



Association of Highland Clans & Societies

Newsletter: March 2018



Highland Gathering 2019 Tricentenary of the Battle of Glenshiel

The AHCS and The 1745 Association are working together to organise a gathering in June 2019 to mark the anniversary of the 1719 Jacobite Rising, and its main event, the Battle of Glenshiel.

The battle, at which Rob Roy MacGregor fought alongside MacKenzies, Glengarry MacDonells, Camerons, MacMillans, Murrays and others, took place on the 10th of June 1719.

Our gathering will take place over the weekend of 7th-9th June, largely in Inverness, but with a visit to the battle site (the monument for which is pictured below left) and to nearby Eilean Donan Castle (pictured below right) where Clan Macrae are planning an International Gathering to coincide with this event.

It is planned that the programme will include a meet-and-greet evening, talks about the rising and the battle, battle re-enactment events, inter-clan games, a dinner with musical entertainment, and the visit to Glenshiel and Eilean Donan (when it is hoped the Macraes will be able to organise special tours of the castle).

Full details will be circulated to members and other interested clans when they have been finalised in the next few weeks.

The Munros fought on the Government side at Glenshiel, and Jean Munro has produced an excellent short account of their role in it ("Special Forces in the Little Rising") which is available on their website: www.clanmunro.org.uk.



The Chairman's Column/Editorial



It has been another good year for the AHCS. Our first event was the Annual Commemoration of the Battle of Culloden [pictured above]. Representatives of many clans were present to lay commemorative wreaths, and—as Fiona Grant relates in her article on page 4 about her stint as Acting Secretary—Sir Archibald Grant of Monymusk laid the AHCS wreath on behalf of those member clans not individually represented.

There was a great turnout once again for the Inverness Highland Games (see pictures on pages 10 & 11), after which we had our AGM—the minutes of which can be found on our website.

The third of our annual AHCS events in 2017 was the autumn outing, which on this occasion went to the Clan Grant Centre in Duthil, and Fiona has also written about it in a separate article (on page 16).

The Inverness Highland Games this year will be on the 21st of July, and the arrangements for the Clans Tent will be much the same as last year. Once again we'll be joined by *The Inverness Outlanders*. They brought extra colour and much publicity to the Clan Tent last year, where they were positioned between the MacKenzies and the Frasers, the two clans featured in Diana Gabaldon's fictional series.

While the *Outlander* books and TV series have been of great benefit to tourism in the Highlands, they continue to pose problems for those of us trying to educate our cousins overseas about the real history of our clans.



The Mackenzie stone [pictured left], which appears in the TV series as being on the field of battle at Culloden, does not in reality exist—since the MacKenzies as a clan were not at the battle.

Historical fiction has a proud history of its own, and many of us were stimulated to read more real history by the works of novelists such as Scott, Stevenson, Broster and Tranter; but just as “fake news” has started to pollute the political discourse—especially in the United States—so the dividing line between real and fake history is becoming increasingly blurred for many who get their history mainly, or exclusively, from screens.

Another alarming example of this is the amount of fake genealogy to be found online on the website that has been using its financial muscle to buy-up many of its rivals and create a huge dominance in the field. According to Wikipedia (itself an online source) *Ancestry.com* claims “... to provide access to approximately 16 billion historical records, and have over 2 million paying subscribers and ... more than seven million *AncestryDNA* customers. The company also claims that its user-generated content tallies to more than 70 million family trees ...”.

The problem is with all that material added by subscribers, since much of it is demonstrably false. It's common amongst it to find children born in Scotland to people who are said to have emigrated years before, and it is not uncommon to find children given dates of birth before those of their parents. *Ancestry's* recent purchase of “Find-A-Grave” adds further scope for confusion, since it claims to locate many graves that simply do not exist as such. While much of this is more the result of wishful thinking than of a desire to mislead, it's sad that a service including a huge number of genuine records, has so much rubbish intermixed with them—and that so many people use only it to research their family history. When I lecture on genealogy abroad, I always ask what sources people use. Virtually all use *Ancestry.com*, and rarely more than 25% have even heard of *ScotlandsPeople*, which provides only real records.



One of the highlights of the year for all the clans that took part was the “Splash of Tartan” at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. We owe a debt of gratitude to Jamie Macnab of Macnab [pictured above with the sword in one of the “Splash” publicity photos] who co-ordinated the clans’ participation in it on behalf of the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs [SCSC]. He worked closely with Brigadier David Allfrey, the Tattoo’s Chief Executive and Producer, to slot the clans into a massively complicated programme, and give all of us who took part one of the thrills of our lives.

Credit must also be given to the rest of the personnel who helped make it possible, and as ever with military events the non-commissioned officers played a key role in putting into effect the plans made by the top-brass. In this case we will all remember the Sergeant-Major who tried to get us into some sort of order before marching onto the Esplanade—kidding us that there wouldn’t be many people there that early to see us. There were of course thousands.



The Regimental Sergeant-Major gives the MacLeods and MacKenzies their marching orders

The end of 2017 marks the retirement of Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor as Convenor of the SCSC. He has done an outstanding job at the head of a body that advertises itself as ... *the definitive and authoritative body for information on the Scottish Clan System*. Whatever we may think of that claim, Sir Malcolm has done his best to make it a reality—by being prepared to tackle anything, and talk to anybody; and always with patience and good grace. He is succeeded as Convenor of the SCSC by Donald MacLaren of MacLaren.

Anybody who is interested in the intricacies of clan law, and at the same time would like to appreciate the amount of thought that Sir Malcolm put into the job of SCSC Convenor, should read his paper on “The Equality (Titles) Bill” which can be found towards the bottom of: <https://www.clanchiefs.org.uk/category/post/>. Another useful post on the SCSC website is here: <https://www.clanchiefs.org.uk/the-search-for-clan-chiefs/#more-59>. It deals with a subject that we covered in part in the last edition of the newsletter, in relation to the appointment of Iain MacGillivray as Commander of his clan, and which we have returned to in this edition with a feature on the MacAulays’ search for a chief.

The decision to devote so much space to the MacAulays was inspired by the receipt of Joan McAulay’s piece on their International Gathering in Northern Ireland; but also by the coincidence of their being the MacMillans’ partner clan in “A Splash of Tartan” and my running into Hector MacAulay again whilst leading a tour of MacMillans and Millicans to Northern Ireland a few days after our participation in the Tattoo.

Similarly the decision to include all the material that Nick Hide sent in on the Davidsons, and their connection with the Kirkmichael Project, was in part a recognition of his having taken the time to write and submit the articles.

I’ve always been happy to highlight one or two clans in particular in each edition of the newsletter—if I receive the right sort of material—but I also try to include something about as many of our member clans as possible. In some cases, it is news their representatives have submitted (which is most gratefully received), and in others it is material I have managed to find on their websites or Facebook pages. Unfortunately there is nothing I can do when websites have disappeared or have moved to a new URL without us having been told (which means there is a redundant link on the Member Clans page of our website). Please try and help us to help you by keeping us informed.

Helping each other is what the AHCS is all about. Sharing our experiences as clan societies or representatives so as to learn from each other, and pooling our resources to run joint events—such as the gathering we’re planning for 2019. When the AHCS came into being we agreed it should initially be for five years, and we would then decide whether it was worth continuing. This is our fifth year, so that decision is pending. Tell us what you think in time for the AGM in July just after the Inverness Highland Games.

Standing In for Anne?

Fiona Grant



*Fiona with Clan Grant's
new Parade Marshall,
Tim Atkinson*

After the Inverness Games in 2016 I attended the Annual General Meeting of the Association at Eden Court. I was feeling pretty confident at the time as I had managed to get a grant from the Scottish Clan Events Fund to have a visitor's website built and things seemed to be going well. At the end of the meeting, Anne Maclean of Dochgarroch, our wonderful Secretary, told us that she had the double duty of arranging the Clan Maclean Super Gathering in 2017 (let me not be envious of how many members she gets to come!) and could anyone help out and act as secretary in her place until after the Gathering. I have a habit of rashly volunteering to do things and then wondering how on earth I got there and sure enough I volunteered on the spot to Anne's great relief.

All went well for a long while – not much to do and although Anne and I had agreed on a personal handover – it did not work out and we did it by email and on the phone. This is when I began to realise what a brilliant job Anne actually does – her written instructions were absolutely foolproof for which I can tell you I was only too grateful. Not only that, but in our own Estate Office at Monymusk, Kim Todd who helps me with the Clan Grant magazine and general communications with members, was quickly up to speed about using Anne's thoughtful spread sheet and a couple of jolly phone chats with Anne seemed to have everything sorted.

Highly supported, I was on course to make arrangements for Culloden and accordingly booked the wreath from Simpsons of Inverness and prompted dear husband Archie to wear proper highland dress for the occasion. We set off for my brother's place in Strathnairn when I began to feel very unwell in the cold and sore throat way. Next morning, I felt much worse and hesitantly rang Graeme to say I was not going to make it but was going to send Archie in my place. He was most understanding and off Archie went to collect the wreath and do his duty. He was back a couple of hours later, none too pleased, having chivvied up the Simpsons people to make the wreath in a hurry – got to Culloden and found the place deserted. I had got the date WRONG! I was eventually forgiven – he put the wreath in a cold place over night and trotted off to Culloden the next day. So far so bad!

The Inverness Games and AGM were next in July – I thought that at least I could get that right but I had reckoned without my ability to double book arrangements. Both Archie and Brother Patrick were not amused to hear that the Games fell on the same day as the middle of a planned visit to friends at a very remote sea loch in the West and it was made clear what the priority was! So ... once again it was a matter of trying to make sure that all was in place in spite of me not being there. Eden Court staff were great; the car park tickets from the council were done most efficiently, Kim and I checked everything and Anne, heroine that she is, did the minutes of the AGM.

Did I actually act as Acting Secretary at all? It is a matter of debate. All I know is that we have a Secretary who is worth her weight in solid gold – be thankful it is not me! But if she does need some help again I would do it as the system she has in place works like a dream!



AHCS Members at the AGM

News from the Association and Member Clans

Macfies Gather in Stirling as Commander continues recovery from surgery

Clan Macfie held their 20th International Gathering and 12th Clan Parliament in Stirling during September 2017. It was attended by some sixty three members from around the world, twenty six of whom went on to visit the Isle of Colonsay, which was the seat of the clan in medieval times. The Macfies of Colonsay were the Hereditary Record Keepers for the Lords of the Isles, and after the fall of the Lordship a branch of the clan was established in Lochaber where they held lands in Glendessary from Cameron of Lochiel.

The Commander of the Clan, Iain Macfie, has now been moved from Glasgow to a rehabilitation unit in Kingussie, near his son Ronnie and his family, and continues to make progress.



Iain with Donald McPhee and his son Christopher who came from Germany to visit him in February 2017.



MacLennans to hold International Gathering in July

An International Gathering of Clan MacLennan will be held this year on the 4th - 8th July in Inverness. It will be a forty year celebration of the formation of the modern day Clan MacLennan. The programme includes a Genealogy Day, a visit to the Highland Archive Centre, a Clan Parliament, a ceilidh in Dores, and a formal dinner. For full details of the programme, and how to register to attend the gathering, see www.clanmaclennan-worldwide.com.

In California in the meantime, the MacLennans were the Honored Clan at the Pleasanton Highland Games in September 2017 [see picture left]. The temperature reached 110 degrees Fahrenheit in the shade in the course of the games.

Clan Chattan at the Braemar Highland Games

An invitation to members of the AHCS to attend this year's Braemar Highland Games was followed up by Clans Chattan and MacKenzie. Donald McIntosh is pictured right with Capt. Alwyne Farquharson of Invercauld, the chief of the branch of Clan Chattan whose ancestral lands are in the Braemar area.

Clan Chattan also instituted a new event in 2017 in Edinburgh, when they held a very successful Social Evening in October at the New Club, which has wonderful views of the castle and the gardens on the other side of Princes Street.



The MacKenzies in Dunfermline

The MacKenzies at one time also had a branch of their clan in the Braemar area - the MacKenzies of Dalmore - from whom came many MacKenzies later in Glenshee and elsewhere in north east Perthshire. This branch of the clan will be celebrated at this year's Clan Mackenzie Society AGM weekend in September, which will be held in Perth.

The MacKenzies held their 2017 AGM in Dumfermline, in the weekend before their participation in the "Splash of Tartan" at Edinburgh Castle. MacKenzies and guests are pictured left with the Provost of Dunfermline at the Civic Reception he hosted.

Sutherlands announce International Gathering for 2018

The Clan Sutherland Society will host an International Gathering centred on Dunrobin Castle on 19 - 22 July.

Clan Davidson Association: Another Busy Year

Nick Hide

In the UK, the 2017 *Clan Davidson Association Gathering/AGM weekend* was held at Beaumont Hotel, Hexham, during the last weekend of September. This was first time the clan has met in Northumberland, an area with many Davidson families and historic references. Sixty five members and guests took part in this very successful event. The weather was mixed but the hotel management and staff looked after us very well. Our distinguished piper Dr Lindsay Davidson flew in from his home in Poland to take part. This year our Chairman's Charity raised funds for the Hexham based *Tynedale Hospice at Home* charity.



Charity Presentation at the Hexham AGM/Gathering

Throughout the year we have met up with several overseas Davidson visitors from Portugal, France, Canada, USA, Bermuda and Australia, representing the wide range of the many different Davidson families who have migrated from Scotland, England, and Ireland over the past centuries.



*Jim & Meryl Davidson
from Adelaide, Australia*



*Pierre de Baecker
and his daughters from France*



*Tom and Susan Babcock
from the United States of America*

We also took part in the Inverness Clans Tent event which forms part of the annual Inverness Highland Gathering [unfortunately another very wet July day], and the Clan Chattan AGM/Dinner and the Moy Field Sports events at the beginning of August.

In the USA this year, the Clan Davidson Society of North America held their long planned International Gathering in June in Kentucky. *The Chief of Clan Davidson, Grant Guthrie Davidson, and his wife Brenda* from New Zealand were guests of honour at a series of both formal and informal events held in conjunction with the local Highland Games.



*Grant Davidson being presented with a specially
engraved set of beer glasses by Dave Chagnon,*

Dave Chagnon, Sennachie of the Clan Davidson Society of North America has shared reports and many photos taken during this event. One of the photos published in the latest edition of *The Sporrán* showed the Chief, Grant Davidson, taking part in the "Bonnie Knees Competition"... and winning 3rd Prize. Clearly the weekend was a great success with everyone having a lot of fun. Dave Chagnon and his team should be congratulated for their tireless planning work over many months leading up to this event.



*Grant Davidson taking part in
the "Bonnie Knees Competition".*

It is with great sadness we report the death of *James Duncan Gordon Davidson OBE, MVO*, one of the founders and a former president of the Clan Davidson Association, and also a member of the Clan Chattan Association for many years. He died in July at his home in Newtonmore in the Central Highlands. The national newspapers in Scotland and England included lengthy obituaries.

James Davidson [pictured right] was born in 1927, and came from a distinguished family that originated from near Tarland in West Aberdeenshire. He enjoyed a series of distinguished and separate careers; a junior Royal Navy Officer who was present at the surrender of the Japanese in Tokyo Bay in 1945; a military attaché and diplomat in Moscow at the time of Stalin's death in 1953; a hill farmer at Tillychettle, a run-down farm which he inherited in Western Aberdeenshire; a prominent Liberal MP; a TV presenter for a long running Scottish TV programme about farming; the Chief Executive of the Royal Highland Agricultural Society; an energetic environmentalist, and a busy author. This was a man of many talents. His passing is a great loss to his family and to his many friends.



Flora Davidson, one of the founder members of the CDA and the editor of "The Pheon", the Clan Davidson's annual journal for over 15 years, published a new book, *The Post Reformation Gravestones of Angus: Scottish Social History in Stone 1560-1715* with her daughter Elspet Reid. This is a very well designed and illustrated publication based on Flora's much acclaimed original research work completed in the 1970s and 1980s with her late husband. In recent years, Flora has revisited all the historic Angus graveyards with her daughter and brought this research project up to date.

In mid-August, CDA member, **Hugh Davidson** donated to the Caithness Archives a major collection of his family's historic papers, photographs and portraits which he has been collating and researching in recent years. Hugh Davidson's family have been prominent in Caithness for several hundred years. With help from the Caithness Archivist, Gordon Reid, everything was carefully taken from Hugh Davidson's home near Wick and delivered to the recently opened Nucleus Archive building located alongside Wick Airport. Later Hugh and his wife Brenda [pictured below left each side of Gordon Reid] were given a private tour of this new state-of-the-art archive building and saw where these important Davidson papers will be stored.



Nucleus: The Nuclear & Caithness Archives *Niùclas: An Tasglann Niùclasach agus Gallach*

Nucleus [pictured right] is home to the archives of the UK civil nuclear industry and the historical archives of the county of Caithness. The records of the nuclear industry date back over seventy years and include plans, drawings, photographs, film, microfiche and documents from all over the UK. The archives of the county of Caithness date from 1589 to the present day and consist of documents in different formats including charters, minute books, correspondence, maps, photographs and plans.



In the autumn, I caught up with **Charles Davidson** from Edinburgh [pictured below left] another of our long-time CDA members. I can report that Charles has now moved into the Erskine Care Home in Edinburgh. When I visited him in late October he was in good form, and well settled into this superb establishment which specialises in providing care for ex-service men and women. His wife Nancy was also there making her regular visit, so I was able to bring them both up to date with the news from Hexham as we sat outside in the warm autumn sunshine.



Sadly, their son **Calum Davidson** [pictured right], who was suddenly diagnosed with brain cancer a year ago, died just a few days before our Hexham Gathering. We were not able to attend the funeral at Cromarty which took place on the same day that we were getting together at Hexham. Calum has left behind an important legacy as one of the driving forces behind the new tidal power technologies now being implemented offshore Northern Scotland. Lengthy tributes were published in the Scottish newspapers. Calum's death has been a terrible loss to the family.



The Clan Davidson Association has had another good year for contributions to our Archives. Members and other parties have continued to share important family documents, portraits, and artefacts. One such example came in from the United States of America where the descendants of **Dr Anstruther Davidson 1860-1832** have sent us a photograph of what appears to be his homemade heraldic banner [see below].

Dr Anstruther Davidson was a native of Caithness and a graduate of the University of Glasgow. He settled in California in 1897, where he practised medicine. He was a member of the Clan Dhail, the forerunner of the current Clan Davidson Association. He later gained fame as a serious botanist with several newly discovered plant species named after him



To find out more about the Clan Davidson Association, please see their website: www.clandavidson.org.uk

The Kirkmichael Project and its Davidson Connections



Kirkmichael: Prior to Building Work

Kirkmichael lies on the shore of the gloriously scenic Udale Bay, on the north east coast of the Black Isle, beside the B9163 road. For many years, the old kirk building has been a ruin and unsafe. In 2016, the Kirkmichael Trust under the leadership of Jim Mackay, started the restoration project after several years of fund-raising. The aim being to restore the historic building and its monuments for use by the local community as a visitor centre to explain the history of the kirk and people associated with it.

The old building and its gravestones tell a tremendous story. Initially there was a medieval church, serving the original parish of Kirkmichael. Following the Reformation, the nave was adapted for use as a protestant kirk, whilst the chancel became the Braelangwell Mausoleum. The parishes of Kirkmichael and Cullicudden, mostly in the possession of the Urquhart family, were amalgamated by Act of Parliament in 1662, with a requirement to build a new church at the farmstead of Resolis. However, the estate owners kept the two old kirks of Kirkmichael and Cullicudden going until they were too ruinous to repair. Kirkmichael continued in use as a kirk until 1769. The chancel was already the mausoleum of the Urquharts of Braelangwell (and in more modern times, the Shaw-Mackenzies of Newhall). In about 1800 George Gunn-Munro of Poyntzfield, rebuilt part of the nave as a mausoleum for his family.

There are several Davidson connections with this site and the nearby estates. There is at least one Davidson grave in the graveyard. This item is a very large ornate flat stone buried just beneath the turf which includes details of Isobel Davidson and David McCulloch of Achnagarrie. The date part of the inscription is unreadable, but their 1715 marriage is listed in the Cromarty Parish Records.

George Gunn-Munro [of the nearby Poyntzfield estate mentioned above] married Justina Dunbar in 1787 in Dingwall. Justina was the grand-daughter of William Davidson and Jean Bayne of Cromarty. She was named Justina, after Justina Mackenzie, the wife of Henry Davidson, who purchased Tulloch Castle in 1760.

The Barkly family also built an enclosure at Kirkmichael. This includes the family monuments for several generations. One branch of this Barkly family was in a long term business partnership with the Davidson of Tulloch family in London from the early 1800s until the early 1840s. Davidson Barkly & Co at its height was a major London Merchant house with interests in the West Indies.

The Braelangwell estate located nearby was owned by the Davidson of Tulloch family for a period in the 19th century.



Kirkmichael: Building Work complete 2017

The Urquharts and Castle Craig

*Another historic monument on the Black Isle, a little to the west of Kirkmichael, is Castle Craig. Its story is told on the website of the **Black Isle Castle Craig Foundation**: www.castlecraig.net*

Castle Craig History

Castle Craig, the historic ruins of a towerhouse and its enclosure on the Cromarty Firth, is the oldest remaining castle on the north shore of the Black Isle. Its position on a cliff-top spur overlooking the Firth provides commanding views of the mountains of Ross-shire and surrounding farm lands. Originally known as Craighouse, it marked the western boundary of the Sheriffdom of Cromarty when the Urquharts of Cromarty held the Sheriffdom during the late Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries.

Castle Craig came into Urquhart possession in 1561 when the Bishop of Ross granted ownership of the lands of Craig, with its towerhouse, to Thomas Urquhart, second son of Alexander Urquhart of Cromarty (1507 – 1564), 8th Chief of Clan Urquhart. After Thomas Urquhart of Craighouse died in 1571, ownership passed to his younger brothers, the last of whom was John Urquhart, Tutor of Cromarty.

The Tutor's ownership of the Castle was confirmed in a royal charter of 1595, shortly after he became guardian to his great-nephew, Sir Thomas Urquhart of Cromarty (1586 - 1642), 11th Chief of Clan Urquhart. The 11th Urquhart Chief was father of the renowned Sir Thomas Urquhart of Cromarty (1611 – 1660), 12th Chief of Clan Urquhart -- ardent Royalist, author and translator of Rabelais.

Following the Tutor of Cromarty's death in 1631, Castle Craig passed to a succession of Urquhart lairds in the 17th and early 18th Centuries. It eventually came into possession of the Shaw-Mackenzie owners of Newhall, the adjoining Black Isle estate originally established by the Urquharts.

In 1960, Major C. J. Shaw-Mackenzie of Newhall, who by this time had been recognized as Shaw of Tordarroch, Chief of Clan Shaw, gifted Castle Craig to Wilkins Fisk Urquhart, 26th Chief of Clan Urquhart.

Recently, the Black Isle Charitable Corporation for Castle Craig's Preservation and Restoration was formed to promote interest in the Castle and raise funds for its preservation and Restoration, thereby preserving this important Black Isle historic landmark for future generations.

CLAN SHAW

John Shaw of Tordarroch, the son of the above-mentioned C. J. Shaw-Mackenzie of Newhall, died aged 80, at his home in Majorca on the 22nd of October 2017.

He is succeeded as the 23rd Chief of Clan Shaw, by his son Iain Shaw of Tordarroch.



Clan Urquhart Association - Clan Projects:

Foundation Vice-President Thomas Urquhart III was appointed by the Foundation Board as the point of contact for the castle's preservation work. Thomas was able to identify a reputable and experienced firm to determine the most pressing needs of the castle, Addison Conservation and Design.

John Addison began by evaluating the property for the Foundation and developed a plan to prop and stabilize the castle's tower based on his written report and sketches. Mick Canham, an Ecological Consultant, was retained to provide a report outlining the ecological impact of the propping activity at Castle Craig. His report determined that John Addison's proposal would not affect bat or other species' habitats. Based on the two reports, Historic Scotland, which must approve all work being done on the structure, has issued a formal Scheduled Monument Consent, which allows the Clan to proceed with stabilizing Castle Craig.

The Clan Urquhart Foundation is now in the process of selecting a contractor to perform the actual work. A generous donation of \$20,000 from Ann Duncan of New Zealand and a partially matching donation of \$10,000 from a generous anonymous donor who is a member of both the Association and Foundation, will enable this work to be completed.

Eventually, the castle will be preserved as a permanent structure of great significance to all Urquharts world-wide. As the Foundation moves through the phases from analysis to stabilization to the actual preservation of the structure, we are seeking the support of fellow Clan members.

www.clanurquhart.com

Inverness Highland Games 2017



The Association Table in the centre of the Clans Tent



Clan MacDougall



Clan MacMillan



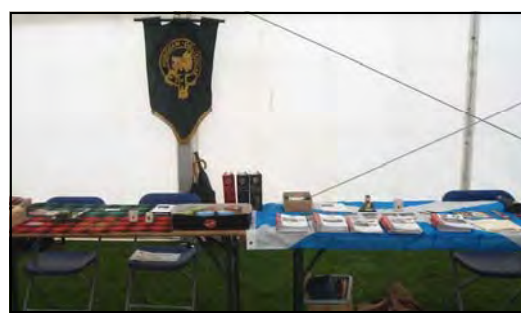
Clan Chisholm



Clan Urquhart



Highland Family History Society



Clan Iver



Clan Donald



Highland Military Tattoo



Clan MacKenzie



The Inverness Outlanders



Clan Fraser of Lovat



Clan Macrae



The Highland Archives



The Stewart Society



Clan Chattan



Clan MacLennan



The 1745 Association



The Provost of Inverness touring the tables

Clan MacAulay's Search for a Chief

The story according to their website: www.clanmacaulay.org.uk

A Landmark for Clan MacAulay

Some 250 ago their profligate Chief died leaving the Clan Dormant. Without an heir, landless and penniless, the Clan scattered around the world taking their Name and History with them. In the intervening years no direct descendant has come forward, and no Clan member had sought the responsibility of revitalizing the Clan restoring it to good heart and good fortune. That is until 25th April 1998 when Iain MacMillan MacAulay M.B.E. commissioned Commander of the Honourable Clan called it to its first meeting in Perth. Twenty MacAulays stepped out of the past and with loyalty and hard work Clan MacAulay started the long journey back to rehabilitation.

The first Task was to search for a bloodline to the deceased Chief and to find the Undifferenced Arms, a formidable task after such a long silence. By writing, broadcasting and advertising, and by World travel and through the World Wide Web the search was on. The Lord Lyon ruled that one Clan member who had long sought his bloodline back to the ancient Chief should be given a year and a day to prove his claim with a deadline of January 2001. The Clan honoured the agreement but the deadline came and went and after extensive genealogical research the claim was not substantiated. The way was now clear to hold an "Ad Hoc Derbhfine". In this truly ancient patriarchal Celtic court tradition and democracy are united. The Elders of the Clan, Armigers and Landowners, are allowed to select one from their ranks to be presented to Lyon as their choice for Chiefship.

The Legal and Historical nuances of the Derbhfine could not overshadow a joyful occasion when Clan MacAulay retrieved the unity so long lost. The Ceremony was supervised by Charles Burnett, Ross Herald of Arms, representing the Lyon Court and ensuring the Laws of the Court are observed. This took place on 3rd August 2001 at Tulloch Castle, Dingwall, Scotland, when the Clan gathered from around the world to select and acclaim a Chief and had a wonderful time doing it!

From the Ross Herald's Script:

"Derbhfine" is a Gaelic word which translates as 'close family', that is family consisting of four generations. In the past if a succession dispute arose in Highland society, the close family would meet and collectively decide on the most appropriate person to succeed. Over the centuries the composition of a derbhfine has altered and today consists of a minimum of nine people who must be members of an organised clan and are either armigerous, that is entitled to bear a coat of arms, or a Scottish owner of Land outwith a Scottish burgh. The participants form what can be described as a clan parliament.

If a clan without a chief wishes a specific individual to be nominated as the chiefly candidate, then an "Ad Hoc Derbhfine" is appointed through the agency of one of Her Majesty's Officers of Arms in Scotland, a vote is taken and the name is submitted to the Lord Lyon King of Arms, the chief judge of Heraldic succession in Scotland. After due deliberation, and one of the criteria is that the chiefly candidate must have lived in Scotland for at least three years, the Lord Lyon would grant the Chiefly arms to the candidate. Possession of these automatically makes the individual Chief of the Clan. However, under Scots law, the new Chief can be challenged, within a period lasting twenty years by any claimant who feels and can prove a superior claim to the Chiefship.

And so this afternoon you have before you the Ad Hoc Derbhfine which will nominate a chiefly candidate for the Honorable Clan MacAulay. Allow me to introduce them:

1. Miss Ann MacAulay, Landowner on Lewis
2. Mr. Francis MacAulay, Landowner in Moray
3. Mr Kenneth MacAulay, Landowner in Ross Shire
4. Mr Calum MacAulay, Landowner on Lewis
5. Mr Brian John Ballantyne MacAulay, Landowner in Stirlingshire
6. Mr Diarmid Ian MacAulay, Landowner in Sutherland
7. Miss Katherine Johnston MacAulay, Armiger
8. Robert William Home McCall, Armiger
9. Peter John Dundas McCall of Birkenshaw, Armiger
10. Alasdair Roy MacAulay, Armiger
11. Ian McMillan MacAulay, Armiger, Clan Commander.

After hearing submissions by Ian Davidson MacAulay who said it would be wrong to recommend a chief without any genealogical connection to the old chiefs (MacAulays of Ardincaple), and Alasdair Roy MacAulay who said that waiting for somebody with such a connection to come forward might mean they would never have a chief again, the Debhfine voted unanimously to make their Commander, Iain MacMillan MacAulay MBE, the Chiefly Candidate. The matter then went to the Lord Lyon for his judgement, which can be found in full here: <http://dev.clanmacaulay.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/The-Lord-Lyons-Reply.pdf>. He concluded thus:

"I have considered the Petition on the basis that the Petitioner might be recognised as Chief of the Name of MacAulay of Ardincaple. A decision to recognise Iain McMillan MacAulay as chief would, for the Ardincaple MacAulays, mean that the search for a blood link was considered by Lyon no longer necessary and would discourage any Ardincaple MacAulays so inclined from the challenge of further research

Admittedly there would be a 20 year period during which a challenge to the chief's appointment could be made. Thereafter Lyon's decision in this case would be protected both by the 20 year negative prescription in terms of the Prescription and Limitation (Scotland) Act 1973 and by the 20 year positive prescription provided by Scotland's heraldic law as described by Sir George Mackenzie (Works Vol. II pages 5823) and referred to in Angus Charles Macalister of Loup, Petitioner (Lyon Court records 1991, Vol. 77/16).

In any such challenge during the period of 20 years the onus would have shifted from a search leading towards the objective of finding a chief, to a challenge to an incumbent, implying an adversarial element which would not otherwise be present. It would also have to be accepted that the chief would in the meantime be busy creating a presence and performing a function.

Any challenge could be seen partly as a criticism of these activities. Mounting a challenge within the 20 year period would be a rather different proposition from researching a possible claim in the first instance. If no appointment is made the reasons would need to be clear so that the clan would know whether an application would be considered at some later date and on what basis it might have some prospect of success.

Another factor to be considered is morale within the clan. The traditional role of the derbhfine was to rally the clan by trying to reach a consensus as to the way forward. If possible decisions should be unanimous at a derbhfine meeting as indeed they were in this case.

Traditionally members of the derbhfine would see themselves as the senior members of the clan with a duty to know the feelings of the rank and file and to reach a decision which they would be satisfied would have the enthusiastic support of the clan generally.

Lyon has to consider whether implementing the nomination of a derbhfine will cement the clan together or split it apart. One of the reasons for a lengthy delay before considering the question of a chief is that the elapse of time may help to bring the clan together or to flush out disagreements. A decision taken too soon might not allow this to become clear.

I have also to consider the longer term future. It is clear that the Petitioner is the driving force which has led to this Petition. He is an energetic and charming person and there is no doubting the sincerity of his desire to make the MacAulays a strong clan. But he is aged over 80. If he were appointed his elder son would, unless some other nomination were made, eventually succeed him as chief. The son is a crofter in Sutherland and the Petitioner has told me that he would carry on the good work. But I cannot be certain that he would do so with the same energy and enthusiasm.

If he failed to do so the clan might feel let down that the decision to appoint his father had been taken too quickly. If Iain McMillan MacAulay died before any chief had been determined it is not certain that his son would necessarily emerge as the person proposed as chief.

Conclusion: This Petition has highlighted the need to clarify how applications of this kind, and there are bound to be others, should be approached.

I have therefore decided to issue guidelines which will operate in future. In particular these are intended to highlight two issues.

The first is that I have decided that a 10 year period must elapse between the appointment of a Commander with no proven genealogical link to a past chief and a proposal that a person should be considered for chief. I am laying down this as a minimum period in order to allow sufficient time for a clan Commander to become well known, for efforts to rally a clan either to bear fruit or to fail to do so and for any opposition to the Commander's possible appointment as chief to emerge.

The second point is that the guidelines will provide a mechanism to ensure that the views of the members of a clan generally are made known not only to the derbhfine but also to Lyon in considering the derbhfine's proposal. Now that there are more and more clan associations and clan members in many parts of the world, I believe that the traditional mechanisms which have held good hitherto are no longer adequate to reflect the interest and enthusiasm of a worldwide diaspora. It is my hope that these new arrangements will provide a means of helping to harness this interest and enthusiasm for the benefit of Scotland's unique clan heritage.

Since I have decided that a 10 year period must elapse after the appointment of a Commander before a proposal for chief is considered, I will refuse this Petition.

Lord Lyon King of Arms, 19 February 2002."

Clan Adopts Democratic Rule To Take A New Chief

From: The Aberdeen Press and Journal Saturday August 3rd 2002

Members of the MacAulay clan have established a democratic process for the election of their chief, which could be a blueprint for other disbanded clans. The momentous decision was taken after a lively debate on the subject at the 2002 gathering of the MacAulay clans at Tulloch Castle Hotel in Dingwall yesterday afternoon.

Clan Secretary Hector MacAulay said the clan had disintegrated more than 200 years ago and many years of research had failed to trace the bloodline of its former chiefs. The clan decided the way forward was to select a new chief and create a new blood line.

It was decided that the clan commander, Ian McMillan MacAulay, who is in his early eighties, should take on the role, but Lord Lyon, Robin Blair, rejected his appointment to the chiefship. Hector MacAulay said; "This was despite the fact that he had been commander for five years and the world-wide clans supported him one hundred per cent."

The Lyon ruled that a clan commander with no proven blood link to a past chief must serve in that appointment for 10 years before being proposed for chiefship. The clan had been keen to unite the Macaulay clans of Lewis, Lochbroom and Ardencape, near Helensburgh, but the Lord Lyon's ruling claimed that to recognise the chief of the Ardencape MacAulays as clan chief would disenfranchise many members who originated from other branches. Disappointed by this ruling, clan members decided to look for another way forward and they yesterday considered a resolution to confirm Ian McMillan MacAulay as clan chief and put in place a democratic process whereby the chief would be elected by all clan members for a period of five years.

This was passed by members, and Ian MacMillan MacAulay will be their chief for the next four years because he was elected last year. There will then be an election if anyone wishes to stand against him. If not, he will be automatically re-elected.

The resolution also said that the chief should be resident in Scotland, but this was not agreed upon. Hector MacAulay said that, although clan members overseas were keen that the clan should have its roots in Scotland, with the chief resident in the country, there was a strong feeling that there were clan members in other parts of the world who would make very good chiefs.

A further resolution, put forward by the Association in Australia, was to maintain the status quo and wait another five years for the Lord Lyon's approval of Ian McMillan MacAulay of Drumbeg as chief. Hector MacAulay said this resolution had been decisively defeated. He said the situation had been closely watched by a number of other disbanded clans, which are beginning to resurrect themselves.

"There is a lot of interest from abroad in resurrecting these clans and they don't know how to elect a chief, so we are trying to lead the way. This is probably the first time that the clan has set up the democratic process to elect its chief in this way and it could be the way forward for other clans," he said.

Iain MacMillan MacAulay died 9th August 2003, and his son Diarmid Iain MacAulay [pictured above right] was elected to succeed him at a Clan MacAulay gathering held on 31 July 2004.

On 18th August 2010 the clan's former Organising Secretary, Hector MacAulay, an Education Consultant from Crieff in Perthshire, was overwhelmingly elected by the worldwide membership to serve as chief for the following five years. Addressing the members Hector MacAulay said "It is a great honour and privilege to be elected Chief of the Clan MacAulay Association." With a focus on the future role of the clan he said "While it is important to maintain what is unique and special to all of us with our shared sense of history and identity it is equally important to seek ways to give the clan a greater sense of purpose for the 21st century."



Outlining his strategy he said "I want to start an 'ideas forum' which will appear on our web site to encourage members to advance views on how best we can effectively link our heritage, culture and kinship in such a way as to contribute to the image of Scotland as a place to visit and do business with." He concluded his theme by saying "We have built a very strong association based on a sound constitution and democratic principles attracting overwhelming support over recent years. With a new sense of purpose we shall move the clan association forward to reflect the interest and enthusiasm of our worldwide members."

Left: The Executive of the Clan MacAulay Association in 2015.



The Clan MacAulay International Gathering 2017



Gathering Host Laurence McAuley with Deputy Mayor Cheryl Johnston and Clan MacAulay Chief Hector MacAulay

In August 2017 host, and Clan MacAulay Commissioner for Northern Ireland, Laurence McAuley welcomed Clan Chief Hector MacAulay, together with over 200 guests from around the world, to the Loughshore Hotel, Carrickfergus, County Antrim, for the Clan's biennial international gathering. Eight variant spellings of the MacAulay surname were present (MacAulay, Macaulay, McAuley, McAulay, McCauley, McCaulley, McCawley and Macauley) representing Clan folk from the USA, Canada, Australia, NZ, Germany, England, Scotland, Rep. of Ireland and of course N. Ireland, many of whom were returning to the land of their ancestors for the first time.

Why Northern Ireland? Co Antrim has probably the largest concentration of MacAulays anywhere in the world, descendants of Scottish settlers who arrived notably in the 1500s and in the following years of the Plantation of Ulster in the 17th century!

The full-on three-day gathering programme consisted of daytime coach tours to Bushmills Distillery, the stunning Antrim coast (including historical MacAulay places of interest), a historic tour of Carrickfergus (including the impressive Norman castle built in 1177), clan AGM and a highly informative DNA presentation by Mr Jim McAuley, FamilyTreeDNA Administrator and Clan Commissioner for California.

Deputy Mayor Cheryl Johnston commenced the gathering 'Welcome Night' by officially welcoming all on behalf of Mid & East Antrim Council to the borough. This was followed by a hilarious book reading by bestselling local author Tony Macaulay and acoustic music set by star of BBC's reality music show 'Let it Shine', Scott Macaulay.

The following night's clan 'Banquet' and 'Ceilidh' really were nights for all to remember with the piping of the Chief, address to the haggis and fantastic musical entertainment, including Barry Macaulay, the Alastair Scott Ceilidh Band and The Hounds of Ulster (Northern Ireland's leading diverse music and dance group), who with their superb performance brought the house down!

With the tremendous three day gathering, the largest ever attended, coming to an end, the Clan MacAulay Association motto of "Bringing Our People Together" in the promotion and spirit of kinship could not have been more evident. I'm sure all will agree that it was a huge success! Roll on the next one in 2019!

Joan McAulay.



Visit to Granttown Museum and Duthil Kirk - October 2017



The planned annual outing for the Association was, at my suggestion, to the Clan Grant Centre at Duthil Kirk and the Richard Waitt Exhibition at the Granttown Museum. Accordingly, a group of us met together at Duthil on a bright, if slightly chilly October morning and were greeted by Lord Strathspey, Chief of Clan Grant, who lives next door in the old manse with his partner Judy Lewis (who was away at the time). He looks after the Clan Centre and has been responsible for making sure that it has lots of pictures, photos and objects of interest to visitors.

I have to admit to a few feelings of trepidation about visitors to our Clan Centre, as it is by no means a slick and modern affair with cafe, postcards etc and is usually absolutely freezing even in high summer. However, the Chief and I were pleasantly surprised by the very positive reactions from the AHCS Group; the Chief declined giving a talk about it, but was more than happy to answer questions from individual visitors.

We moved on then to a cosy soup and sandwich (and cake!) lunch at the Garth Hotel in Granttown, which Anne Maclean had arranged for us, which was very jolly and gave us a chance to warm up again!

After lunch it was over the road to the Granttown Museum to see the Richard Waitt special exhibition for 2017. Many of you will know the famous paintings of the Piper of the Laird of Grant (now in the National Museum of Scotland) and the Champion of the Laird of Grant, who wields a great sword in the picture. Richard Waitt's paintings are unusual as they represent a whole gallery of various Grant family members as well as some of their retainers, it is particularly the latter group that are interesting as it was usually members of the gentry that had their portraits painted at that time.

Waitt painted other local worthies, such as the Rose family at Kilravock; think of how there used to be photographers that travelled around and did much the same thing. The Museum was also able to borrow the famous painting of the 'Cromartie Fool' which usually hangs in the Scottish National Portrait Gallery Canteen. Thus they had the good fortune to be able to put on an exhibition which would not normally be available in the Highlands through the good influence of many people, most notably Guy Macpherson Grant of Ballindalloch, who persuaded the great and the good to lend their pictures. Let us hope this is the start of a welcome trend.

For me, having missed other AHCS events such as Culloden and The Inverness Games, it was lovely to catch up with fellow members and I got the distinct impression that a good time was had by all!

Fiona Grant



Clan Maclean International Gathering



Every five years the Clan Maclean has an international Gathering on the Island of Mull. Last year, the 2017 Gathering was arranged by Anne Maclean of Dochgarroch, and 750 people attended, culminating in the Clan Gathering at Duart Castle. This is the seventh of the present series of Gatherings, started in 1986, over 30 years ago. Each time the logistics become more complicated, with innumerable requirements for Health and Safety and all the other licences and reports needed. The Clan was, however, the recipient of a very welcome grant from the Scottish Clan Event Fund from Visit Scotland, which allowed a large marquee to be erected at Duart. There was also a week of activities in Mull and Morvern, including boat and bus excursions, visits to historic sites, whisky tastings, ceilidhs and dances, as well as helicopter trips around the island.

Duart Castle is the 13th century ancestral home of the chiefs of Clan Maclean, and is at present being repaired, it being over 100 years since it was restored after 150 years as a ruin. The Gathering enabled many good fund-raising events to be arranged, such as a 'silent auction' including a picture donated by 'Jolomo', and a world-wide raffle of ten unique items of clan interest, all specially crafted in silver, paint and print.

Allan Maclean.



Stewart Society St Andrew's Bursaries

The Stewart Society Benevolent Fund supports Stewart students at St Andrew's University with a small grant each year. Grants may also be available for Stewart/Stuart students at other universities and institutions seeking to further their studies through travel, additional studies or other means.

Pictured left are the St Andrew's Bursars for the academic year 2017/18 with the Society's President, Geordie Burnett-Stuart, Vice President, Lord Stewart, and Council member Aubyn Stewart-Wilson.

The Stewart Society will hold its annual gathering this year at St Andrews on 3 - 5 August.

Clan Donnachaidh Society raise funds to purchase ancestral kirk

Clan Donnachaidh (the Robertsons) have succeeded in raising enough money to begin the process of purchasing the old Church of Scotland kirk at Struan, the ancient home of their chiefs [pictured right].

They plan to set up an independent trust to own and preserve it, principally as a place of worship, but also because of its heritage as "a building of special historic and architectural interest". The trust will also aim "to promote its history particularly in relation to Clan Donnachaidh and its member families, and also to provide a facility for the local community to hold events that are sympathetic and respectful to the sentiment of the Kirk". For more details see the society's website: www.donnachaidh.com/news-egm.html



The Frasers Are Foxed

*Simon Fraser, the 11th Lord Lovat - known as "The Old Fox" for his many changes of allegiance in a long life of political manoeuvring - was executed on the 9th of April 1747 for his part in the 1745 Jacobite Rising. He was last person in Britain to be beheaded (though that form of execution remained on the statute book until 1973). It's long been believed that his remains were brought back to Scotland to be interred in the Fraser Mausoleum in the Kirkhill burial ground – making it an important place for Clan Fraser and, these days, a prime target for fans on Outlander tours. As **Malcolm Fraser** reported however on the 19th of January, all is not as it once appeared.*



Hogarth's famous portrait of Lovat

It would seem as if we've been deluded into thinking that the remains in the coffin in Wardlaw Mausoleum [pictured below left] were those of THE OLD FOX, for last night's exposure in Inverness by Professor Sue Black showed that the remains were those of a woman in her twenties or thirties not those of an 80 year old man suffering from gout and arthritis !!!

At this well attended meeting of over 400 people Professor Black said that "the remains were very feminine and the debate is now how the remains of a headless young woman came to lie in the casket." There are some possibilities she might be another member of the Fraser Family, and further DNA testing is being carried out.



"The head may have been taken as a trophy many years ago, perhaps by someone believing it was Lord Lovat, but if the remains are not a member of the family then we are faced with more of a poser." Perhaps the people sent to collect Lovat's body from London were unsuccessful and rather than be seen to have failed, took the body of some poor stranger as a substitute, removing her head before returning".

Sarah Fraser said she was impressed by the "spirit of respect" by the team for the dead, which no doubt will continue with the further investigations!!

THE OLD FOX IS HAVING THE LAST LAUGH !!

Clan Fraser Dinner and Visit to Worcester 1651 Battle Sites

On 3rd September 1651 the 16,000 strong, mainly Scottish, army of Charles II of Scotland (later Charles II of England) fought Cromwell's Parliamentary army in the last battle of the Civil War at Worcester. We know that many Frasers, including 800 men under Alexander Fraser, Lord Philorth, and men under another Alexander Fraser, Master of Lovat, took part in the battle.

We have been working with the Battle of Worcester Society and have devised a visit to include a study of the battle grounds on which the Frasers fought together with an audio visual presentation of the Battle to be followed by a Clan Fraser Dinner in the Great Hall of the Commandery, the Royalist command centre during the battle.

This event will take place on Saturday 18th Aug 2018, starting at 1.00pm by meeting at The Commandery for coffee.

1.30 - 2.30 pm we will start a guided tour of the Commandery.

3.00 - 3.30 pm visit Fort Royal Park where an estimated 1,500 Scottish soldiers were killed defending it.

4.00 pm back to the Commandery for a Battle of Worcester presentation highlighting where Frasers fought.

5.00 pm Visit to Worcester Cathedral where 10,000 Scots were imprisoned after the battle and where King Charles watched the battle from the tower.

7.00 pm Clan Fraser Dinner at the Commandery.

The cost of the whole event including the guided tours of the Commandery, Fort Royal Park, Worcester Cathedral, the Battle of Worcester audio/visual presentation and the 3 course Clan Fraser Dinner is £38 per head.

With this event we hope to not only have a first class Clan Fraser Dinner but also a day which will entertain and inform clansmen of our ancestor's deeds in the past.

If you are interested in taking part in this event please let me know by email on annfraserclark@supanet.com as soon as you can.

Donald Fraser-Clark

Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs [SCSC]

The Objects of the Council, which is non-political, are to consider matters affecting Scottish Chiefs and the Clans and Names which they represent and to submit their views and interests to HM Government, to Departments of State, the Scottish Government, to Local Authorities, to Press and Public, to Associations connected with Clan and Family in Britain and overseas; also to educate the general public in matters connected with the rights, functions and historical position of Scottish Chiefs, together with the Clans and Names which they represent and to take such steps as may seem expedient to protect the titles, armorial bearings or other insignia of Chiefs from exploitation or misuse in trade or otherwise.

From the Constitution of the SCSC as quoted by Wikipedia.

Highland Clans with Chiefs/Commanders listed on SCSC website [www.clanchiefs.org.uk]:

The names in italics are clans whose definition as "Highland" may be open to question.

Arthur/MacArthur
Brodie
Cameron
Campbell
Chattan
Chisholm
Colquhoun
Dewar
Ewen/MacEwen
Ewing
Farquharson
Fraser of Lovat
Gordon
Grant
Gunn
Hay
Henderson/MacEanruig
Leslie
Macdonald of MacDonald
Macdonald of Sleat
Macdonald of Glengarry
MacDonald of Keppoch
MacDonald of Clanranald
MacDougall
MacGillivray
MacGregor
Macintyre
MacLachlan

Mackay
Mackenzie
Mackintosh
Maclaine
MacLaren
MacLea
MacLean
MacLennan
Macleod of Raasay
Macleod of Lewes
MacMillan
Macnab
Macnaghten
Macneacail
Macneil
Macpherson
MacTavish
MacThomas
Malcolm/MacCallum
Matheson
Moncrieffe
McBain
Morrison
Munro
Ogilvy
Oliphant
Robertson
Rose

Ross
Scrymgeour
Shaw of Tordarroch
Sinclair
Skene
Sutherland
Urquhart

Clans with chiefs belonging to SCSC in 1998 listed in Way and Squire's "Clan & Family Encyclopedia" but not now on SCSC website:

Buchan
Cumming
Davidson
Fergusson
Forbes
Keith
Lamont
Lennox
MacAlister
Mackinnon
Macleod of Macleod
Menzies
Murray
Rattray
Ruthven
Stuart of Bute



Clan Cameron France celebrate Burns Night

Neil Fricossais D'or Cameron, Bard of Clan Cameron France, is pictured left at the French society's Burns Supper 2018 which was held in Lorraine *chez nos Cameron les Mathieu*.

The Scottish Clan Cameron Association's Facebook page has an album of 43 very striking photos of the event taken by Niko Magnus showing a number of Camerons enjoying *whiskys, cornemuses, harpe, un succulent repas, une "Ode au Haggis", des lectures de poèmes de Robert Burns etc.*

Clan Donald at Battle of Falkirk Commemoration

On the 27th of January 2018, Clan Donald attended activities commemorating the Battle of Falkirk in January 1746, organised by the 1745 Association. A plaque was unveiled by the present Chief of Glengarry to remember "Young Glengarry" (2nd son of the 12th Chief) who was killed in a tragic accident on the day after the battle. The 1745 Association have also produced an excellent booklet about the battle.



About the AHCS

Full membership is open to all clans judged by their peers in the AHCS to be "Highland" – whether represented by a Society, Commander, or Chief. Non-Highland clans and families may become Associate Members, and thus enjoy preferable rates at our events and a voice, but no vote, in our Council. Highlanders with no clan organisation may become Individual Members, on the same terms as Associate Members. Our events are intended to be open to all clans and families, but where space is limited preference will be given firstly to Full Members, and secondly to Associate Members. The full constitution, details of current membership fees, contact details for the clans, and for the Association's officers, can be found on our website: www.highlandclans.org.

FULL MEMBERS (subject to renewal for 2018-19):

Buchanan

Cameron (M'Gillonie, M'Martin, M'Sorlie of Glen Nevis, M'Lachlan of Coruanan, Cumming of Achdaliu).

Chattan (Mackintosh, Shaw, Farquharson, M'Bean/Bain, M'Phail, M'Gillivray, M'Queen, M'Thomas, Macintyre in Badenoch).

Chisholm

Currie/MacMhuirich

Davidson

Donald (representing Clanranald, MacDonell of Glengarry, MacDonald of Keppoch, MacDonald of Sleat, etc).

Donnachaidh (Robertson)

Fraser of Lovat

Grant

Iver/MacIver

MacAulay

MacDougall

MacFarlane

Macfie

MacKenzie

Maclean

MacLennan

MacMillan

Macpherson

Macrae

Matheson

Munro

Stewart

Sutherland

Urquhart

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:

Clan Fraser Society of Scotland & the UK

Clan MacKinnon Society (USA)

Iain McIntyre-Younger of Culmullin

Events in 2018 to be attended by AHCS or a Member Clan (mostly on the basis of last year's attendances):

13 April: 7pm. AHCS Social Evening at Waterside Hotel, Inverness, with talk:

Gregor Ewing, "Charlie, Meg and me - Following in Prince Charlie's footsteps after the battle of Culloden"

14 April: Battle of Culloden Commemoration organised on battlefield by the Gaelic Society of Inverness at 11.00am.

30 June: Gairloch Highland Gathering. Clan MacKenzie.

19 July: Mull Highland Games at Tobermory. Clan Maclean.

21 July: Inverness Highland Games: 20 pitches in AHCS tent will probably be available (sharing may be possible).

To be followed by tea (5.00pm) and the Annual General Meeting of the AHCS (5.30pm) – Maclean Room at Eden Court.

25 July: Arisaig Highland Games. Clanranald (Clan Donald).

3-4 Aug: Moy Game Fair. Clan Chattan.

3-5 Aug: Stewart Gathering at St Andrews. Details from Jenn Scott: info@stewartsociety.org

4 Aug: Newtonmore Highland Games. Clan Macpherson.

4 Aug: Aboyne Highland Games. Clan MacKenzie.

9 Aug: Ballater Highland Games. Clan Farquharson.

11 Aug: Strathpeffer Highland Gathering. Clan MacKenzie.

11 Aug: Abernethy Highland Games. Clan Grant.

18 Aug: Glenfinnan Gathering & Highland Games. Clans Cameron & Donald.

1 Sep: Braemar Highland Games. Clan MacKenzie.

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Dep. Chair: Ruairidh MacLennan of MacLennan. Email: chief@clanmaclennan-worldwide.com

Treasurer: Rossie Macrae. Email: rossie.macrae@hotmail.co.uk

Secretary: Mrs Anne Maclean of Dochgarroch. Email: highlandclans@aol.com.

Committee: Very Rev. Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch. Email: dochgarroch@aol.com

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