

Fall 2022

# MACAULAY MATTERS

Bringing Our People Together

## WHERE STRANGERS BECOME FAMILY

Since I met him, it had been my husband Doug's dream to visit Scotland with his dad (also Doug). So, when I saw that the 2022 International Clan Gathering would be on the Isle of Lewis, my mental wheels started turning. We've visited Scotland several times, including our honeymoon and back in 2014 with our kids, but the Gathering seemed like the perfect opportunity to try, once again, to get his dad to go with us. And, I'm pleased to say, he did!

We spent two weeks in Scotland, creating precious memories that included the Edinburgh Military Tattoo, a glorious sunrise in Dean Village, an equally glorious sunset at Ballachulish, foggy ferry trips, whisky porridge, Corrieshalloch Gorge, one of the best meals ever at Uig Sands, some white-knuckle drives on single-lane roads, the street murals in Glasgow, the Kelpies, Stirling Castle, Scone Palace, a reunion with dear British friends, honesty boxes, and so much incredible food and whisky. Of course, the Gathering was also an amazing time, including the ceilidh, where my Doug kicked up his heels with the locals, doing what I affectionally still call "second wife shopping."



It was great fun not just talking to locals, but also running into "family" after the Gathering dispersed—first a contingent of McCauleys in Muir of Ord (and again at the Commando Memorial) and then Chief Joan and Doug days later on a visit to the Wallace Monument in Stirling. What a great surprise! We took this photo there, which I named "The MacAulay Cover Band," aka "Doug, Doug, Doug, the Chief, and me."

I hope you enjoy meeting more "family" on the following pages. As always, if you have any events, photos, or stories you'd like to share, please reach out to me.

~ Rachel L. MacAulay, Editor

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This is your newsletter. We welcome interesting stories and pictures. No limits to your creativity! It's about sharing everything MacAulay.

[www.clanmacaulay.org.uk](http://www.clanmacaulay.org.uk)

Clan MacAulay  
Association



# IN REMEMBRANCE OF HM QUEEN ELIZABETH II

*His Majesty's Lord Lieutenant Iain Macaulay*

It was a huge honour and privilege for me and Anne to attend the Lying-in-State Saturday, 17 September and State Funeral for HM The Queen on Monday, 19 September. The whole experience was sad, solemn, moving, historic, and truly impressive. As we mourn and express our sympathy, we also celebrate the late Monarch's fruitful legacy after a long life well lived. By attending, now as King Charles III's representative in the Western Isles, we said thank you to HM The Queen for her selfless service throughout her reign and for her visits to the Western Isles and the interest she took in the area.

The Psalm and hymns sung were beautiful and moving. The pipe band's playing of the Gaelic air "O chi, chi mi na morbheanna" was one of high emotion, and the service concluded with the Queen's piper, Paul Burns, playing another Gaelic air, "Cadail Mo Ghaol," in a final salute.

Lord Lieutenant Iain and Anne Macaulay outside Westminster Abbey following the Queen's funeral service.



Anne and Lord Lieutenant Iain (L) bow as Her Majesty's coffin leaves Westminster Abbey.



# Meet the Member

## *Gabriel Wayne McCauley*

**Why did you become a member?** I am interested in learning about my family's past.

**Birthplace?** Parkersburg, West Virginia, USA

**Currently live?** Columbia, Tennessee, USA

**Your profession?** Filmmaker

**Favourite pastime?** I enjoy sitting on the porch reading non-fiction books, watching fiction movies, horseback riding, and falconry.

**Who do you admire?** Mr. Rogers, because he understood the importance of being present with someone, no matter who they were or how old they are.

**Most unique talent?** I can see a different perspective to most things I am presented with.

**Favourite beverage?** I've been getting into raw milk lately.

**Favourite music?** You can catch me dancing to Gloria Estefan, bobbing my head to some Beastie Boys and Outkast, rocking out to Beck and Weezer, and possibly doing all three to MixMasterMandy.

**Favourite place to travel?** Ireland and Scotland have been some of my favorite places to visit. The landscape calls to me, and I feel connected to the people and culture. I also have a special place in my heart for Montana, which ironically feels very similar to Scotland.

**Your personal motto?**  
Slow down, this moment is all you have.

**Oldest MacAulay ancestor?**

John McCauley

Birth: 1690 – Campsie,  
Stirlingshire, Scotland

Death: Dec 1749 – Sanquhar,  
Dumfriesshire, Scotland

**DNA?** No







# Meet the Commissioner

## ***Sharon (Shari) Brummer,*** ***maiden name Crouch***

**Position in Clan MacAulay:** Commissioner, Georgia

**Why did you become a Commissioner?** I thought about becoming a Commissioner for quite a while! The more I went to events, the more I became interested, and it sounded like fun! I hope to be able to recruit new members.

**Birthplace?** Memphis, Tennessee, USA

**Currently live?** Gainesville, Georgia, USA (Atlanta area)

**Profession?** Software application architect

**Favourite pastime?** Reading, boating, genealogy, hiking, off-roading, listening to music and going to concerts, travel and visiting with friends

**Who do you admire?** My grandmother (mamaw) on my mother's side (Johnnie Lou McCauley). She was born in 1905 and master's educated! She was patient, kind, and fun to hang around! She gave me a love of family history through all her "stories."

**Most unique talent?** Acting completely silly, making up my own language and dances to make my family laugh!

**Favourite beverage?** Craft beers—ANY KIND! And morning coffee is a must!

**Favourite music?** I like most kinds of music, but my favorite is Hard Rock, '80s music, and alternative music. Some of my all-time favorite bands are Led Zeppelin, Rush, and Kiss.

**Favourite travel destination?** I like to travel anywhere! I like to experience new cultures and see new scenery.

**Your personal motto?** Live and let live!

**Oldest MacAulay ancestor?** John McCauley, Sr, born about 1766, possibly in the early colonies of Virginia or North Carolina

**DNA?** Yes, Ancestry.com



# Meet the Executive

## *Joseph Scott McCauley*

**Why did you become an Executive member?**

To better serve the Clan and keep active in retirement.

**Birthplace?** Bethesda, Maryland, USA

**Currently live?** Raleigh, North Carolina, USA

**Your profession?** Retired Maryland State Trooper

**Favourite pastime?** Spending time with my wife Linnie and our two boys Haggis and Duncan (Ginger cats). And golf!

**Who do you admire?** My father Joe. He taught me how to be a gentleman!

**Most unique talent?** My ability to engage people.

**Favourite beverage?** Coke Zero

**Favourite music?** Anything but rap!

**Favourite place to travel?** Anywhere on a cruise ship.

**Your personal motto?** "It is what it is!"

**Oldest MacAulay ancestor?** My grandfather Joseph L. McCauley, 1881

**DNA?** Yes, Ancestry — 33% Scotland, 31% England/Wales, 10% Ireland

The December issue of MacAulay Matters will be all about interesting MacAulays, past and present. It could be a family member or a MacAulay you've admired from afar. If you're interested, please reach out to Rachel with your idea (before you start writing, so we don't have duplicates) at [clannewsletter@clanmacaulay.org.uk](mailto:clannewsletter@clanmacaulay.org.uk). Articles will be due by December 15.



## A GENEROUS CLAN

*Sean McAuley, Sword Bearer*

At the recent International Gathering in Stornoway, the clan was delighted to support two local charities with donations.

Chief Joan and members of the clan met with representatives of Bethesda Hospice at the Caladh Hotel and presented a cheque for £400. We heard about the development over the past 30 years of the hospice and gained an insight into the vital and caring work that is carried out there.

Later, we visited the Eilean Siar Foodbank to present a cheque for £200. While there, we learned about the hard work of the volunteers and the heart-rending stories of the people who had come to depend on this vital service. A collection was made over the days of the Gathering and a further £138.41 was donated to the foodbank by the attendees as a departing gift.

One of the highlights of the eventful weekend was the Saturday evening raffle. Prior to the Gathering, a call had gone out suggesting that attendees might donate a prize, maybe one that was representative of their country, state/province, or region. We were overwhelmed by the generosity of the contributions, as many on the night can attest to, with over 50 prizes claimed by winning ticketholders. The £706.65 raised is now lodged in the Clan MacAulay Heritage Fund.

As readers may be aware, this is a dedicated fund to support projects which touch on the history and heritage of Clan MacAulay in its current form, consisting as it does of branches from the Scottish mainland, the Western Isles, and Ireland. The fund is managed by the MacAulay Clan Committee. Projects which have benefited directly from the fund include a £1,000 donation to the conservation of the Conan Pictish Stone in 2019. This ancient carved stone was used as a headstone for two MacAulay brothers in the 18th century. The restored stone is now on display at Dingwall Museum in Scotland. You can watch the NOSAS film about the Stone [here](#).

A further donation of £1,000 was made this year to support two DNA projects that are dedicated to furthering our knowledge of our MacAulay origins in Antrim and the Isle of Lewis.

The inspiration for the Heritage Fund was [our previous support for a plaque](#) that was raised in St. George's Gardens in Bloomsbury, London, to the anti-slavery campaigner Zachary Macaulay.







## THE CLASSIC SOUVENIR?

*Betty Ribble*

To family and friends, here is my answer to “What did you bring home from your trip to Scotland?” The answer is short and fantastic: “The Hat.”

While spending some time and money in the gift shop at the Callanish Stones, I took some time to go out to the picnic area. And what did I spot but a man with his dog having refreshments, and most importantly wearing a hat celebrating the final concert of my most favorite Scottish singing group, “Runrig.” This is a fabulous group of men from “the Isles” who brought so many traditional Scottish tunes to the attention of so many people. Their concerts filled the grounds in Stirling and concert halls wherever they played. On one brief tour to Germany, they filled stadiums like any rock band of the day. Their updated arrangements reached the young crowd without offending those who treasured the favorites of their day (my favorite is probably “Loch Lomond”). Needless to say, as one of them, I had always hoped to see the band in person, but alas this was not to be.

I could not let this moment pass without asking this man about his hat and did he attend “The Last Dance,” as it was advertised. He happily said of course he had, and as a matter of fact, it was an anniversary celebration as he and his wife had attended a previous concert on their honeymoon. Our conversation went on from there, with a review of our favorite tunes and other tidbits of happy memories. I noticed his wife speak a few words into his ear, followed by him asking: Would I like to have his hat? He held it out to me. I was stunned and speechless. Of course, I would very much like to have the hat, but I did not wish to take his only memento. He smiled and assured me he had another.

So, with great thanks, I accepted my now “souvenir from my holiday in Scotland.” Also, a very special memory of the kind folks in Scotland.

**Runrig: [Live in Loch Lomond – Loch Lomond](#)**





## FRIENDS OF THE CLAN ATTEND GATHERING

*David McDowell*

Despite being a "McDowell" family, we have relished attending MacAulay Clan Gatherings since 2017, after being invited by Barry and Lesley-Ann.

This year, arriving in Stornoway for the 2022 Gathering, it was great to see familiar and new faces at the Caladh Inn. One could feel the positive energy, openness, and passion which embodies the Gathering. It was clear that this would be the base for wonderful experiences during the next few days.

On Thursday night at the reception, it was wonderful to see faces from previous Gatherings as well as new ones. The bus tour on Friday was amazing, as was the patience and care of the tour guides (thank you!). We loved seeing the magical places on the island, and a highlight was the visit to the Uig Community Centre, where the food and hospitality were unique. In the evening, the formal banquet and entertainment were top-class. The speakers were inspirational.

On Saturday morning, we all tramped down to the local park for the MacAulay Heavy(ish) Games. What an event! Amazing how much fun you can have with a rubber(ish) hammer and haggis (sack). If only the atmosphere could be packaged up! Everyone loved it, encouraged one another, and had a great laugh. Medals were won and shared! It was great to see the kids proudly wearing medals (their own and others) for days to come.

...and then on to the Ceilidh. Again, the hotel provided a wonderful meal and excellent service. The band and group of local dancers enabled us all to get up, learn, and participate in the dancing. What a night!

On Sunday, unfortunately, it was time to depart. A final highlight was the chance to share the ferry back with many clan members and to say our farewells. We left again with wonderful memories that will remain and enrich us. Not only the place and great activities but, above all, the people. Until next time!







## TOURING DAY ... FUN, LAUGHTER, WONDER

*Mary Jane Meischeid, Organiser 2022–2024*

On Friday, August 12, the Clan MacAulay Gathering attendees boarded two coach buses—bright and early—for our adventurous day of touring the Isle of Lewis. The weather cooperated quite nicely, and the day was filled with fun, laughter, and wonderful views of the beautiful island.

On each coach, we had monitors to help point out special sites for everyone to find. For example, Highland “coos,” sheep, peat cutting on the hillsides, and Gaelic road signs. Doug Doughty and I help shepherd our clan members through the day of touring.



The first stop was to Clach an Trushal, which is the tallest standing stone in Scotland (more than 19 feet high!). Next, on to the MacAulay/Morrison Memorial Cairn, which commemorates the traditional site of the last clan battle on Lewis. Our travels continued to the fabulous Whalebone Arch. This arch is situated right between two homes; the families enjoyed watching us stop to take photos of it. A very impressive site indeed!

Our next stop was Dun Carloway Broch. Everyone enjoyed carefully walking to the top and taking in the beautiful views and the Broch itself. A MacAulay group photo was taken to remember our visit to this treasured site.



Then we went on to the magnificent Callanish Standing Stones. It was my first time seeing them, and I was in awe of the sight of so many megaliths placed on the hillside. If you look from above down onto the Callanish Stones, you will see that they were placed in the shape of the St. Bridget Cross. These stones predate England's Stonehenge. The site also has a lovely gift shop and coffeehouse, where many of us enjoyed a bit of shopping and a scone.

Our final stop and lunch break took us to the Uig Community Center & Museum, up the road from the Uig Beach, where the famous Lewis Chessmen pieces were found. Lunch was a delightful and traditional Uig area meal consisting of their own smoked salmon, cheeses, soup, oat cakes, and dessert. Community volunteers served us the meal, and everyone enjoyed talking with the volunteers, who made us feel so very welcome. We drove to the Uig Sands, and many went in search of finding more chess pieces. Unfortunately, no one found any, but it did bring us many wonderful memories.



We journeyed back to the Caladh Inn and thanked our fantastic coach drivers, who had maneuvered single-lane roads and traffic to get us all back safely. That night was our formal evening, so everyone would be dressed to the nines in traditional Scottish dress. A wonderful day indeed!



## TOURING DAY NOTES

*Mary Jane Meischeid and Doug Doughty, Bus Wranglers*

**Clach an Trushal** is the tallest standing stone in Scotland, with an impressive height of 5.8m/19 ft. It stands on an artificially flattened platform looking out to sea and was once surrounded by a circle of smaller stones (probably around 1.5m or 5 ft. in height). The remains of these stones can be seen built into the nearby field walls. The last erect stone was taken down and used as a lintel in a local house around 1914. The circle would probably have measured around 30m or 100 ft. in diameter, with Clach an Trushal off-centre. This is the first of two purported locations for the last battle between the MacAulays and Morrisons. History has either the MacAulays or Morrisons being victorious.

**MacAulay/Morrison Memorial Cairn** has a Highland Targe and Broadsword on top. Metal descriptive plaque on side. Commemorates the traditional site of the last clan battle on Lewis.

**The Whalebone Arch** is situated beside two houses in Bragar. The two bones that comprise the arch are the lower jaw bones of a blue whale that came ashore and beached in 1920. The harpoon was still in the whale; however, the explosive charge in the harpoon's head had failed to explode. Therefore, both the whale and harpoon were intact. The crofter who dealt with both was lucky not to have been injured when the harpoon's head finally exploded in his shed — he was not in the shed at the time. The magnificent Whalebone Arch now stands as a gateway in the garden of the two houses. Lord Donny MacAulay and his wife owned this property at one time.

**Dùn Chàrlabhaigh (Dun Carloway)** is entered by a single, low, heavily defended doorway with a guard chamber to one side. There are two other chambers at ground level within the massive thickness of the walls and a stone-built staircase that rises between the inner and outer walls, giving access to the upper levels. Limited excavation in one of the intramural chambers uncovered hearths, pottery, and a quern stone from the reoccupation of the cell in the later Iron Age. Although the broch appears to have been long roofless and uninhabited, a well-known local story demonstrates that it remained an important landmark and place of refuge. The Morrisons had stolen cattle from the MacAulays in a raid and took refuge in the broch until the danger of reprisal had passed. However, they met a fearful end when Donald Cam MacAulay managed to climb the sheer outer face of the drystone tower by inserting his dirks between the stones and throwing burning heather down on them.

The **Callanish ('Calanais') Stones** megaliths are one of Scotland's most magnificent and best-preserved Neolithic monuments. The Calanais Standing Stones are an extraordinary cross-shaped setting of stones erected 5,000 years ago. They predate England's famous Stonehenge monument and were an important place for ritual activity for at least 2,000 years. We don't know why the standing stones at Calanais were erected, but the best guess is that it was a kind of astronomical observatory. Patrick Ashmore, who excavated at Calanais in the early 1980s, writes: 'The most attractive explanation... is that every 18.6 years, the moon skims especially low over the southern hills. It seems to dance along them, like a great god visiting the earth. Knowledge and prediction of this heavenly event gave earthly authority to those who watched the skies.'

### Uig Community Centre, Museum, and Sands

The Uig Museum, although small, has a vast resource of local information and is well worth a visit as is the Uig Community Centre for their cheese and onion toasties! Uig is an inlet on the west coast of the Isle of Lewis. The name itself is derived from the Norse word for 'bay,' which makes it a little odd to refer to the beach as Uig Bay. The beach here is an enormous stretch of sand, particularly if the tide is low, when it is as deep as it is wide. Surrounded by gently sloping dunes and machair flower meadows with a backdrop of mountains, this really is a beautiful spot. In 1831, the Uig Sands was the site of a fantastic archaeological discovery ... by Malcolm MacLeod's cow. The story goes that the cow was scratching itself against the dunes when it inadvertently uncovered the Lewis Chessmen, 78 Viking chess pieces made of carved walrus ivory dating back to the 12th century. The chessmen date from some time between 1150 and 1200.





## MY THOUGHTS ABOUT THE INVESTITURE...

*Shari Brummer, Commissioner, Georgia*

The investiture ceremony at the recent Clan Gathering in Stornoway was a special moment for me! Standing in front of the members and Executives gave me the feeling of being part of a tradition that I don't often experience as an American. We don't have a long tradition of pomp and ceremony, and being part of the investiture gave me a stronger sense of my ancestry. Also, being recognized for the work I'm about to do gave me an even greater sense of belonging to the Clan.

The beautiful certificate I received will be a continual reminder of the honour I received and my responsibilities as a Commissioner. My favorite part of the ceremony was drinking from the quaich and the "knighting" with the sword. (Good thing I trusted Sean and Joan to not behead me—LOL.)

I am looking forward to my first event as a Commissioner—representing the Clan at the Stone Mountain Highland Games, the second-largest games in the United States and the first time MacAulays have been represented in 13 years!



## ANNUAL DUES REMINDER

Renewal in the Clan MacAulay Association occurs annually on August 1. PayPal handles our accounting—including invoicing, dues collection, and currency conversion—in a secure manner, simplifying the process for our international group. Please add [service@paypal.co.uk](mailto:service@paypal.co.uk) to your address book and safe-senders list so that our communications don't end up in your spam or junk folder. If you have not received your invoice or reminders, please let us know by emailing [clantechnology@clanmacaulay.org.uk](mailto:clantechnology@clanmacaulay.org.uk). The grace period for receipt of annual renewals is October 30.





## WARM WELCOMES AND FOND TIL-NEXT-TIMES

*Christie McCaulley, Organiser (Retired)*

It's an amazing feeling to be welcomed into a community with open arms. I have felt welcomed from the first day that Lucas McCaw reached out to me because my Dad's Ancestry kit matched some mutations that put him in the tree of descendants from a remote island in Scotland. Lucas told me about the Clan, and that the next Gathering was on this island! A lot has happened since then.

Susan Caldwell was the next person who welcomed me warmly to the Clan when she called to chat about my interests. Then I met a lot of wonderful people through volunteering to help with organizing this Gathering that I didn't know existed on an island I had never heard of. Bill O'Reilly, our most recent past Organiser, and of course, Joan, our amazing Chief, along with all the members of the Gathering Committee, were all so amazing to work with.

It was a lot of effort from a lot of great people in many different time zones to organize such a large Gathering, but it was so worth it! Like any family, we learned a few lessons along the way and had a lot of laughs. It was incredibly rewarding to finally be with everyone on the Isle of Lewis in August. Working together toward a common goal made me feel connected and cared for in a way that I might not have been if I had only come to the event. If you have the inclination and a heart for helping, I absolutely recommend reaching out to see if you can be a part of the many engaging activities that the Clan is planning for the future and participating in the events so you can know people to meet up with on your travels.



The bus excursion on Friday was a highlight of our trip. I'm glad someone took photos because I always forget to when I'm caught up in enjoying every moment. I did get a good photo of the MacAulay cairn! The music and the dancing, and seeing the children light up and whirl, made my heart sing. Hearing about local family history during dinner on Friday brought tears to my eyes. At the Heavy-ish Games, I flubbed my toss of the haggis, but I hope to get another try in two years at the next Gathering! The hotel staff was incredible, and again, we felt so welcomed from the moment we set foot on the Isle of Lewis from the ferry. As I am an introvert, it was at times overwhelming, but I loved getting to meet so many MacAulays from around the world. It was my first Gathering and my first time in Scotland, and I know there were a lot of other first-timers too! I hope to see all of you again in Nova Scotia in 2024.

When it was time to say goodbye, I gave many hugs and shed more tears, knowing that no matter how far apart we are, I am connected to my extended MacAulay family through more than just a shared ancestry.



## STOP THE PRESSES!

*Doug Doughty, Standard Bearer*

### Media Coverage of the 2022 Clan MacAulay Gathering

To have a successful event, one needs to advertise. This can take the form of paid advertising or media coverage, and we had a lot of coverage for this one.

It started with a press release, which was put together with input from many members of the Executive Committee. We then sent the press release to a variety of media outlets in the Hebrides. The very next day, the media outlet We Love Stornoway posted it on their webpage. You can see it for yourself [here](#).

What amazed Joan and me was the level of recognition we encountered when we landed on Eilean Leòdhais (Isle of Lewis).

We went to Tesco to pick up a few things, and the young lady who operated the checkout line was talking with us. She noticed our MacAulay jackets and said, "You must be here for the Gathering." In another place we went, someone else mentioned they heard about the Gathering on the radio.

As part of our giving back to the community, we donated to Bethesda Hospice and to Eilean Siar Foodbank. The donation to the hospice was carried by our website/Facebook page, while the donation to the foodbank was also covered by We Love Stornoway. You can read about it [here](#).

On Thursday, 11 August, there was an article titled "A clan gathering with a chief difference" published in the Stornoway Gazette. This was interesting, as the Gazette did not interview Joan. They had read the press release and clearly had watched the interview of Chief Joan with The Scotland Shop and published [a very good article](#) (although the pub crawl idea didn't make the cut).

On Saturday, as we were coming back from the Heavy-ish Games, we were stopped on the street by a local who was a MacAulay—he, too, had read about the Gathering and asked us a few questions about it so we invited him to the ceilidh.

This Gathering was a big success, which was due to the Organising Committee, the staff at the hotel, and definitely the extraordinary amount of media coverage we received, both our own media and the numerous external media which covered our event.



## NEWS FROM THE COUNTY ANTRIM MACAULAYS

### *Barry Macaulay*

Barry Macaulay is a proud Ulster Scot from Co. Antrim in Northern Ireland. He plays in a number of folk and traditional bands in Northern Ireland doing a mix of Irish and Scottish music. He sings and plays the tin whistle, flute, harmonica, guitar, and ukulele. Barry has played at many Clan Gatherings and was gutted to have missed playing at the recent Stornoway event due to a back injury. Recently Barry was approached by the Ulster-Scots Agency as part of their project 'Tell Me Where You're Frae'. Here is Barry's account of the project.

'I was delighted to take part in the project which gave me the opportunity to highlight the history and culture of my local area through Ulster Scots prose. As an amateur historian, I had devised a heritage trail of the local area, so I decided to focus on the little hamlet of Roughfort in County Antrim, which is steeped in culture and history. In a very small area, there is an ancient burial chamber, a medieval fort, and a Liberty Tree for the 1798 United Irish Rebellion.

The process was very interesting. I came up with the content for the poem and was paired up with an Ulster Scots poet who worked with me to translate it into Ulster Scots. That version was then translated into a hybrid version of English-Ulster Scots for broadcast. This was to make it more comprehensible to the audience.'

The broadcast can be viewed at [this link](#). Hope you enjoy it







## OCTORARA COVENANTER PRESBYTERIAN SCOTTISH FESTIVAL

*Cyndi MacAulay, Commissioner, Pennsylvania*

On September 10, my husband Jim and I hosted the Clan MacAulay tent at the 9th Octorara Covenanter Presbyterian Scottish Festival held in Quarryville, Pennsylvania. The weather was perfect, and the event was well attended.

My sister Diane and her husband helped man the tent. We had two visitors, Kathrine and Toby McAulay, who were originally from Glasgow, Scotland, but now live in Philadelphia, PA.

Delta, our beautiful English Cocker Spaniel, was a big hit at the festival and received many belly rubs.

The proceeds from the festival help the foundation to maintain and restore the oldest Covenanter Presbyterian Church in North America, located on the site of the festival.

In the late 1600s, many Presbyterians left Scotland during the “killing times” and fled to Ulster, Ireland. During the 1700s, the Covenanter Presbyterians immigrated to America (mainly Pennsylvania, New York, and South Carolina) from Northern Ireland.

The King of England granted land to William Penn in 1681, which eventually became the Province of Pennsylvania. William Penn was a Quaker and an advocate of religious freedom. Thus, the Covenanters felt welcome when they came to Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and formed the Octorara Seceders congregation. In 1754, they were able to build their first church building.





## REFLECTIONS

*Colin McAulay, Reverend*

I loved to sit down to the delicious meals prepared by my late mother. She was an excellent cook and greatly admired and appreciated by many relatives and friends for her culinary delights. Everyone would rise from the table feeling completely satisfied and full of gratitude for the effort she made to produce such delights.

However, equally important was what I refer to as SOUL food. When my mother baked a cake, for example, she would take big handfuls of the various ingredients rather than follow a precise recipe. Thankfully, she realised that SOUL is just as important as physical food, and ensured that I benefitted from both.

SOUL food includes many of the ingredients which enable us to become whole people in terms of our personality. I am particularly grateful to my mother for giving me great handfuls of ENCOURAGEMENT when I was growing up. This helped me to feel more confident in dealing with people as well as a feeling of well-being. In addition, this ingredient helped me to attempt and achieve things that I thought were outside my ability.

HUMOUR is the ingredient that helps me to cope more easily with the ups and downs which we all experience in life from time to time. It also helps me to view some adverse circumstances from their proper perspective. In addition, HUMOUR helps me to take myself less seriously.

FORGIVENESS helps me to live more comfortably with myself and avoid creating animosity and even hatred towards others. Equally important is my willingness to forgive myself. Failing to forgive myself prevents me from moving on with my life; forgiveness is a reminder to myself that I cannot change the past, and I should treat each day as a new beginning.

PATIENCE provides me with the ability to allow circumstances to take their own course and wait for an outcome. This particular ingredient also helps keep my blood pressure from rising. Patience is truly a virtue.

Encouragement, humour, forgiveness, and patience are just as important as bread, water, and air. I'm thankful to my mother for providing me with physical and SOUL food in equal measure.

**REFLECTIONS IS A  
REGULARLY  
RECURRING  
SEGMENT OF  
MACAULAY  
MATTERS, WITH  
THANKS TO COLIN  
MCAULAY FOR  
CONTRIBUTING**

## THE CHIEF'S CORNER

*Joan McAulay*

If I were asked to pinpoint one highlight from the Stornoway Gathering, it would be a near-impossible task. The Organising Committee, so ably led by Christie, put their hearts and souls into ensuring you would have a great event. I also have to thank our Executive Committee, which committed to benefiting the people of the Western Isles with donations to the Bethesda Hospice and the Eilean Siar (Western Isles) Foodbank, a tradition we plan to continue.

Thursday morning we were graciously welcomed by the Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (Western Isles Council) at a civic reception that was attended by many of our Executives, Ambassadors, Commissioners, Organising Committee members, and members. An amazing event. The plaque, pictured to the left, now proudly hangs on my wall.

Other highlights? The grace and talent of the Highland dancers on Thursday night, the frenzied activity of Bingo (and no one knowing the rules!), and the fantastic music of Don, Marianne, Iain, and Mandy. The joy of seeing everyone experience the beauty of the Isle of Lewis, many for the first time, on our touring day and the fantastic lunch at the Uig Community Centre. Trying to keep Iain, Iain, Iain, and Ian "One I" straight at the formal banquet! The look on Shari's face as she was invested as a Commissioner. On Saturday morning, there was the thrill of the Annual General Meeting—kidding. Or was it the fun rivalry at the Heavy-ish Games—congrats to Cole and Tina for winning both the Haggis Hurling and Hammer for Distance events! And yes, the caber may make a comeback in Cape Breton. And how about the DNA/Genealogy session—the excitement and surprise when Lucas introduced cousins to each other! And who could forget Keith and Fritz entertaining us with the Heritage Fund raffle draws—they're permanently hired! And the exceptional ceilidh band and dancers (who stayed all night), getting everyone up and on their feet. The hotel staff—Lewis, Amy, Christina, and everyone else; the bonds created were unprecedented. Staff who were not working Saturday night came in just to say goodbye and get a hug! Where else but on Lewis?

Then there were the stories of our members roaming Stornoway and having people come up and ask if they were at the Gathering. Even the Sunday Stornoway-Ullapool ferry provided its own memories. We met yet another MacAulay who was working on the ferry.

But most of all, it's the people I'll remember. Friends from Gatherings past. New friends. The laughter, the stories, the hugs... That will be my enduring memory of Stornoway 2022.

With Stornoway now in the rearview mirror, we begin to look forward to Cape Breton 2024! I hope that you, your family, and your friends (and friends of friends) will join us there.



Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar  
"Western Isles Council"

Ardaichidh Fireantachd Cinneach  
"The righteousness of a nation  
will rise"

"Presented to  
Clan MacAulay  
to commemorate their  
International Gathering"



## NEW MEMBER WELCOME

**A very special welcome to our newest members!**

Bob McCauley, Las Vegas NV USA  
Chris Umfleet, Bath NC USA  
Douglas Gentile, Ames IA USA  
Elena Sanchez McAuley, Saskatoon SK Canada  
Glenn Ewan, Westcourt, Queensland, Australia  
Iain Macaulay Russell Burbank CA USA  
Janice MacAulay, Calgary AB Canada  
Sean Killen, Whitehall PA USA  
Tamara Mackenthun, Mountain Home ID USA

Iain & Amy MacAulay, Isle of Lewis, Scotland  
Iain & Anne Macaulay, Isle of Lewis, Scotland  
Iain & Ishbel MacAulay, Isle of Lewis, Scotland  
Ian & Christina Macaulay, Isle of Lewis, Scotland  
Joan & Iain Macmillan, Edinburgh, Scotland

## LIFE MEMBER WELCOME

**A special thank you to our members who have joined or made the commitment to upgrade to Life Member or Family Life status!**

Alyson Macaulay Court & Zachary Thomas, Toronto, ON Canada

## MEMORIES OF THE CLAN MACAULAY INTERNATIONAL GATHERING STORNOWAY, ISLE OF LEWIS

Thanks to Mark Meischeid, Donna Evans, and Kathy McCauley who [shared their excellent photos!](#)

## 2024 CLAN MACAULAY INTERNATIONAL GATHERING

**Mark your calendars!  
7–10 August 2024**

**Inverary Resort  
Baddeck, Cape Breton Island  
Nova Scotia, Canada**



# WHY DO YOU NEED TO DO Y-DNA TESTING FOR YOUR FAMILY RESEARCH?

*Lucas McCaw, Heritage Secretary*

*Kathy McCauley, Genealogy Coordinator*

Are you one of the millions of people who have done a DNA test in hopes of learning more about your family history?

Today, this has become a very popular way to advance a family's genealogical knowledge, but many people don't realize they may not have maximized their ability to find answers. The vast majority of people who do DNA tests only order the most common type, known as autosomal DNA tests. These are sold by many different companies, such as Ancestry, 23andMe, and MyHeritage.

While these test results can help you search for connections on all the lines you descend from, they have a basic limit on how far back you can go with them. Because you receive 50% of your autosomal DNA from each parent, when you have children, they only receive 50% of your autosomal DNA and approximately 25% of the DNA of their grandparents. After 5–6 generations of continued DNA “loss,” you will only have around 1% of the DNA from any given ancestor that far back. And in reality, it is common to have absolutely no DNA from any given ancestor that far back. That translates to having no identifiable matches from any ancestor beyond the ~1700s. While some people are happy only to go that far back, many seek to know a deeper history of their family, back to its origins. You may have cousins of the same surname but never actually see them in any regular DNA results.

Does that describe you?

Most Western European surnames originated between the 1300s and 1600s, depending on the region. For many Scottish families, this will be in the 1400s–1500s, well outside the window offered to autosomal DNA testers. If you are researching a particular lineage, you need a more powerful type of testing: Y-DNA. This can show connections from more than 1,000 years ago!

Because the Y chromosome is passed down from father to son with no loss of information, a male of the surname being researched will show you exactly which family you truly connect to. This is without the time limitations of autosomal DNA testing or even getting misleading or coincidental surname matches. Y-DNA testing has been useful in several MacAulay families so far and has identified distinct families with their own genealogical origins.

The only company to truly allow for comprehensive Y-DNA matching and data in today's market is FamilyTreeDNA. They provide projects to use your Y DNA data to connect with others and understand your full history. There are three levels of testing (Y37, Y111, BigY) with successive amounts of data to inform your research. In future articles, you will learn how to use this data to answer key questions about your family history.

Lucas McCaw: [clanheritage@clanmacaulay.org.uk](mailto:clanheritage@clanmacaulay.org.uk)

Kathy McCauley: [clangenealogy@clanmacaulay.org.uk](mailto:clangenealogy@clanmacaulay.org.uk)

**THIS WILL BE A  
REGULARLY  
RECURRING  
SEGMENT OF  
MACAULAY  
MATTERS, WITH  
THANKS TO LUCAS  
AND KATHY FOR  
CONTRIBUTING**

# CLAN MACAULAY HERITAGE FUND

*Treasurer Sean McAuley*

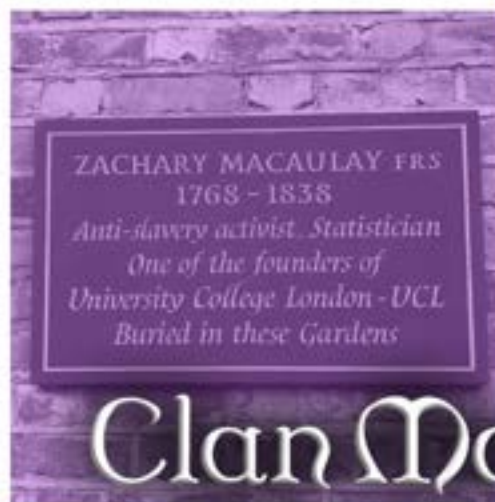
Would making a gift to the Clan Heritage Fund be something that fits with your sense of your family's place in the history and heritage of Scotland, Ireland and its wider diaspora?

The Clan is dedicated to offering support to projects that directly relate to MacAulay heritage and history and maintains a dedicated fund for this purpose. The Zachary MacAulay Memorial and restoration of the Conan Pictish Stone are examples of the projects Clan MacAulay has supported. The fund also supports DNA projects that are dedicated to furthering our knowledge of our MacAulay origins in Antrim and the Western Isles.

Your support could be in the form of a financial donation or perhaps a small legacy gift. Join us in the journey to discover and preserve our MacAulay heritage for today's Clan and our future generations.

To discuss making a gift, please email our Treasurer at [clantreasurer@clanmacaulay.org.uk](mailto:clantreasurer@clanmacaulay.org.uk), who looks forward to hearing from you.

**CLAN MACAULAY**  
**MOTTO**  
**DULCE PERICULUM**  
**"DANGER IS SWEET"**



Clan MacAulay  
Heritage Fund



# Clan MacAulay Ambassadors and Commissioners

## Australia

- Geoff Derrick, Ambassador

## Canada

- Doug Doughty, Commissioner, Central Canada
- Joan McAulay, Commissioner, Western Canada
- Matt MacAulay, Commissioner, Atlantic Canada

## New Zealand

- Ruth Cooper, Ambassador

## North America

- Marty McCauley, Ambassador

## United Kingdom

- Christiane Macaulay Readhead, Ambassador

## United States

- Bill O'Reilly, Commissioner, Michigan
- Bob Macauley, Commissioner, So. Missouri
- Chris Carpenter, Commissioner, New Jersey and Delaware
- Colin McCawley, Commissioner, Washington State
- Cyndi MacAulay, Commissioner, Pennsylvania
- Drew Macaulay, Commissioner, The Carolinas
- James McCauley, Commissioner, New York
- Jim McAuley, Commissioner, So. California
- Mike Macauley, Commissioner, No. Missouri
- Patricia Ware, Commissioner, Maryland and West Virginia
- Shari Brummer, Commissioner, Georgia
- Worth MacAulay, Commissioner, Massachusetts



# Clan MacAulay Executive

**Chief Joan McAulay**

**Secretary Marianne Mckenzie**

**Treasurer Verity McAuley**

**Membership Jim MacAulay McKinlay**

**Organiser Mary Jane Meischeid**

**Heritage Lucas McCaw**

**Standard Bearer Doug Doughty**

**Committee**

- Bob Macauley, Marketing Coordinator
- Colin McCawley, Historical Coordinator
- J. Scott McCauley, Member Engagement
- Jennifer Cornelius, Project Manager
- Kathy McCauley, Genealogy Coordinator
- Susan Caldwell, Technology Director

**MacAulay Matters Editor**

**Rachel L. MacAulay**

**Email me your ideas and photos**

**[clannewsletter@clanmacaulay.org.uk](mailto:clannewsletter@clanmacaulay.org.uk)**

## Clan MacAulay Association:

**Celebrate traditions and connect with your culture, heritage, and history.**

**Discover your Scottish or Irish MacAulay roots.**

**Engage in the worldwide community of Clan MacAulay.**