site we think you will enjoy some of the new concepts.

The old website shop became unworkable as it was so old, so a new shop has been created as well, and some of you have already paid you membership subscriptions through it.

Go and see for yourself – we do welcome constructive feedback. We are hoping that the photo gallery will be an ongoing series of your pictures. We need your photos. Pictures of your holidays in Scotland and any Clan related sites you have visited. So dust off that happy snappy camera and get shooting.

e-mail to clanchattanassociation@btinternet.com



Friday 4th and Saturday 5th August 2017 THE HIGHLAND FIELD SPORTS, 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.

The Clan Tent will be open
Friday 4th August 10am - 5pm
Saturday 5th August 10 am - 2pm

Please note that there is an entry fee for the Field Sports
(cash only)

There is no charge for car parking



Remember to fill in your reservation form
and send it off with your remittance
as soon as possible.

Or go to www.clanchattan.org.uk and pay on-line



THE ANNUAL GATHERING OF THE CLAN CHATTAN ASSOCIATION

3rd - 5th August 2017

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING THE LOCHARDIL HOUSE HOTEL, INVERNESS

Thursday 3rd August 2017

- 4pm: Gather together.
Light refreshments
will be available
- 5pm: The AGM of the Clan
Chattan Association
- 7pm: Clan Chattan
Association Dinner

£30.00

IN SEARCH OF A CLAN COMMANDER



Iain MacGillivray

As a Scots lawyer with a love of history and things Scottish, setting off down the road of finding a Commander for the Clan MacGillivray seemed like a dream come true: sadly at times the reality was somewhat different! Like many Scottish Clans, the Clan MacGillivray is an armigerous Clan i.e. a Clan recognised by the Court of the Lord Lyon but which has no hereditary Chief. It is a Clan with members spread around the world and it is fortunate to have active Associations in Australia, America, Canada and Holland as well as the UK. The last hereditary Chief died in 1942 and since then there had only been a brief spell in the early 1990s when it had a Commander - Colonel George B MacGillivray of Thunder Bay, Canada (an area where there are many Clan members) Clans need a leader; families need a head. If there is no Chief then a Commander can be elected. Historically a Commander would be appointed by a Chief to lead the Clan in battle if the Chief was unable to do so. Nowadays the role of a Commander is somewhat different. It was agreed by the members of the Clan MacGillivray International Association which is based in this country that we had to do something about finding a leader and the obvious answer was to have a Commander. It was clear from research that there was no hereditary Chief or, if there was, there was no interest in the position. I set about investigating the procedure. At the same time we ensured that we knew at least one person would stand for the position. There was no point in going down the route if no one was

going to come forward. Despite making that reasoning very clear, sadly there were those who accused me of promoting the whole thing for the benefit of that one person.

Through various helpful members of the Office of the Lord Lyon, I ascertained the process. The Court of the Lord Lyon of Scotland is the oldest heraldic Court in the world which still operates daily, something of which we in Scotland should be very proud. I prepared the Petition to the Lord Lyon, that Petition being to request consent to hold a Family Convention or derbhfine to give it its old name. The Petition was supported by named members of the Clan from the UK and the other Associations. Opposition immediately came from a Canadian lady who was adamant there was a hereditary Chief and it was agreed to withdraw the Petition to allow that matter to develop. In the event, nothing came of that, partly because the person concerned did little about it and also because although that person may be of the chiefly line by birth, the line is through illegitimate links and therefore not acceptable. There was nothing to stop that person standing for the role of Commander but for reasons I do not know that did not happen

We allowed some months to pass, nothing happened and the Petition was re-presented. Permission was granted to hold a Family Convention and I set about inviting applications and organising the Convention. We were very fortunate to be able to hold it in the Robertson Room at Culloden on Friday 15th April 2016, the day before the 270 anniversary of the Battle. We were thus able to take part in the procession of Clans the following day and what a wonderful, stirring and emotional experience that was with a huge number of Clansfolk attending.

A Family Convention is in effect an election. In the old days those entitled to attend and vote were the major landowners and those representing the leading families of a Clan. Nowadays that is not so easy. There are no hard and fast rules and that was probably the biggest problem I had. When consent is granted to hold a Family Convention, the Lord Lyon appoints a Reporting Officer whose function is to oversee the process, make sure it is open and transparent, fair and

reasonable and having attended the Convention to make a report and recommendation to the Lyon. Our Reporting Officer was Yvonne Holton, Dingwall Pursuivant of Arms and the Herald Painter to the Lyon Court. She was wonderful and I thoroughly enjoyed working with her. She had not seen a Family Convention all the way through before and at times we felt like two strangers in a foreign land. I was being far too lawyerly, worrying about going by the rules but there were not hard and fast rules! We survived!

Applications were invited, a Voting Panel set up. I wanted to reflect the world wide spread of the Clan and the result was that we had two voting representatives from each of the Association in America, Australia, America, Canada and Holland plus another dozen representing leading families or who had themselves played a significant role over the years. The usual number of voters is in the region of 20/25 people. The voters in each of Australia and Canada participated by Skype link but annoyingly the technology let us down when it came to our European representative of the UK Association who lives in Italy. The voters from America and Holland attended in person which was wonderful.

The lady in Canada continued to complain. The downside of being open and transparent was somehow interpreted as meaning I was hiding something, promoting only one person and so on. I made maximum use of social media to publicise the process but the vitriol continued in the social media and was really distressing at times. Her allegations were totally without foundation, no one quite seemed to know who she was but I guess when someone has a bee in their bunnet they have to let it buzz. Her guns then turned on the Lord Lyon when he did not dismiss me with the proverbial flea and the whole thing culminated in her complaining about both of us to the First Minister and then the Queen.

So back to more important things. We had four applicants, one from Scotland and three from America. It was open to me to reject applications but I decided that they should all have their opportunity. Lord Lyon had indicated that his preference would be for someone based in Scotland



All who attended the Lord Lyons office



L-R Yvonne Holton, Iain MacGillivray, Lord Lyon, Elizabeth McGillivray



Iain MacGillivray receiving his certificate from the Lord Lyon

and I publicised that but it did not put the three American applicants off and I resolved that if the vote went in favour of someone furth of Scotland we would just have to cross that bridge if it appeared before us. I continued to wonder if one of the family (a brother and sister) who appeared to have Chiefly blood might apply. They did not which was a pity in a way.

At the Convention, the two American applicants who did not attend made their presentations electronically and were on line to take questions. The other two made their presentations in person. The vote went in favour of Iain Donald MacGillivray from Calrossie near Tain. A great musician, the son of Duncan MacGillivray, our Clan Piper, a Gaelic speaker, educated in Scotland and America from where his Mother comes, the grandson of an Australian lady who married a Scots farmer so someone who ticked a lot of boxes!

The vote, of course, is not the end of the story. The Reporting Officer made her

report on the procedures for arranging the Family Convention, on what happened on the day and on the outcome of the vote. The Lord Lyon accepted her recommendation and the Commission appointing Iain Donald MacGillivray as Commander of the Clan MacGillivray for an initial period of five years was prepared. Within the Lord Lyon Offices and in the presence of his parents, five siblings, Yvonne Holton, Donald and Denise McIntosh from Clan Chattan, myself and some of his staff who had been so supportive and helpful, the Lord Lyon presented the Commission to Iain and the Clan MacGillivray now has a Commander for the next five years whose principal function is to rally the Clan. He has already attended events in Holland and Australia and has plans in hand to attend functions in America and Canada this year

Initially the Commission is for five years and can be renewed for a further five years. After that Commander Iain can petition the Lord Lyon to be recognised as

Chief of the Clan and so start a new blood line. It was the possibility of a new blood line that also attracted some opposition, there being some who think that wrong. However, during not only that initial ten year period but the subsequent twenty years, if a hereditary Chief steps forward, Commander or, indeed, Chief Iain, must step aside.

It was a fascinating process, one which as a lawyer I was delighted to undertake; yes it was a troubling and unpleasant process at times but as with all things Clan, I met new people, made new friends and, most importantly, the Clan has a leader, is now more focussed and can go from strength to strength.

Elizabeth N McGillivray, LLB (Hons), NP, FRSA

Secretary and Treasurer of the Clan MacGillivray International Association

Association of Highland Clans and Societies Visit to the Macpherson Museum at Newtonmore

In October 2016 members and friends of the Association had their Autumn Social event at the Macpherson Museum in Newtonmore.

After a simple soup and sandwich lunch they gathered at the museum for a guided tour. Taking in such things as the display for Sir Tommy Macpherson and Macpherson Heraldry.



Herald Painter

Yvonne Holton BA (Hons) FGA DGA FRSA.



Yvonne Holton and Annette Reed

I was recently asked to do this article following a small Ceremony at the Lyon Office on the 25th of August 2016, where Iain Donald MacGillivray accepted the Commission to be the Commander of Clan MacGillivray. As Dingwall Pursuivant of Arms, I was the Supervising Officer at the gathering to appoint the Commander of the Clan and thoroughly enjoyed my visit to Inverness and the Culloden Centre. In this article, I am putting my other hat on as the Herald Painter of Scotland which is an Office that I have held since 2005 and I hope that you find the following interesting.

I was grateful to be given the opportunity to become one of the artists to work in the Lyon Office as an illuminator in 1991 following an advertisement in the 'Scotsman' newspaper.

As a child, I was always drawing. I suppose that I was in a way disappearing into an imaginary World. Following a time at boarding school (or Prison as I prefer to call it!) because my father travelled all over the World to work, I ended up at the Edinburgh College of Art. I completed the 4 years to gain an Honorary Degree in Art and Design and then did another year as a post-graduate student specialising in silversmithing. The reason for detailing this, is, that I have come to the subject of Heraldry without any specific training but with an ability to draw.

Heraldry, is a precise discipline and artists are somewhat constrained in terms of their use of colour, how they depict certain elements such as Crowns, Badges, Collars and Honours as well as the positions of charges and poses of animals. However, within this discipline, artistic liberties or 'fun' can be had.

As Herald Painter, I head a team of very capable artists and calligraphers who have come to the subject through various paths. One has undertaken a specific course as an illuminator and with that training has gleaned the skills of gilding and the ancient art of preparing vellum and mixing pigments to make paint, another has spent years as an artist in the printing trade, one of the limners has been trained by an eminent calligrapher, and I have recently finished coaching another young woman in the art.

The main material that we use is vellum. Vellum is all things cow based, and parchment is mainly sheep and goat but it could also be badger or bat! We use Kelmscott vellum and there is only one producer in the country. It is a form of leather and feels a little like thin card. Held up to the light, the veins of the animal can clearly be seen. The reason that we use vellum is because of its longevity. The legal documents that we produce should last hundreds of years.

Nowadays, we use either watercolour or gouache paint. Jenny Phillip, the Herald Painter at the time when I first started, used watercolour and I followed suit, and like most people who paint with this, I was 'washing' on the paint with dreadful consequences that buckled the vellum! What I soon came to understand was that if you used watercolour or gouache, it needed to be applied in several thick layers.

I have mentioned the long lasting qualities of vellum, but there is another very good aspect to this material and that is, if mistakes are made, and this can happen for a number of reasons, corrections to the either the text or the painting can be made which are pretty much invisible. For example, if a line of text or calligraphy is incorrect, a rounded scalpel can be taken over the offending area, and then the vellum can be simply smoothed off using a very fine emery paper and the wording reinstated. In the old days, monks would use cuttlefish to redress the surface, but cuttlefish is quite rough and thankfully, times have moved on and we have this new material. We also don't have to work by candle light!

Heraldry has its own language which is called 'Blazon' and it is quite French in tone. Originating in North West France, it should be viewed a bit like a prescription from a doctor, in that it describes exactly the elements, their colours and positions as well as the attitudes of any human figures and animals featured. The Mantling and any other items such as Collars and Badges and the Mottoes are also included in the Blazon.

When I say 'prescription', what I mean is that an Heraldic Artist in Japan and one in Scotland, and given the same

'Blazon' of a 'Coat of Arms' should, with styles of drawing not taken into consideration, come up with largely a similar design.

The general work of the Lyon Office artists is to produce the Letters Patent and Matriculations granted by the Lord Lyon. Normally this involves painting the Arms on the left margin of the vellum and also to carry out calligraphy detailing the Petitioner's genealogy and in the case of a Society or Institution to set out the organisation's history. We also paint or record the Arms in the Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland. This Register has been in existence since 1672.

The initial task is to create a 'tracing' or design following the Blazon issued by the Lord Lyon. The next stage is to carry out the calligraphy. Depending on the length of text to be written and whether there is to be any extra illumination, either an A3 size or A2 size piece of vellum is chosen. Once the writing is done the painting can be started. Most often the document consists of just the depiction of the Arms with the calligraphy alongside but sometimes the Petitioner may request a more fully illuminated piece of artwork and this could include the Shields of the Officers of Arms and or the Supporter Coat of the Lyon Office arrayed along the top margin and perhaps also a floral border around the whole. The wording of the Petitioner's name can also be depicted in large letters.

Through our association with the Lyon Office, the artists have been in the fortunate position to be commissioned to undertake a variety of interesting projects including designing letter headings, bookplates, designs for silver engraving, embroidery, stained glass, stone and wood carving as well as family trees. Personally, I have also worked with the Royal Mint in connection with coin design and was privileged to be given the commission to design the emblem for the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom.

In finishing, I feel very lucky to have been able to earn my living doing what I like best. Far from being an arcane subject, heraldry is very much alive, with the Lyon Office currently being very busy in issuing new Letters Patent and hopefully this will continue well into the future.



Jocular poem by John MacAskill, Woodend, Tomatin re “celebrities” at Moy Hall annual Traders Hare/Grouse Shoot over the Moy moors. Date late 1920’s or early 1930’s. Grammar and spelling as per the original.

The Old Hare’s Grouse

The drive was o’er a veteran hare
 Sinking with terror in his lair,
 Fell to bemoaning of his fate
 Without the prospect of a mate.
 Said he “Of kin I am bereft
 I wonder if there’s any left
 The devil take those human killers
 That served me all my life with thrillers”.
 And then more calmly in repose,
 He started to recount his foes.

A bearded one well set and thick
 (Thank Heaven he comes no more)
 Would sit for hours on a stick
 And one by one my pals would pick
 Lord knows how many score.

1st - Mr Grierson

Another who was deadly keen
 (Gray hair and piercing eye)
 I’m thankful is no longer seen
 And as his blow was fairly clean
 We’ll let bygones go by.

2nd - Mr McNaughton

That hefty chap from o’er the Tweed
 His shooting form so level
 Has slain us faster than we breed
 And for his fiendish killing greed
 I wish him to the Devil.

3rd - Mr Clarke

And yet another that I dread
 My forebears knew him well
 May all his powder and his lead
 And traps and things that make his bread
 Go where no hares could dwell.

4th - Mr Macpherson

Then Andrew, that most hated name
 We hear year after year
 He spits a constant stream of flame
 And spreads destruction without aim
 I’d curse him but I fear.

5th - Andrew

Besides a new one from the Town
 (no Townsman’s aim has he)
 And for his prowess, may the frown
 Of dunces, o’er a common noun
 Haunt him as he haunts me.

6th - Mr Black

And there’s a queer detested one
 Who simply wields a stick
 He’ll neither kill nor let alone
 I hope he’ll choke upon a bone
 And hare soup make him sick.

7th - The Flanker

I like one veteran, I confess
 Despite his deadly range
 He’s like the others more or less
 But at a miss he starts to bless
 In language wild and strange

8th - Duncan

To be continued,
 (Maybe)

NOTES ON THE ABOVE

(written by Hamish Macpherson)

Author of those jocular verses was John MacAskill, Tomatin, and refer to “celebrities” who along with 12-15 others regularly attended the Annual, so called “Inverness Traders” Hare & Grouse shoot at Moy Hall by personal invitation of The Mackintosh of Mackintosh in late October each year.

The following is a key to the aforementioned “celebrities”.

- 1st Mr Grierson:** John Grierson, head keeper, Moy Estate (an uncle of Andrew Grierson)
- 2nd Mr McNaughton:** Chief Constable, Inverness Burgh Police
- 3rd Mr Clarke:** Christian name cannot be recalled. English butler to the Mackintosh of Mackintosh and a good shot.
- 4th Mr Macpherson:** John Macpherson, Gunmaker, The Sporting Stores - supplier of all sporting, shooting equipment to the whole Mackintosh Estate.
- 5th Andrew Grierson** Game keeper, Mealmore, Daviot (nephew of John Grierson), a deadly and famous shot.
- 6th Mr Black:** J D M Black, one time headmaster of Culcabock School and latterly headmaster of Merkinch Primary School, Inverness
- 7th The Flanker:** Identity doubtful but quite possibly the author, John MacAskill, Tomatin.
- 8th Duncan:** Identity cannot be recalled.

Submitted by Shelagh Macpherson Noble

News from the Clan Davidson

The Clan Davidson has enjoyed another busy year.

In the UK, The Clan Davidson Association returned to the Highlands for our Gathering/AGM weekend in early October. Some 60 members took part in a very sociable event held at the Hilton Cowlumbidge Hotel just outside Aviemore with wonderful weather throughout the weekend. Apart from the AGM, the Talks, and the Clan Dinner, members managed to get and explore the many attractions of the area... steam train, mountain railways, and whisky distilleries, the wild life park, and some made a visit to Tulloch Castle, the ancestral home of the chiefly family.



Clan Davidson Association AGM

Throughout the year we have met with overseas Davidson visitors from Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the USA, and Bermuda, all bringing and sharing extraordinary stories of their Davidson family history. We also took part in the Clans Tent at the Inverness Highland Games with the Clan Chattan and other Highland Clans in July, and a few weeks later at the Clan Chattan AGM/Dinner and Moy Field Sports events.



New Zealand Visitors

We maintain close links with the Clan Davidson Societies overseas. The Clan Davidson Association in the UK was also represented at the AGM Gathering

Weekend of the Clan Davidson Society in Australia held at Canberra in March. Our Clan Chief, Grant Guthrie Davidson and his wife Brenda from New Zealand, were guests of honour.



Kirking of the Tartan Event , Canberra, Australia



Clan Chief, Grant Guthrie Davidson & his wife Brenda



Bermuda Visitors

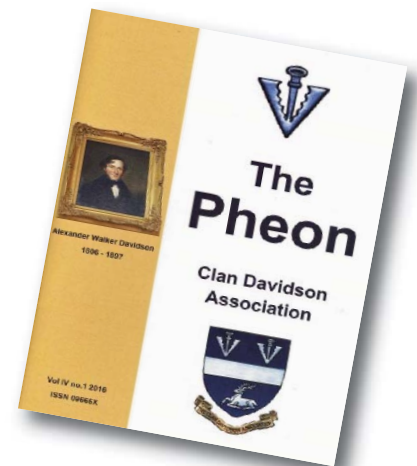
Later in the year Dr Frank Davidson of the Clan Davidson Society in Australia announced news of the latest Grant of Arms by the Lord Lyon to honour Davidsons of New England. [See separate story]

Recent news from the Clan Davidson Society USA confirms that they have changed their name to the Clan Davidson Society of North America together with announcements about their plans for a major international gathering to be held next year. This Gathering will take over the weekend June 2nd through June 5th 2017 at the Barren River State Park, Lucas KY, ...nearest town is Glasgow KY. The Clan

Chief Grant Guthrie Davidson & his wife Brenda will be taking part. Contact Dave Chagnon for details sennachie@earthlink.net

In the autumn, we helped the Clan Davidson Society of New Zealand begin to unravel the Davidson links to a recently discovered photo album dating from about 1902 which had been discovered at the Chief's home. This important album includes many historic photos not seen before of Tulloch Castle and also the homes of associated members of the family at Glenmuick and Brackley near Ballater, and Guthrie Castle near Forfar.

We continue to publish three Newsletters a year, and our long established annual journal, The Pheon, first published 25 years ago. This year we included articles from across the world about many different aspects about the history of the Davidsons. We successfully used colour illustration throughout the journal for the first time.



Cover of the 2016 Edition of The Pheon Journal of the Clan Davidson Association



New masthead logo for the Clan Davidson Society of North America

Our research activities continue across many fronts, and as a result our Clan Davidson Archive Collections are growing rapidly. Many family trees have been compiled and important family portraits have been shared and documented.

Several historic monuments have been discovered as well as examples of Davidson heraldry and Davidson memorial stained glass memorial windows which we have researched and photographed.



Davidson heraldry discovered at Quinta de Santa Maria, Sintra, Portugal



HM The Queen unveiling new portrait

We try our best to share details the contents of our Archives not only through our publications but also with any enquirers who make contact come through our active website www.clandavidson.org.uk. Please feel free to contact us any time. We welcome all enquiries. We will always respond promptly.

In the wider world of Davidson news, a new portrait of HM The Queen was publicly unveiled at Buckingham Palace in early November. The artist, Colin Davidson, is a very distinguished Irish portrait painter, well known to us.



The Artist, Colin Davidson

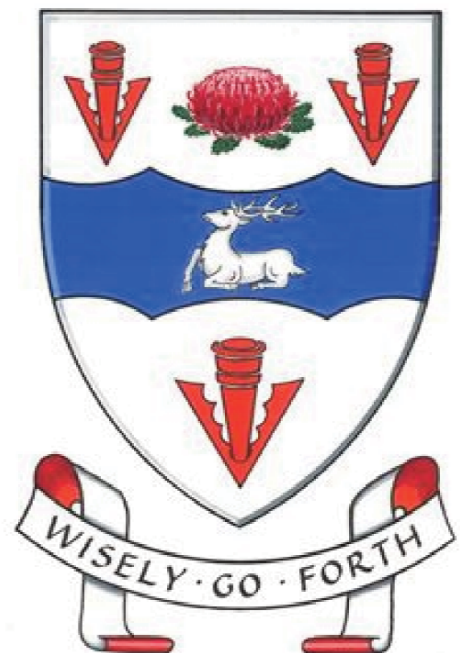
The Arms of the Davidsons of New England Association, Australia

On 2 September 2016 the Lord Lyon signed Letters Patent granting arms to the Davidsons of New England Association. The Association was formed in Australia in 1984 by descendants of William Davidson, who was born in Crail, Fife, in 1807 and died in 1878 at Mihi Creek Station, Uralla, which is in the northern part of the state of New South Wales known as "New England".

The design of the arms follows the name of Davidson, with the distinctive pheons (arrowheads) and a buck on the central fess, together with a waratah flower, the floral emblem of New South Wales.

The arms were painted by Annette Reed

Dr Frank Davidson who commissioned these Arms is a member of the Clan Davidson Society in Australia and the Clan Chattan. Frank has been the champion behind the on-going research and celebration of the Davidsons of New England.



The Clan Chattan Association Gathering 2016

The AGM, Dinner and Clan Tent at Moy



PHOTO



For more photos go to www.clanchattan.org.uk

Other events in 2016



Macbean Clan Tour of Scotland 2016

“ The Scotland Tour of a Lifetime”

By Colonel Peter McIlwain

In August 2016 the Clan MacBean conducted its first ever officially sponsored tour of Scotland; inspired and organized around the idea of getting together as many clan association members as possible in order to support our Clan's Tanist, Richard McBain of McBain the Younger, in a ceremony to rededicate the refurbished MacBain Memorial Park, located on a small bit of the former Clan lands, known as “Kinchyle”, at the northern tip of Loch Ness, south of Inverness.



Clan Tanist, Richard McBain of McBain

The Tour turned out to be an “intense” eight days, with an itinerary concocted so as to have something in it for participants with widely disparate interests and levels of experience concerning Scotland. We wanted to go “first class” with respect to accommodations and dining so as to make the whole package “The Scotland Tour of a Lifetime”. As it turned out, there were 22 clan members on the tour, coming together from Australia, Canada, and many parts of the United States. The oldest participant was in his 80's and the youngest 11 years old. Everyone who went had a ball.

The tour began at the Glasgow Airport on August 3rd, where we met our “Blue Badge” (certified Scotland expert) Tour Guide, Fiona Maxwell of Scotland Tours.

Once Fiona had all us ducks herded together, we loaded up the bus and headed straight away for a delightful boat cruise on Loch Lomond.

Then after travelling north, the next morning we boarded the Jacobite Steam Train (also known perhaps more famously as Harry Potter's Hogwarts Express) for a fantastic journey along Loch Shiel to the railway's end at the quaint fishing village of Malliag and a memorable luncheon at the West Highlands Hotel featuring the freshly caught local seafood.

We rushed onwards from Malliag to Inverness in order to check into the lovely, first class Kingsmills Hotel, a feat we accomplished with just enough time to freshen-up and change into highland evening dress in order to attend the annual dinner of the Clan Chattan Association at the nearby Lochardl House Hotel. We were warmly greeted and welcomed by Clan Chattan Association Chairman, Donald McIntosh, Membership Secretary Denise McIntosh and the other officers of the Clan Chattan Association

The Clan MacBean association was well represented at the dinner and our President, Colonel Pete McIlwain, was most pleased to present our Tanist, Richard McBain of McBain, Major Scott McElvain, clan association Vice President, Dr. Jan Womer, Clan Chaplain, Allan MacBain, Associate Genealogist and Regional Commissioner for the UK, Barry Culhane, Regional Commissioner in Australia and New Zealand, Lisa Culhane, Regional Commissioner in the State of Washington, and twelve other MacBean Clan Association members present.

Col. McIlwain also announced that we had brought along the Clan's framed piece of the “Moon Tartan” (taken to the surface of the moon and back on the Apollo XII moon landing mission in 1969 by US Navy Commander Alan Bean), and invited all to view it after dinner along with a signed print of Alan Bean's famous painting of his moon walk- provided for the occasion by Allan MacBain.

(This trip to Scotland, by the way, marked the first time the “Moon Tartan” has traveled outside the US since the piece of tartan, along with the original of his moon walk painting, an Apollo XII patch from his flight suit and a photo while wearing

space suit, were presented to the Clan MacBean Association by Commander Bean in about 1975. These priceless items are the Clan's most valuable and cherished artifacts.)

On Friday morning, August 5th, the group ventured to Moy, the ancient ancestral estate and seat of the Chiefs of the Clan Mackintosh. Every August the Mackintoshes host a Highland Sports Fair at Moy, always timed to come just after the Clan Chattan's annual meeting in nearby Inverness.

Everyone was most pleased to avail the hospitality of the Clan Chattan Association tent to get out of the rain and mud, sit a spell, have a cup of coffee or tea and a chat with the most welcoming local Clan Chattan members. We brought along the “Moon Tartan” and displayed it to the obvious enjoyment of the locals, many of whom had their photograph taken along with it.

A highlight of the day was when Richard, Peter, Scott and a few others were most kindly afforded a tour of the Mackintosh family's private museum, located in a small out-building in a copse of trees near the main house. It was a very interesting collection of objects spanning several hundred years of Scottish and Mackintosh family history. Fascinating.

The ceremony for rededicating the McBain Memorial Park was held on Saturday, August 6th, with our Tanist, Richard, officiating. Richard had been working on trips to Scotland every year for a number of summers to restore the park to a good state. At the same time he worked with an artist in his home state of Arizona to cast a new pair of highland wildcat statues and a replacement memorial plaque, non-metallic but bronze-like in appearance, to replace the original ones of bronze metal which had been stolen by vandals some years before. Richard saw to it that the new cats and plaque arrived from Arizona and were installed in good time and that all was ready for the ceremony.

All were greeted heartily at the memorial site by a beaming Richard, who was clearly very pleased by the large turn-out. There were more than fifty clansmen, hailing from several States in America, from Australia and Canada and from Scotland itself. There were even a couple of MacBeans from nearby Inverness.

After Richard's welcome, Piper Cindi McIntosh-Behr played a medley of pipe tunes, concluding with a nuanced and very moving rendition of Highland Cathedral. (Cindi, by the way, is well known to many clan members and fondly regarded for the wonderful job she did piping-in our Chief, James MacBain of MacBain, Richard and participating clansmen at dinner during the 11th Quadrennial Clan Gathering at Ventura, California in October 2014. How serendipitous that Cindi, who lives in Flintridge, California, would turn up for the CCA meeting in Inverness and thus be able, at Richard's request, to serve as the Clan's Piper for a very special clan event once again. Thank you, Cindi!)



Clan Chaplain Rev. Jan Womer

The Clan Chaplain, Rev. Jan Womer, followed the piping with an equally moving invocation and blessing. Richard then provided a summary of how the land for the park was acquired after great effort by his grandfather, Hughston MacBain of MacBain, the 21st Chief, in 1959 and the Park completed in 1961 (55 years previously). Richard also mentioned some of the incidents of vandalism that had occurred over the years, and his more recent efforts to maintain and to refurbish the park. Encroaching gorse has clearly been declared an enemy to be dealt with harshly.

Col. Pete, the Clan association President, thanked all the clan association members who had come so far in order to participate in the rededication of the park, and recognized the officers of the clan association present, including Regional

Commissioner Paul Beane, who was travelling in Scotland on his own and turned up for the ceremony. Allan MacBain, Regional Commissioner for the UK, also received the clan's thanks for all his hard work in supporting the event in every way.

With the formalities out of the way Richard broke out a bottle of Tomatin single malt, which he noted was somewhat local to the Kinchyle area and otherwise "good enough" to be declared the Clan's whisky-for the moment anyway.

Richard then held his hand over the cats' heads with a chiefly wish that they avoid the depredations of vandals for another 55 years of the Park going forward. He also offered the cats a wee sip of the single malt. But alas, as they had been formally posted on guard, they were not seen to have indulged.



Richard McBain Blessing the cats

All in all, it was a beautiful ceremony and celebration, well attended and much enjoyed by all who attended; indeed one worthy of being remembered by the Clan for a long, long time to come.

After lunch in Inverness the tour group continued on to the Culloden Battlefield, where we visited the wonderful new visitor centre and had a walk over the ground of the battlefield. For many, seeing the memorial stones around the "Well of the Dead" was indeed moving. MacBean stones were there, and a McIlvain stone too.

Further touring and visits over the next few days took us south. The final stop on the tour was at the Battle of Bannockburn Centre, southwest of Stirling Castle. The Scots victory at the Battle of Bannockburn, 23/24 June 1314, was the climax of the First War of Scottish Independence and a landmark in Scottish history. The battle also holds a special place for at least one segment of the Clan MacBean as Nigellius McIlvain, founder of the House of Grimmet (the McIlvain family line), was said to have been knighted by King Robert the Bruce for valor during the battle and given a grant of land in Carrick (later Ayrshire) which became the family's home for the next 416 years.

After lunch, coffee, tea and a final chat at the Bannockburn Centre's snack bar, the time had come for our magnificent tour to end. Most boarded a bus for Glasgow Airport and long flights home.

Meanwhile, a second bus arrived to take the remaining eight onto a further five days of visiting sites in Ayrshire related to the McIlvain family; subject for another article at another time.



Clan members and friends gather for the re-dedication of the cats

The Scottish Wildcat

John Lister-Kaye, House of Aigas



In 2012 Aigas Field Centre joined forces with the optimistic sounding ‘Scottish Wildcat Conservation Action Plan’ to try to save the last few remaining wildcats in the Highlands (*Felis silvestris grampia* – cat of the Grampian woods), part of which would be captive breeding for release into carefully monitored, prime quality habitat. That was the bit that interested us: the breeding and release of sexually mature kittens to bolster whatever remains of the wildcat population still out there. If there are any. We don’t know - nobody does. We hope there might be a few left in the remoter mountain reaches of our local glens.

The Scottish wildcat isn’t just any old cat, it’s special – no, way more than special - it’s unique, and unique in so many different ways, bad and good. It’s Britain’s most endangered mammal and it’s wild, wild, WILD, with it’s own marque of spitting, feline wildness – that’s far beyond good, it’s brilliant.

From the sort of glimpse you might be lucky enough to get in your headlights, a wildcat can look a bit like an oversize farm tabby, but that’s where the resemblance ends and the conflict lies. It’s the black that defines both the wildcat’s fur and its sombre northern climate, an aggressive camouflage that breaks up its outline into bands of shadow exactly as a tiger’s stripes do, but without the perpetual sunlight shafting through jungle. Its bushy club tail with a dense black tip has four to six clear black rings; its fur is of dulled zinc with vertical sooty stripes, stripes that also run up and outwards from its burning, emerald eyes. It hunts at dawn and dusk, retiring bandit-like to its lair to lie low throughout the day. A stealthily prowling, silent, green-eyed, arch-predator of the

dark and dripping Highland woods, it is reputedly untamable, a top carnivore. Ferocious. A snarling, hissing, spitting demon of a cat with murder etched into its soul. Little wonder it has been adopted by so many Highland clans as emblems and mottoes such as ‘Touch not the cat bot a glove’ and ‘Sans Peur’ and awarded its name to Clan Chattan.

The trouble is that we humans have been introducing domestic cats into wildcat habitat for centuries. Wildcat toms cannot resist domestic pussy, and vice versa. The evolutionary lineage of both is too close and the hybrid progeny of such unseen nocturnal pairings are fertile. Invisibly their genes blend and nowadays many hybrids stalk the Highland woods. By their own promiscuity our precious wildcats are genetically polluting themselves into extinction, a situation only humans can resolve.

The Scottish wildcat is the very essence of wildness and wild places. Throughout recent history our wildcats have been present the length and breadth of Scotland, a top predator in some of the most rugged and wild landscapes in the UK, perfect for a super-cat. If your average domestic tabby is a Ford, our wildcat is a Ferrari. They call it the Highland tiger: bigger, stronger, meaner, sleeker, stealthier...and, like the poor old Jungle Book tiger, it’s in serious trouble because of us and the way we’ve always treated land as a resource without much thought for wildlife. It’s our fault, our ignorance, our stupidity, our negligence, our selfishness, our greed. We could do much better if we put our minds to it – if only we would put our minds to it. We have the wit and the ways; it’s the will that snarls us up. We could stop the rot and reverse the destructive trend for most wildlife if only we could focus minds. Culturally, historically and morally the wildcat is precious. We must not lose it.

Sir John Lister-Kaye is one of Scotlands best known naturalists and writers on wildlife and nature conservation.

<http://www.aigas.co.uk/aigas-wildcat-project.asp>

address: Aigas Field Centre, Beauly, Inverness-shire, Scotland, IV4 7AD

New Members Jan 2016 – Feb 2017

James Davidson	UK
Roderick MacSween	UK
Michael Davison	USA
Robert Shaw	USA
Lane Calvert	USA
Henry Lowson	UK
Vanessa Panteghini	France
Simon McIlroy	USA
Lisa Culhane	USA
Rob MacGillivray	UK
Carol MacGillivray	UK
Lesley Sanderson	UK
Grant Guthrie Davidson	New Zealand
Bonnie McPherson	USA
George McPherson	USA
Edward McIlwain	USA
James Macintosh	Canada
Marcia Taylor	USA
Michael Davis-Shaw	USA
David Collins	USA
Kevin Macvane	USA
Leslie Cox	USA
Jean Pickard	USA
Jeff Langille	USA
Camille McIntosh	USA
Michael McNamara	USA
Jeremy McNamara	USA
Alick McIntosh	UK
Pamela McNamara	USA
Susan McPherson	UK
Cassidy McIntosh	UK
Roderick Macpherson	UK
Ronald James McIntosh	UK
Paul McIntosh	USA
Valerie Gardner	USA
Marci Shaw Peralez	USA

The World Gathering of MacIntyres 2018

The Clan MacIntyre Trust is currently organising the second World Gathering of MacIntyres to take place from 17th to 22nd of July 2018 in and around Oban and Taynuilt. This is the long-anticipated follow-up to the very successful Gathering held in 2008. The schedule is not yet finalised, but will include activities such as tours of MacIntyre country, ceilidhs, a banquet, attendance at and procession to the Taynuilt Highland Games.

The highlights of 2008 will be repeated, such as the walk up the Stone of the Fatted Calf below Ben Cruachan, and a visit to Glen Noe, the traditional homeland of MacIntyres. We have a lot of ambitious ideas regarding the possibility of a cultural program that could include Highland dance lessons, Gaelic lessons, storytelling, book/poetry readings, musical entertainment, and Highland cooking lessons/recipe exchange. We are also considering the possibility of camping out overnight on Glen Noe, as an opportunity to commune with the ancestors and the traditional lands.

Registration is not yet open but you can sign up to our mailing list via the website, www.macintyregathering.com. We will open registrations to everyone on this list before opening to the public.

A special feature of this Gathering is the DNA project, which is quickly gathering pace and participants. So many Highland families were disrupted by social upheaval, the Clearances, wars, migration, and poverty; with some families losing contact as recently as two or three generations ago. A lot of us have first and second cousins we've never met. Most of us would have third and fourth cousins we don't even know exist. We aim to test as many MacIntyres as possible before the gathering, so we can solve all those genealogical puzzles well in advance. The first day of the Gathering will feature a family group reunion during which cousins and relatives from around the globe can meet and share stories.

As the organiser of the 2018 Gathering, I'd like to invite any interested volunteers, organisers, coordinators, tour operators, etc to contact us as this undertaking will require a lot of cooperation and effort. You can search for "Clan MacIntyre Trust" on



MacIntyre Group at The Official Banquet of the 2008 World Gathering



Glenoe, near Oban. 2008

Facebook, as we have a very active page there, visit the Gathering website mentioned above, or the Trust's website at www.clanmacintyretrust.org.

Finally, for anyone who is on the fence about whether to join us in 2018, I'd like to say this: although I was not born in Scotland, there is something in the West Highlands landscape that speaks to my DNA, and I know I am not alone in this feeling. It is a place unlike any other.

I encourage all descendants of the MacIntyre

Clan, including all variants on the spelling (McIntyre, Macintyre, MacTeer, MacEntire, Wright) to join us in 2018 for the World Gathering. If you have never been to Scotland, you need to go. If you have ever been, you need to come back. If you are lucky enough to live in Scotland, we'll see you in Oban and Taynuilt in 2018. The Highlands are calling you.

**Dr. Alison Macintyre,
Secretary, Clan MacIntyre Trust
Organiser, World Gathering of MacIntyres
2018**

The Mackintosh speaks to global gathering from his living room

**Rob MacIntosh,
CMNA & CCA Council Member**

John Mackintosh of Mackintosh addressed a global audience through live streaming during the 2016 Clan Mackintosh of North America's AGM. The meeting originating in a small New Hampshire town located at the base of Loon Mountain was streamed live to members and friends of CMNA. Juggling a 12 hour time difference John spoke to the global gathering late evening from his home in Singapore using Facebook Livestream. Although it was only 10:00 in the morning the folks at Loon enthusiastically joined in when John closed his address with a salute to the gathering while hoisting a dram of Tomatin and crying out "Loch Moigh"!

In addition to John the meeting had strong ties to Clan Chattan throughout. A year earlier while Joe Morrow, Lord Lyon was the guest speaker at the Clan Chattan AGM in 2015 I met him for the first time. I was inspired by his theme of counting all the people of Scottish descent as part of the greater Scottish community. Knowing how well this would resonate on this side of the pond I extended an invitation to Joe to come to the White Mountains of New Hampshire in the fall of 2016 to serve as the Honorary Chieftain of the New



John Mackintosh of Mackintosh speaks to the CMNA meeting from Singapore via the internet

Hampshire Highland Games and Festival at Loon Mountain. He accepted and did a fantastic job. As expected his inclusive message was a big hit.

We also had heartfelt presentations from our own Association leaders in Denise and Donald who spoke to the gathering about the history of Clan Chattan as well as what it has meant to them personally.

John's presentation can be viewed from the Clan Mackintosh of North America's Facebook page:

**[www.facebook.com/groups/
116939115013189/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/116939115013189/)**

Once there enter "Streaming" in the search block.

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Members who have passed away in the last year

Mr Karl A Cully-Friend of, Bowling Green, Ohio USA a member since 1983

Dr M R Key from Tustin California USA was a life member since 1966

Mrs Jean MacGilveray of East Whitburn, West Lothian, Scotland. One of our earliest members from 1959

Rev. Dr D McKillican from Barrie, Ontario, Canada. Researched his family from Ardesier and also joined the Association in 1959

Mr R McPhail from Bracebridge, Ontario, Canada, sadly died in a car accident. He had been a life member since 1981.

Lucia Uihlein, from Lake Bluff, Illinois, USA also a life member since 1967

The Stone Mountain Highland Games OCTOBER 2016



L-R Tom MacThomas, Andrew MacThomas of Finegand, Randy Holbrook, Lachlan Hyatt and a visitor

My visit in October last year to the Stone Mountain Highland Games (SMHG), after a gap of 26 years, was timely. I was able, once again, in my capacity as Vice-President of Clan Chattan, to visit the tents of the various Clans in the Chattan Confederation, to introduce my son and heir, Tom, younger of Finegand, to a Scottish Games in the USA for the first time and, also, as an Executive Committee Member of the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs (SCSC), to up date and answer questions at a meeting of representatives of those Chattan Clans taking part in the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo in Edinburgh next August. Tom and I, along with His Grace the Duke of Hamilton, were able to see something of Atlanta on the Friday of the Games - the city having doubled in size and population since my last visit in 1989 - before attending a black tie opening reception, where we were welcomed by the Directors and Officers of SMHG, some of whom I remembered from my previous visit. We then moved onto the Sponsors' Party,

before needing a good night's rest and to recover from jet lag.

At 7.30 am on a sunny Saturday morning, Tom and I set out for the Games Field. This is situated in a huge scenic park below a vast bald mountain of stone, which itself is five miles in circumference. On the stone are depicted three leaders of the Confederate States in the US Civil War, Stonewall Jackson, Robert E Lee and Jefferson Davis. We were delighted to find that the Mackintosh tent was next door to the MacThomases, which resulted in much interaction between the two groups.

At midday, Young Finegand and I took part in the Official Opening of the Games on the Reviewing Stand, where we supported His Grace. There we were joined by Viscount Dunrossil from Clan Morrison, Lord David Johnstone, the future Earl of Annandale and Chief of Clan Johnstone and Lord Hugh Montgomerie, the future Earl of Eglington and Chief of Clan Montgomery, along with the Scottish Consul in Atlanta. While some of the 30,000 crowd then watched the piping, the Scottish dancing, the heavy athletic events, many others wandered

through the wooded area and visited the Clan tents. The MacThomas, Mackintosh and MacPherson tents attracted much interest and many visitors.

During the afternoon, wearing my SCSC hat, I was able to address a meeting of around forty Clan leaders, whose Chiefs had shown an interest in appearing in the Royal Military Tattoo in Edinburgh in August. There was huge enthusiasm among the 60 or so Clans taking part in the Tattoo over three weeks next summer for the first time ever. If each Clan Chief attending is able to gather its allocated number of 50 supporters then almost 3,000 clans folk from around the world will parade on the esplanade of Edinburgh Castle. It will be great publicity for the Clans movement in Scotland and provide a unique opportunity to promote international kinship. If the reception I received was any indication, there will be a large American presence at the Military Tattoo this summer in Scotland.

Having to be back at our tent by 10.00 am the next day, Tom and I were able to have a more leisurely breakfast before another busy day ahead. After holding our own North American Branch meeting, we had to prepare ourselves for the Parade of Tartans on the main Games Field by getting into line in the wooded area. Being one of the guests this year, the MacThomases were placed second in the parade after Clan Hamilton. We were all preceded from the wooded area to the Games Field by various piped bands. As Tom and I approached the reviewing stand, we peeled off and took our place on the platform before the Duke of Hamilton took the salute as all the other clans, which included the Mackintoshes and MacPhersons, filed by. It was a splendid sight.

As the afternoon wore on and numbers started to thin, it was time to start packing things away and taking down the stand while reflecting on what we all considered to have been a most successful and fun games. Tom's presence was greatly welcomed and I felt it had been well worth attending. Before departing, I was asked whether I would be Chief of the Grandfather Games in North Carolina in 2018, an invitation I have since accepted.

Andrew P.C. MacThomas of Finegand

Ruthven in My Rear-View Mirror

This American Girl Goes To Scotland, Again!
by Donna "Dee McPherson" Rucks



Ruthven in the rear view mirror

Ruthven is in my rear-view mirror now, and my trip to Scotland will soon become but a memory. Leaving behind the dramatic landscapes, the ancient ruins, the cows and sheep and bunnies and deer, the piper on the hill, the blooming heather, and the peace in the Highlands . . . I take home with me the friendships made, the spirit of the Clan, and I plan my return for next year.

One purpose for this month-long trip was to attend the Platinum Dhubh, take down the Minutes from the Council Meeting and the AGM, and spend some time in the Museum. But the other purpose was to enjoy the quiet of the Highlands, relax, read, write my reports, concentrate on my music, and finish writing my fourth book.

I started my UK journey with my travel buddy, Harriet Heyda, Chicago, with first night in London and the express mission to visit the Imperial War Museum and the Churchill War Rooms and Museum.

We continued our trip by train to Bath for four nights, with a visit to the Royal Crescent, the Roman Baths (still overwhelmed), and immersed ourselves into Jane Austen history. Next day, our driver took us to Malmesbury Abbey and Ladyswood Farm, and at that point, we decided to have our lunch in Wales. Next day, my birthday, we spent the day at Stonehenge.

A quick flight took us from Bristol to Edinburgh, two days before the Royal Mile Walk and the Tea at Catherine and Sandy's, to kick off the Platinum Dhubh. It gave us a chance to enjoy a morning at the National Portrait Gallery before lunch at the Witchery with our friends Jim and Joyce Newport.

Our driver took us north to Badenoch, where the Clan festivities were set to begin. Activities were literally non-stop for the 5 days, and we were welcomed each evening to the quiet of our B&B and a warm peat fire. The creative breakfasts cooked and served by our hosts John and Irene England, gave us a great start to the day.

There are some magic moments to remember and share, including finding the Moor of Feshie, where the bracken and the pines filled my senses, with a view from the earth to the blue sky beyond. One day I took the train to Perth for a visit to the Black Watch Museum to see the Poppies:



Poppies Cascade at The Black Watch Museum, Perth

Weeping Window and was treated to a personal tour by Bill Macpherson. A memorable moment was my visit to Newton Castle, when Cluny leaned in to me and said, "go and play my piano."

I stayed long enough in the Highlands to see the heather turn brilliant purple and bloom. I enjoyed a very special Tea with Lady Jean Macpherson, with an invite to play her grand piano at Biallid. Attending Sunday morning worship service at Laggan Church was very nice indeed.

As the days progress and the trip draws to a close, I will say farewell to the Highlands. I am comforted that Ruthven will not long be in my rear-view mirror and I will soon be planning my return. When you come to Scotland next year for the Gathering, perhaps you can customize your trip and see some more of the sights! I look forward to seeing you next year!

Time to go Shopping

Here are some items available from
The Clan Chattan Association website shop



The Tartans of the Clan Chattan

By James D. Scarlett

James Scarlett (also known as Jamie) was a long standing member of the Clan Chattan Association along with his wife Meta. To celebrate the Associations' 70th Anniversary in 2003 Jamie created this book. Still relevant today it is the 'go to' book for those researching Clan Chattan Tartans or for general information, including photos and threadcounts.



The Touch Not T-Shirt

Available in small, medium, large and extra large. 100% Cotton

Show off that CAT!



The Clan Chattan Association Silk Scarf

Pure silk scarf.

A must have for Clan Chattan folk.

Christ Church Parish Magazine, September 2016

We had a very special visitor.....

The church congregation was delighted with a visit from Nigel Mac-Fall of London at the end of July. Nigel is the fifth generation grandson of Duell Pead, the third minister of Christ Church spanning 1683 to 1690. A copy of Pead's portrait was given to the church and may be seen in the Parish Hall.

We were overwhelmed by Nigel's generosity. He made a presentation in the 10:30AM service of a generous gift of a beautiful engraved silver plate. He also gave our church a gift of 4 Maundy coins (watch for more information on the coins in a future newsletter). It was a delight to have him visit with us at the coffee hour after the service.

More information regarding his visit and his journey to discover our connection with his ancestry may be found at www.SSentinel.com if you have an online subscription. The Southside Sentinel did an excellent article by Larry Chowning in their Aug 4 issue. A few copies are available to purchase at the Sentinel office and we have saved a copy for our Parish Hall Library.



Nigel Mac-Fall (above) recently learned that his ancestor, Duell Pead, served as rector of Christ Church Parish in Middlesex from 1683-1690. Mac-Fall began corresponding with church verger Grace Parker and recently donated a copy of a childhood portrait of Pead to the church. Mac-Fall came from England to visit Christ Church Parish on Sunday, July 31. (Photo by Larry Chowning)
by Larry Chowning

Front page feature in the Southside Sentinel, August 2016

Englishman's research turns into historical gem for Christ Church

Christ Church Parish Episcopal Church is celebrating its 350th anniversary this year and, although not formally part of the event, an ancestor of one of the church's early rectors came to worship on Sunday, July 31, and commemorated the church's long history.

A while back, Nigel Mac-Fall of Middlesex, England, which is today part of London, was researching his genealogy and discovered one of his ancestors, Duell Pead, was a rector in Middlesex County, Virginia.

"It will amuse you to know when I started researching the history of my ancestor, 'Middlesex' kept coming up," he said Sunday during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. "I knew Duell Pead had been a minister in a church in London, and London is in Middlesex, but I couldn't understand the many references to baptizing Negroes and being paid in tobacco. Then the penny dropped, this isn't the County of Middlesex in England, but Middlesex County in Virginia.

"After that things got really exciting," he said. "When I found out it was Middlesex, Virginia, I looked to see if the church was still in existence and I could hardly believe it. When I Googled it—it came up!" After this discovery, Mac-Fall contacted Christ Church verger Grace Parker and they began communicating, which eventually led to Mac-Fall's visit on Sunday.

Mac-Fall's research led to a discovery of a 17th-century portrait (circa 1661) of Duell Pead as a youngster. He obtained a copy and gave it to the Christ Church Parish. The church had it framed and it now hangs on the wall in the parish hall building.

Mac-Fall also presented a silver plate to the church with Pead's name and his years of service inscribed. "It is such a privilege to come and worship with you today," he said. "And, in the same building that my ancestor was minister. I have a feeling times here then were a little rougher than what they are today."

Interim church rector Rev. Stuart Clary Wood accepted the silver plate and, after thanking Mac-Fall, said Rev. Pead introduced the tradition of holding Communion once a month in the church. Prior to Rev. Pead, Anglicans held Communion three times a year, he noted.

Rev. Duell Pead also preached a sermon in Jamestown in 1686 on a ceremonial occasion. Governor Effingham was so impressed with his sermon that he dispatched a copy to London in the hope, which proved unsuccessful, that it might be published.

When Rev. Pead left Middlesex in 1690, he returned to England and became minister at St. James Church in Clerkenwell, England, today part of London.

"Nigel, who found us and made a tremendous effort to connect with us has given us information we did not have, but are ever enriched to know," said Parker. "At the moment of our 350th anniversary, he has brought our history to life in a way we did not expect."

Council of the Clan Chattan Association

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