

Clan MacAulay International

BRINGING OUR PEOPLE TOGETHER

# MacAulay Matters

Fall 2019



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## The Gathering Remembered

In September we MacAulays gathered together in Aviemore in the spirit of kinship, harmony and unity. There were many highlights. The welcome reception on Thursday evening, the Friday tours and the formal, the music of the Scots and our Italian pipe band, the heavy(ish) Games, the AGM and, of course, the Ceilidh. One of my personal favourites came from the beautiful song written for the MacAulays by lifetime member Donald Mackenzie, entitled MacAmhlaidh Gu Brath. With his permission his beautiful lyrics follow.

### MacAmhlaidh Gu Brath ...

From the land of Ardincaple to Antrim's lovely shore  
From the machair of South Uist and the wild Atlantic's roar  
From the prairie fields of Canada to Australia's blinding heat  
There are many miles between, but tonight at last we meet.

### Chorus

*MacAmhlaidh Gu Brath. Dulce Periculum  
There's sweetness in the danger of battles lost and won  
MacAmhlaidh Gu Brath, forever and always  
May the loving arms of kinship embrace you all your days.*

We come down through history, we walk the sands of time  
Our ancient tales and mystery are handed down the line  
Strong were we in battle, fearless in the fight  
Now we light the flame of friendship and keep it burning bright.

### Chorus

So, out across the world, wherever you call home  
We hold you close in our hearts, you'll never walk alone  
For should the weight get heavy and you stumble on life's road  
There's a brother and a sister, here to share the load.

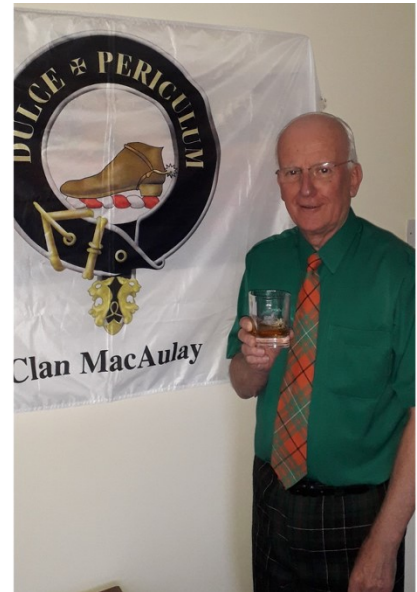
### Chorus

RETIRING Chief  
HECTOR was  
officially  
bestowed the  
title of Chief  
Emeritus by the  
Executive and  
Members of  
Clan MacAulay  
on his  
retirement as  
Chief.

## Farewell from Chief Hector

After serving the Clan MacAulay Association for 22 years I decided it was time to hand over to a younger Chief to lead the clan.

My Clan MacAulay journey started the day I met Ian MacMillan MacAulay in Eden Court Theatre, Inverness back in 1997 when we were introduced to each other by a mutual friend. I always remember Ian greeting me with the words "You'll be having a dram" It was the start of a great friendship which resulted in us working together to set up the first Clan MacAulay Association in Scotland which was launched in the Salutation Hotel, Perth in August 1998.



We have come a long way since those early days as we have held many Clan Gatherings, increased our membership, appointed Clan Commissioners, promoted DNA testing, launched "MacAulay Matters", organised many promotional events, developed a cultural exchange, attended many historical events, participated in some very high profile Scottish Clan events and achieved our objective of "Bringing our People Together".

I have so many happy memories of my time as Clan Chief, far too many to mention here. Although leading the clan on many important occasions, visiting so many places with MacAulay connections, meeting a range of interesting people and making so many wonderful friends made it all very special. It was a real honour to have served such a great clan.

Of course, I was overwhelmed with the recognition the Clan bestowed on me to mark my retiral. Apart from the photo albums, The Clan MacAulay rain jacket, Lifelong Membership of the Clan and lifelong keeper of the Chief's Cromach there was the ultimate honour of declaring me Chief Emeritus. What did I do to deserve such a title? I shall do my best to live up to such a lofty status.

My journey started with a dram so it will end with one, as I bid you farewell and raise my glass to the future success of Clan MacAulay.

Hector MacAulay  
Chief Emeritus

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open hyperlink)



## MEET THE MEMBERS ...

### REBECCA ALLYN MCCAULLEY HUTCHISON

**Name:** Rebecca Allyn  
McCaulley Hutchison  
(Becky)

**Position in Clan MacAulay:**  
Member

**Why did you become a  
member of Clan  
MacAulay?** To connect  
with others in Clan  
MacAulay and to learn  
more about its/our history.

**Birthplace?** Louisville,  
Kentucky, USA

**Where do you currently  
live?** Salem, Virginia, USA

**What's your current job or  
profession?** Forensic  
Scientist Group Supervisor  
in Controlled Substances  
for the Virginia  
Department of Forensic  
Science, Western

Laboratory in Roanoke, Virginia (chemist)

**What's your favourite hobby?** I'm an avid reader and I enjoy cheering on my 3 boys in their sporting endeavors (not quietly enough for their taste).

**Who's someone you admire and why?** My (late) grandmothers. They were intelligent women who went through their individual trials quietly, had careers and families, kept their faith, and managed to live vibrantly into their 90s.

**What is your most unique talent?** I played roller derby for a few years until I couldn't fit it in with all my boys' activities. (I would say moving my eyes independently of one another but 2 of my boys inherited that as well.)

**What's your favourite beverage?** coffee!

**What's your favourite kind of music?** R&B, new wave, two-tone ska

**What's your favourite place to travel and why?** The beach or the mountains, as long as it is quiet

**Your personal motto?** Nothing worth having is ever easy.

**Which branch of the MacAulays do you hail from?** Ardincaple (most likely?)

**What's the name of the oldest MacAulay ancestor you've traced back in your line, DOB,**

**place?** (According to my uncle, Mark McCaulley's ancestry.com page)  
Patrick McCauley

BIRTH 1730 • Dundalk, Louth, Ireland

DEATH Ballycastle, Antrim, Ireland



## MEET THE COMMISSIONERS ... JAMES (JIM) MCAULEY



**Name:** James "Jim" McAuley

**Position in Clan MacAulay:** Commissioner

**Why did you become a commissioner of Clan MacAulay?** To promote and represent the MacAulay Clan in the USA, principally in the Southwestern States

**Birthplace?** Long Beach, California, USA

**Where do you currently live?** San Marcos, Northern San Diego County, California, USA

**What's your current job or profession?** I spent 28 years as an engineering consultant in the fields of water and waste treatment, industrial control systems and computer aided graphic design. Along with my wife Pam, we are owners of Mr. Beach, Inc. a promotional products wholesaler that sells outdoor furniture (chairs, umbrellas, etc.) with corporate logo imprints. We also own ClanMacAulay.com which sells clan tartan and badge imprinted products to more than 20 Scottish Clans.

**What's your favourite hobby/what do you like to do in your spare time?** I am the administrator of the MacAulay surname DNA project at Familytree DNA. I spend my spare time doing research DNA, Genealogy, and Clan, Scottish and Irish history

**What is your most unique talent?** Combining my knowledge and experience of graphic arts and computers to develop products for Scottish Clans.

**What's your favourite beverage?** Single Malt Scot Whisky

**What's your favourite kind of music?** Scottish/Irish/Celtic Music. Favorite group: The Men of Worth, entertainers' Irishman James Kreigher and Scotsman Donnie "Large" MacDonald (from Ness, Isle of Lewis) Favorite Song: The Green and the Blue

**What's your favourite place to travel and why?** Scotland. For it's beauty, culture, genealogy, Scottish and family history, and whisky.

**Your personal motto?** Treat others the way you would like to be treated. Always tell the truth. It's easier to remember.

**What's the name of the oldest MacAulay ancestor you've traced back in your line, DOB, place?** John McAulay, born in 1635 in Glasgow, Scotland

**Which branch of the MacAulays do you hail from?** DNA SNP testing and surname history point to Westmeath County, Ireland. My second and third great-grandfathers emigrated from Renfrewshire, Scotland to New York City in 1839. They moved to Toronto, Canada and started farming in 1841 and after a few years they moved to New York Mills, New York. In 1854 they again engaged in farming in Wisconsin. In 1859 my second great-grandfather moved his family to a 400 acre farm in Linn County, Kansas. My grand father, his family and his sister and two brothers moved to California in 1888.



## MEET THE EXECUTIVE ...

### MARIANNE KELLY

**Name:** Marianne Kelly (McKenzie!!) Can I still be part of your Clan??



**Position in Clan MacAulay:** Minutes Secretary (Of which I'm very honoured to have been asked)

**Why did you become a member of the executive of Clan MacAulay?** Initially it was to honour my Mum. She piqued my interest in the Clan with all her chat about it and the absolute joy it gave her being part of it and more so being involved in it. My Mum was/is the most influential woman I have in my life and miss her nipping my ear every day haha. But I carry her with me in everything I do and a strong part of that was joining you all in the recent Clan Gathering in Aviemore. I must admit I was nervous about joining everyone however I was overwhelmed by the welcome and love from everyone. I wasn't prepared for it and even now a month later I'm still coming to terms with it all. My Dad & I knew Mum was loved but it really showed itself In Aviemore. So now I have been asked to be part of it all and I hope I can do the role justice and continue Mum's passion taking her with me on this new journey.

**Birthplace:** Glasgow. I was too impatient to join the world and was born at home!

**Where do you currently live?** I live in a small village called Denny which is about 15 minutes from Stirling

**What's your current job or profession?** I am a manager for the transport division of Currys (UKs biggest electrical company for those of you not in UK. Blatant plug!) I joined the logistics side of the business 2 years ago after being a manager in the stores for 20 years.

**What's your favourite hobby/what do you like to do in your spare time?** My spare time is rare! But I'm lucky enough to have my 3 daughters near me.



Amanda who has my twin granddaughters Charlotte & Olivia, 4, and Amy who has my Grandson Ben who is 3. Oddly enough they all have the same birthday just 1 year apart! Karin is the baby and at 17 is still at home and just learning to drive!! Other than that, I love DIY and listening to books. I've just finished Paperboy by our own Mr. Tony Macaulay. It's brilliant by the way and I've already got people at work reading it. (Do I get any commission for that??)

**Who's someone you admire and why?** It must be my Dad. He has had his own health issues right before Mum had hers, but he was always brushing it off like no big deal and "lets get through this" attitude. He then had just recovered and went full force into supporting Mum as well as looking after us, Since Mum died, he has always been there. I don't think he realises how much he has been. He's a force!



## A personal message from Marianne ...

I would like to say a wee word now that I have everyone in the one place.

Just a massive thank you to everyone who was kind enough to take the time when Mum was ill to get in touch with me to pass on your love, prayers and kind messages. Most of you I didn't know but you still dropped by for updates etc. I always passed your words on and they made her smile. You also gave us strength knowing you were all fighting for her.

Just a wee reminder that words are a powerful thing and yours gave us such strength. You are all truly an amazing Clan!



**What is your most unique talent?** Hmm not sure I have one. I think maybe trying to make everyone see the best in themselves. To believe that they are amazing. I don't think I have a unique talent to be honest

**What's your favourite beverage?** Coffee then wine....in which order depends on the day I've had!

**What's your favourite kind of music?** I love all music. Runrig are my number 1 as they were the first band I saw live. I was 10 and it was in the Town Hall in Stornoway (must have been 1979) I have seen them many times over the years and was so chuffed to see them in their last but 1 gig in Stirling last summer. Was very emotional! I love country, folk (especially Donnie Black Band & Gleasda). Pop, rock, all kinds really. Just love how music can change a mood and enhance a day.

**What's your favourite place to travel and why?** My absolute favourite place to be is Stornoway. The minute I arrive in Ullapool I feel calm and at home. My other place is Italy. I have made very special friends here (some you might have met!). Peter & I got married in the gorgeous town of Lucca in Tuscany 9 years ago.

**Your personal motto?** Find the sunshine in your day

**Which branch of the Macaulay's do you hail from?** Lewis branch

**What's the name of the oldest MacAulay ancestor you've traced back in your line, DOB, place?** Well I must admit I'm not sure. However, Mum has done all the work for me here and Dad & I are planning on going through all of Mums research in next couple of weeks.

**Have you taken a DNA test and if so, which one(s)?** No I haven't but it intrigues me....



## Submitted by John MacAulay Court

John MacAulay Court and his wife Beth, both corporate archivists, live in Brampton, Ontario from where he commutes to the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health teaching hospital, also as a History professor for the Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto. John has been a Clan enthusiast since the 1979 Fergus Highland Games. His forebears had led a substantial, 1860s emigration of Lewis Macaulays from Bernera to the modest Great Lakes' shipping & fishing port of Southampton, Ontario. His grandfather, Captain "Johnny Big Angus" had attended school with so many other Clan progeny that six other schoolmates were also named John Macaulay.

Not a member of  
Clan MacAulay?

Click [here](#) to join!

## JOAN MACAULAY ELECTED CHIEF OF THE INTERNATIONAL CLAN MACAULAY ASSOCIATION ACCOMPLISHED CANADIAN IS FIRST WOMAN CHIEF AND THE FIRST FROM THE DIASPORA

Through a vote at the Clan MacAulay Association's annual meeting, held at Aviemore (Cairngorms) on September 7th, the Clan Commissioner for Western Canada and Secretary of our international society, Joan MacAulay, was elected through in-person and online voting of subscribed members everywhere as the fourth elected Chief of this merged society of three hereditary Macaulay Clans: Ardincaple (first two Chiefs), Loch Broom (3rd Chief) and the Isle of Lewis – the 4th Chief, from which, by coincidence, both electoral candidates had emerged.



Until quite recently traditions have ruled the day. When I was privileged to attend the 2009 Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs' meeting as a Diaspora guest (one accompanying each chief attending), held in the elegant Scots' Parliament chamber, there were just a scant few women as hereditary chiefs and evidently none from a merged clan society such as ours. The past decade has seen consistent respect for traditions, along with tremendous organizational advances for all.

Joan was raised on a farm near Forgan, Saskatchewan that had been homesteaded by her grandfather, Donald Norman MacAulay (when he died in 1942 the government forced the change of spelling from MacAulay to McAulay as that is how it was listed on the homestead). Donald's grandfather Angus Iain MacAulay had 'emigrated' from Scotland circa 1855 during the time of the clearances from Crowlista, Uig, Isle of Lewis to the Eastern Townships of Quebec, where he and other family members are buried in the Gisle Cemetery near Milan, Quebec. Joan's Scottish ancestors are buried in the beautiful Baille na Cille cemetery near Crowlista, Uig.

Joan is understandably proud of her Scottish roots; Scotland was the first place she ever dreamed of visiting. As a child she was also disturbed by the government having forced the change to the spelling of their name; in Grade 1 she was consistently docked marks for spelling "MacAulay" in their traditional way. Joan was eventually persuaded to quit that habit. Sadly, we could fill whole books with the rueful accounts of all those immigration and other officious functionaries who bullied our people into altering their spellings, or even whole names. Our defence is bearing in mind that any/all English spellings are merely renderings for phonetic or other convenience, and that ultimately only the original Gaelic spellings matter. MacAmhlaidh gu brath!

Joan enjoyed life on the farm and went to school in Elrose from K-12, still feeling very grounded from the example set by her parents, Wilfred and Darline. Her favourite time of year was harvest; once she was tall enough to reach the clutch she was the one in the truck hauling grain. Joan feels blessed that her family had a cabin at Christopher Lake in northern Saskatchewan where they spent many happy times during the summer (when they weren't working in the fields or dealing with her Mom's massive garden – the garden area was so large that they actually crop-rotated it).

## Submitted by John MacAulay Court

After high school Joan moved to Saskatoon to continue her education. Later, after a couple of years in Calgary, she returned to Saskatoon where she continues to reside with husband, Doug Doughty – who splits his time with working in Toronto – and their two rescue cats, Catriona (named after our late friend, Catriona MacAulay Mackenzie) and Morag. Joan's Mom celebrated her 95<sup>th</sup> birthday last month, and her sister, Kathy and brother-in-law, Jim live nearby. She's been with Concentra Trust (formerly Co-operative Trust) for over 25 years and is a Senior Trust Program Advisor specializing in estate and trust solutions for clients and partner advisors.

Joan's journey with Clan MacAulay began in 2012 when she was researching for a tattoo and came across the Clan MacAulay website. She and Doug discovered that a Gathering was to be held in 2013 and immediately started planning to attend. Obviously, they loved the experience, as they haven't missed a Gathering since!



L-R: John MacAulay Court,  
Joan and Doug Doughty,  
Beaverton ON 2013  
(Proud Canadians!)

Shortly after returning from Crieff, Joan met with our now Honourary Chieftain and High Commissioner for Canada, Dr. W.G. (Bud) MacAulay Lush, who convinced her to take on the role of Commissioner for Western Canada. In 2017, at Chief (now Emeritus) Hector's request, she took on the role of Secretary. That soon led to her leadership for updating the executive records and the Constitution to reflect today's values and ideals. After returning from Carrickfergus, Joan was further inspired by our members' enthusiasm, along with the need for enhancing web communication, to launch *MacAulay Matters*.

When Chief Hector announced his intention to retire – on so many high notes; thanks so much, Hector! – Joan was approached by many of us to stand for election. Despite the groundswell of encouragement, this was a daring move: there had not previously been a woman Clan Chief, nor one from outside Scotland. Auspiciously, Joan's invited election statement declared that, "This election isn't about geography. It's about vision. The vision to come up with a plan to increase membership here in Scotland *and* around the world. The vision to look at new opportunities to increase our presence and our standing, whether it be in the Clan system or at Highland Games. The vision to identify new Commissioners who will bring enthusiasm and energy to our organization. To set a vision for our executive team and work together. We need to move forward. We need to keep the momentum going."

With tremendous thanks from all of us, Joan, for your leadership thus far in so many creative ways, sometimes coming to the fore with creative community fun like the rollicking "Heavyish Events," piloted at Cape Breton and then a great success at Aviemore.

Hail to the Chief!  
John Macaulay Court

# The Gathering ... A Recap

Thursday, September 5th saw the beginning of the MacAulay Gathering at the Coylumbridge Hotel in Aviemore surrounded by the beautiful Cairngorms. Gatherers were met by Spud the Piper who entertained us with his exceptional piping skills.

As old friends met and new friends were made we enjoyed (now retired) Chief Hector officially open the 2019 Gathering in Aviemore. After our meal the Gatherers were split into teams to test their trivia knowledge. It was a hard fought battle but young Maeve's knowledge of Scotland's national animal broke the three-way tie!

Friday started early with our day of touring. We began with a momentous visit to the Culloden battlefield where so many Scots lost their lives and, ultimately, their Highland ways for so many years. We loaded back onto the coach where a snack of Walker's shortbread awaited. It was off to the Aberlour area where Gatherers visited one of Cardhu Distillery, Knockando Woollen Mill or the Speyside Cooperage.

Friday evening was resplendent with Gatherers awash in MacAulay tartans. Leading the head table into the formal was our brilliant Italian pipe band, Standard Bearer Doug Doughty and Sword Bearer Sean McAuley. Spud the Piper then regaled us with his very energetic Ode to the Haggis. Following the lovely meal, retiring Chief Hector was honoured with gifts from the members and executive to recognize his many years of service. The evening ended with fantastic music by Gleusda with Donald Black and Màrtainn Skene. A highlight was the inaugural singing of MacAmhlaidh Gu Brath by Donald Mackenzie.

Saturday morning dawned early for those with an interest in DNA and genealogy, particularly for Heritage Secretary Lucas McCaw who was joining us electronically from Edmonton, Alberta, where it was 2 am! Lots of great information and questions and this will definitely form a part of all Gatherings going forward.

From genealogy to frivolity, Gatherers joined by the Coylumbridge Hotel for the first International MacAulay Heavy(ish) Games. The Games were initiated in Cape Breton in 2018 at the Canada Gathering by the Honourary Chieftain and High Commissioner of Canada, Bud Lush. Two events were featured: haggis hurling and hammer for distance. Although the haggis was regulation weight, the hammer definitely wasn't! There was much laughter as Gatherers did their best to heft the haggis and throw the hammer. The biggest laugh definitely goes to Oscar for his hammer throw onto the roof of the hotel (see photo evidence further on). Congratulations to our winners and everyone that participated. Of course, the Games will continue in Stornoway!

After a brief respite it was time for the Annual General Meeting of Clan MacAulay where the business of the Clan was completed.

Later in the day it was time for some imbibing as we introduced Gatherers to Cairngorms Brewery and Tomantin Distillery in advance of our dinner and celidh.

Following the meal Hector led us in a toast to the new executive, unveiling of the location for 2021—Stornoway! and a celidh dance demonstration by local dancers. Our (now re-named MacAulay Pipe Band from Italy) played again. We were so grateful and blessed to have them join us that they were each made one-year Honourary members of the Clan. Then it was time to ceilidh! Màrtainn Skene and his Ceilidh band entertained us. Perhaps more entertaining was watching those of us who are new to ceilidh dancing. But no ceilidh evening would be complete without wee Barry and his tin pipe, Don Mackenzie and his musician friends leading us in singing our favourite tunes.

There were many hugs as Gatherers said goodbye at the end of the evening with the promise of meeting again in 2 years in Stornoway. Until then ... stay connected and in touch with your fellow MacAulays!

Entertainment  
at The  
Gathering  
Submitted by  
Cindi Macaulay  
Commissioner,  
Pennsylvania

Delightful entertainment this year at the September 2019 MacAulay Clan gathering held in Aviemore, Scotland.

Thursday evening, Spud the Piper played bagpipes for us at the welcome reception along with the 'MacAulay Pipers' from Italy. Perfect start to a night filled with fellowship and lots of laughter.

To start off the Friday night banquet, Spud the Piper appeared again for a great rendition of Robert Burns' 'Address to a Haggis'. Donald Black played traditional music on his many harmonicas accompanied by Martainn Skene. Gleusda (consisting of Don Mackenzie, Jim Hansom, John Oswald, Alison Lamonby and Catriona Laird) performed traditional and folk music. At the end of the night, many of us sat around a large table and had the privilege of listening to Barry Macaulay play his whistle along with the other musicians that performed that night. We sang songs and laughed so much. A very special experience.

Saturday evening festivities included Scottish traditional dancers performing samples of a reel, jig and a waltz. Martainn Skene Ceilidh band played and many were dancing. The most memorable part of the night for me was the final dance that was so much fun whirling and of course laughing.

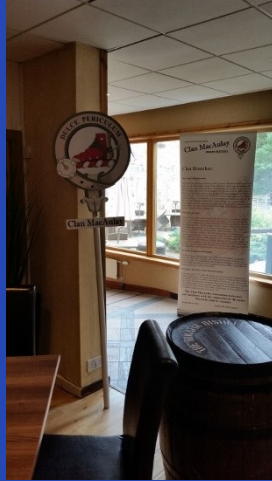


It strikes me how much our dear friend, Catriona MacAulay Mackenzie, is still impacting our group. If it were not for Catriona and her family, we would not have the 'MacAulay Pipers' and we would not have the honor of hearing her husband perform. Plus Catriona's wonderful daughter, Marianne, is now the clan Secretary. Catriona will always be in our hearts!

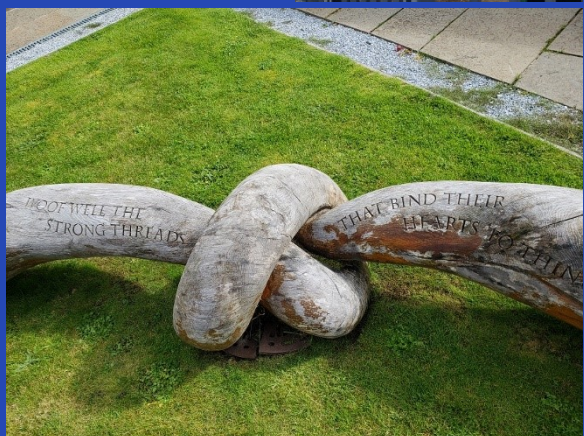
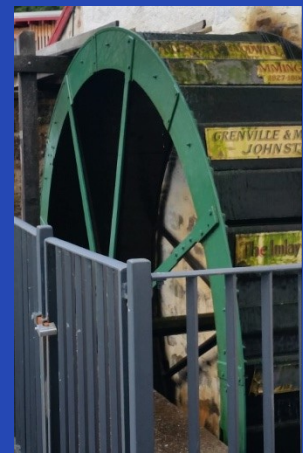
As always, the gathering was a great success. It was so great to see everyone and to be immersed in Scottish traditions.



# Thursday Night Meet and Greet



# Touring Day



# The Friday Night Formal, Aviemore Gathering



# The Friday Night Formal, Aviemore Gathering



Formal photos courtesy of Gordon Murray, Gordon Murray Photography

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

# The Friday Night Formal, Aviemore Gathering



# The Friday Night Formal, Aviemore Gathering



# The Friday Night Formal, Aviemore Gathering



# The Friday Night Formal, Aviemore Gathering



# The Friday Night Formal, Aviemore Gathering

## Ode to the Haggis



Ode to the Haggis brilliantly presented by Spud the Piper

# The Friday Night Formal, Aviemore Gathering

## Retiring Chief Hector Recognized



# The Friday Night Formal, Aviemore Gathering

## The Music of the Evening



# The MacAulay Heavy(ish) Games



The aim of Clan MacAulay International is the promotion of the spirit of kinship, harmony and unity within the Clan, fostering interest in Scotland ... the land, our origins, our history in a multicultural world. The clan aims to promote Clan MacAulay and its place in Scottish history both in Scotland and overseas. Our Clan is based on Democracy and Meritocracy not Aristocracy and Patronage.

## CLAN MACAULAY EXECUTIVE

**Chief** Joan McAulay

**Secretary** Marianne Kelly

**Treasurer** Sean McAuley

**Membership Administrator** Christiane Readhead

**Organiser** Bill O'Reilly

**Heritage Secretary** Lucas McCaw

**Standard Bearer** Doug Doughty

### Committee

- Bob Macauley
- Colin McCawley
- Geoff Derrick
- Kathy McCauley
- Susan Caldwell

Ideas, pictures and articles welcome!  
Please submit to MacAulay Matters Editor Joan McAulay  
[clanchief@clanmacaulay.org.uk](mailto:clanchief@clanmacaulay.org.uk)

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Clan MacAulay  
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