

Vol. 10 No. 3 *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree* Section A September 2016

### *The passing of a Chief...*

## **Danus Skene of Skene is gone and will be greatly missed**

**Danus Skene of Skene**, the Chief of the Clan Skene and the SNP candidate for Shetland who narrowly lost against Alistair Carmichael in last year's general election, has passed away.

The 72 year old died in the early hours of Friday morning, August 19, 2016, after undergoing surgery in London, the local party branch has confirmed.

Local party convenor Robbie McGregor paid tribute to Skene saying he was deeply sorry that he and the SNP had lost a good friend and servant.

"Our thoughts at this time are with his family to whom we extend our deepest sympathy."

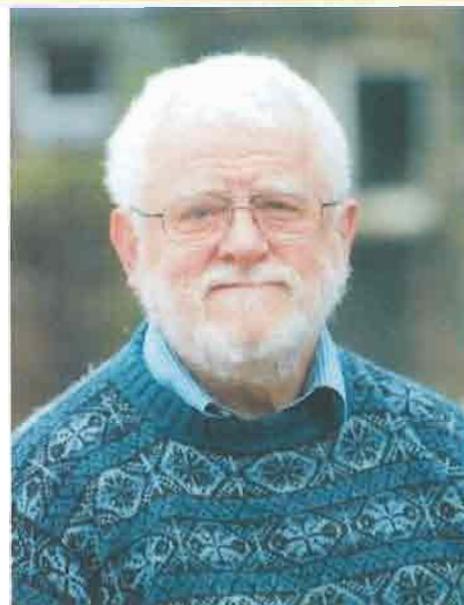
Despite still recovering from earlier heart surgery Skene also stood against sitting MSP Tavish Scott in this year's Scottish Parliament elections and lost heavily.

First Minister Nicola Sturgeon paid tribute to Skene by calling him one of the SNP's "finest".

She said in a statement: "Sad to hear Danus Skene has passed away. My thoughts with his family and friends."

MP Alistair Carmichael described Skene's passing as "sad news" and a loss "across the political spectrum".

"I know that Danus had not kept good health for some time, but when I spoke to him last month he appeared to be



on the mend and was clearly enjoying time with his family who were then in Shetland," he said.

"He was a very intelligent man who was passionate about his politics but was always reasoned in his argument.

"He will be missed by his many friends across the political spectrum and throughout Scotland and also in Africa where he had a longstanding and very practical commitment."

Shetland MSP Tavish Scott added: "I am sad to hear that Danus Skene has passed away and would express my condolences to his family, friends and party colleagues here in Shetland."

*Continued on page 5*



*We will never forget...*



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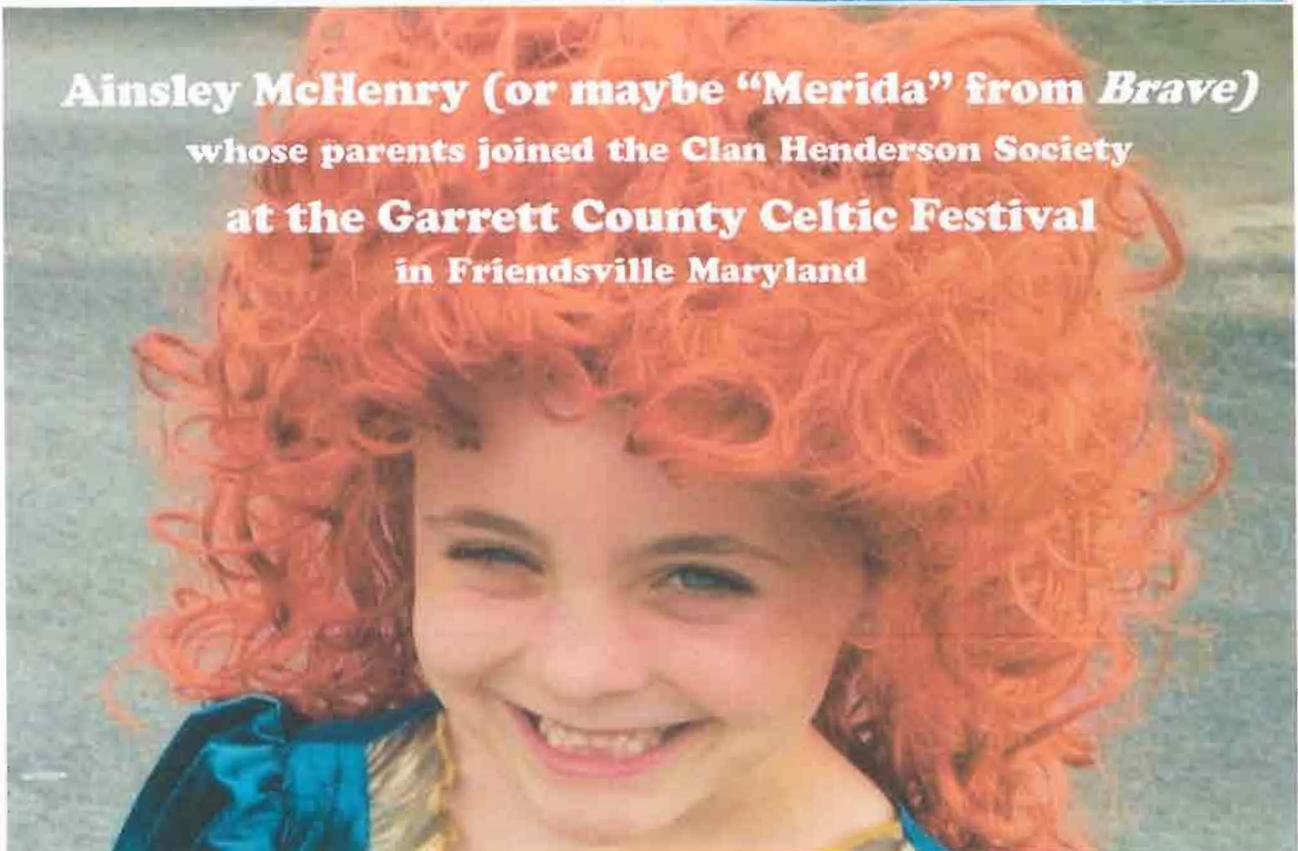
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**Ainsley McHenry (or maybe "Merida" from *Brave*)  
whose parents joined the Clan Henderson Society  
at the Garrett County Celtic Festival  
in Friendsville Maryland**



Letter from your editor

# My goodness, how things have changed!



I like to think of myself as someone who keeps up with the times...well, not so much, maybe, if I am completely honest with myself.

Yes, I am comfortable with email and with my publishing program on my computer. I am competent on my word programs.

No, I don't really know how to work FaceBook or Twitter or any of those "social sites."

I am lost on the computer when something goes awry. Nobody would ever use "computer nerd" and Beth in the same sentence. I am excellent at using the "Type OK" command.

I do remember growing up in the Murray Hill part of Jacksonville, Florida.

My grandmother, Annie Roberta McDonald Bishop Tompkins, raised all three of us...my younger two brothers and me.

We had a Kelvinator refrigerator - but, I do remember the Ice Man with his white horse, who came by our previous Southside house about every other day with a fresh block of ice.

Boy, do I remember the wringer washer that was Queen of the Kitchen on laundry day. My grannie could send things through that wringer at the speed of light - and still have all of her fingers when she was finished.

That thought brings to mind the fact that my sweet

grandmother, whose hands created so much beauty with her sewing and quilting...sawed off the index finger of her left hand with a HAND saw.

That was before me, so I never knew the details of that horrific day - but, she did lose that finger - and precisely in that manner.



I remember when we had a black and white television which was proudly on our buffet in the dining room.

*The Lone Ranger* was the first television program I ever saw.

I would lie on the floor under the dining room table and thrill to his "HI HO SILVER" cry.

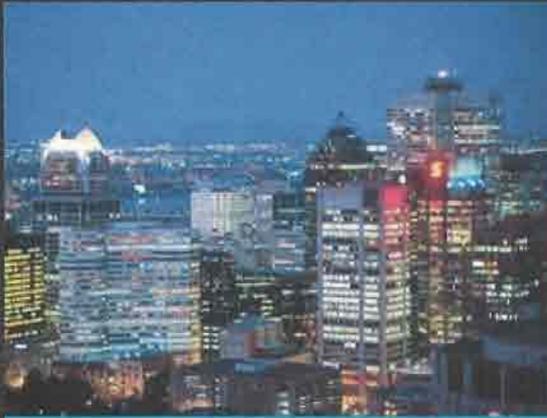
Tom just purchased a Kindle for me. I have applied for a non resident library card from the Atlanta-Fulton County Library so that I can down-

load books for the Kindle!

The very thick instruction book for all of this wonderment is on its way and should be here in a day or two. I hope I can learn how to do it.

I'm sure there are others who remember those bygone days with the same affection as I remember them.

It's amazing to think that the youngsters of today will someday look back on now - with the same amazement as do I. What will their lives be like? Wonder what of today they will remember as "good old days?"



# OH, CANADA!



[www.electriccanadian.com](http://www.electriccanadian.com)





## Chief, continued from page 1

Robina Barton, who contested this year's Scottish election in Shetland for Labour, said she was "devastated" by the news of her friend.

"Although we didn't see eye to eye politically, I had a great respect for him. He was

a good man and a decent human being," she said.

"I feel very sad today because we had meant to get together sometime to discuss the aftermath of the Scottish elections and the EU referendum. I've been busy lately and I never quite found the time, which is something I will always regret. I'd like to send my deepest sympathy to his family."

Gerry McGarvey, who represented Labour in the 2015 general election, said Skene was a "scholar and a gentleman".

His Conservative opponent in that election, Donald Cameron, added that the SNP man was an "intelligent, kind and gentlemanly opponent".

In last year's Westminster election, Skene managed to bring the Liberal Democrats' majority down from 9,928 to 817 votes.

In May this year, Skene came second to Tavish Scott in the Scottish Parliament vote in Shetland with 23.1 per cent of the vote.

He twice fought for a Westminster seat for the

Liberal Democrats - in North Tayside back in 1983, and in Moray four years later.

Skene was born in Dundee and first worked as a history and modern studies teacher. He then became an education official at Tayside regional council.

He has also served on the board of the Scottish Qualification Authority, and also worked in schools abroad in Israel and Kenya.

In 2015 he stood down as chairman of the board of Shetland Arts to focus on his Westminster election campaign.

Former director of the organisation Gwilym Gibbons described Skene as a "gentle, caring man with a passion for life and a huge intellect".

*The last time Danus was at the Stone Mountain Highland Games...maybe 5 years ago, afterwards, dear friends, Ralph and Dorna Comp, along with Danus, came home with us.*

*I was sure to make a chair for Danus' guest room that was covered in Skene tartan.*

*We had such a good time. Dorna and I were measuring drapery fabric and crawling around on the floor...and Danus was making music with his wonderful fife. Tom and Ralph were laughing.*

*I made Polish Meatballs...and we just enjoyed the time together.*

*Danus Skene of Skene was a good friend for a very long time and a dear, dear man.*

*He will be missed by many.*

## The official announcement of Danus Skene of Skene's death



We regret to inform you that our Chief, Danus Skene of Skene has passed away. We were informed this morning, Friday, 19 August, by his daughter, Dr. Hannah Skene, and are passing on the morning edition of the *Shetland News*.

Danus suffered a torn Aorta a couple of months ago upon returning from a trip to Africa.

Last week he entered hospital again and was transferred to a London hospital. He underwent successful surgery and was recovering in ICU when he died in his sleep.

Danus was a great friend to all and will be sorely missed. Arrangements will be forthcoming.

*Official announcement to the Clan Skene Society.*

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# Fifty Years between photographs!



When Dave Glover first visited the Royal Military Tattoo, he was a wide-eyed toddler enthralled by a dashing Queen's Guard at Edinburgh Castle.

Now, 50 years later, the Canadian piper has recreated the treasured family snap minutes before he performed with the Vancouver Police Department (VPD) at the world famous Edinburgh Tattoo event.

Dave was just three years old when he visited the Tattoo with his parents in 1966.

His dad sent him the image of Dave with the Queen's Guard before he returned to Scotland last week and told him to do the same again.

And yesterday he was delighted to make his wish come true. Dave, 52, said: "My dad sent me that photograph two weeks prior to us coming to Edinburgh.

"He said I should try to recreate the photo. When we got to the castle on Friday night we saw a guardsman and he was more than happy to do it.

"I stood exactly where we were 50 years ago.

Who would have thought when that picture was taken I would be back here now performing with VPD Pipe Band in the Military Tattoo.

"My dad will be so proud to see that picture. He's 79 years old and still lives with my mother in Trail, British Columbia. He's going to be so thrilled."

Dave, whose grandfather was born in Riccarton, near Kilmarnock, came to Scotland in the summer of 1966.

The VPD Pipe Band is performing at the Tattoo for the third time, having first been invited to the Edinburgh spectacular in 1980 and again in 1999.

This year's event pays a special tribute to the Queen's 90th birthday.

Dave added: "I performed in 1999 but I didn't know about that picture then or much about my visit here. "It's very special for me.

"My grandfather played the drums and my father's a piper."



# ARE YOU TRAVELING TO SCOTLAND?



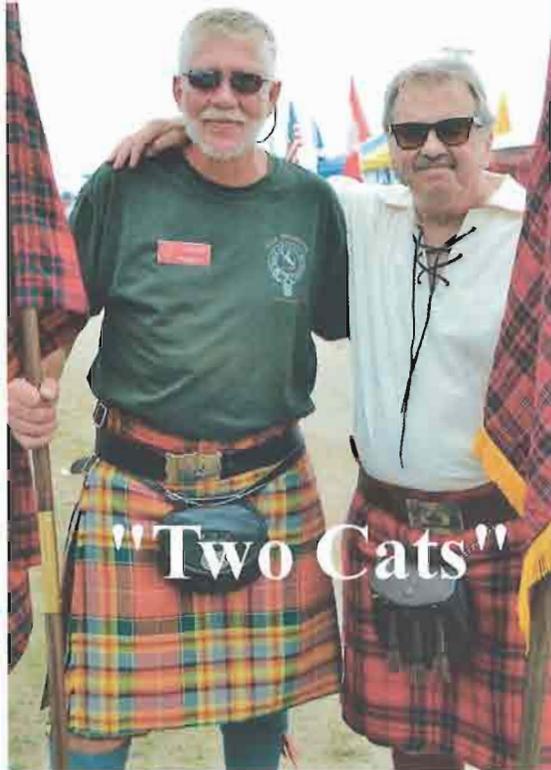
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Visit us at [www.scottishheritageusa.org](http://www.scottishheritageusa.org) and join **NOW!**

# Miss Mary's Tea at Rural Hill 2016



*Volunteers John Taggart, Peggy Franklin and Elaine Davidson preparing for the annual Miss Mary's Tea, held this time each year at Rural Hill Farm near Huntersville, SC.*

*Ray McHatton of Clan Mackintosh of North America and Ron McGilvray of Clan MacGillivray Society during the Parade of Tartans at Saturday's Maine Highland Games.*

*Both Clans are a part of the Clan Chattan (Clan of the Cat) Confederation. Other Clan Chattan clans are: Clan Davidson, Clan MacBean, Clan MacIntyre, Clan Shaw, Clan MacPhail, Clan MacThomas, Clan MacQueen and Clan Farquharson.*

The Clan Chattan is often known as the "Clan of the Cats" for its constituent clans mostly carry the wild cat in their badges.

This may be a pun on their origin with

the devotee of St. Cattan.

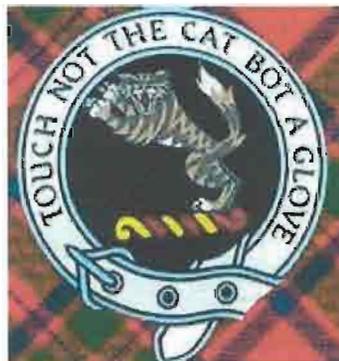
Each Clan has the cat in its own particular pose.

The Clan motto is "Touch not the cat bot a glove" - "bot" meaning without. A stern warning to anyone threatening Clan Chattan or its members.

*Clan Chattan Badge:* The plant badge worn by clansmen is the Red Whortleberry which is found in abundance in forests, moors and in the slopes of the hills of Clan Chattan Country.

In Gaelic it is known as *Lus nam braoileg*; in Latin, *Vaccinium vitisidaea* and elsewhere the Cowberry.

It flowers from May to August and from then until October produces a berry which gradually turns from green to a deep red.



**[clanchattan.org.uk](http://clanchattan.org.uk)**

# *Glencoe School of Scottish Highland Dance*

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*Mary Wilson Recknagel*

**- BATD Fellow Highland & Scottish Nationals -  
SOBHD Adjudicator**

# Maze season is upon Rural Hill Farm! Come volunteer!

At Rural Hill, are so grateful for all of our volunteers throughout the year, and now we want to see more of you! Come help us out and enjoy the great outdoors by volunteering at the 2016 Rural Hill Amazing Maize Maze!

## DAY MAZE DATES & HOURS

**Sept. 10 – Sept. 18**

Fridays & Saturdays: 10:00 – 6:30

Sundays: 10:00 – 5:00

**Sept. 23 – Nov. 1**

Fridays – Sundays: 10:00 – 5:00

## NIGHT MAZE DATES & HOURS

**Sept. 23, 24, 30 Oct. 1, 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29 Nov. 4, 5, Fridays & Saturdays: 6:30 – 9:00**



John and Christina Turnbull celebrate the birth of their son, Theo John Turnbull.

Theo was born, June 28, 2016 at

9:51 am, weighing 7 lb. 12.5 oz.

The family lives in Radcliffe on Trent, Nottinghamshire, England.

Congratulations from your extended Turnbull family and friends.



2016 | 44TH ANNIVERSARY

# 44<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL Stone Mountain Scottish Festival & HIGHLAND GAMES

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# Female lone piper makes history at Edinburgh Military tattoo



Scottish Soldier Lance Bombardier Megan Beveridge has made piping history, becoming the first regular army female Lone Piper to perform at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo.

The 21-year-old piper is also the youngest person – and only woman – to pass the Army Pipe Major’s course.

Standing on Edinburgh Castle ramparts, she took her place in the spotlight in front of an 8800-strong audience.

And after the famous massed pipes and drums on the Esplanade fell silent Megan played the lament *Sleep Dearie Sleep* at the end of the finale.

This is cited by many Tattoo-goers as the most moving and uplifting part of the show and is one of the greatest honours that any Army Piper can hope to achieve.

Megan is a member of 19 Regiment Royal Artillery, The Scottish Gunners, who are unusual in the fact that they are not an Infantry or a Royal Armoured

Corps Regiment, but still have a Pipes and Drums on their strength.

Women can serve in Artillery Regiments in the Army, so Megan chose The Scottish Gunners as her Regiment to further improve her prospects as a Piper.

Megan has been playing the pipes since she was nine years old. She joined the Army when she left school at 16 before going on to join the Royal Artillery.

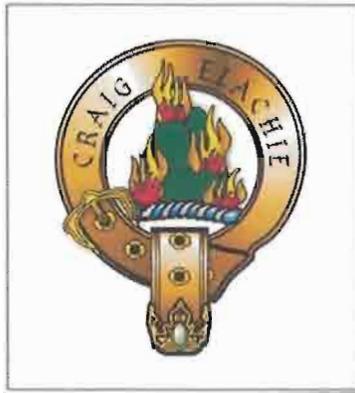
Before each performance of the Tattoo, the Lone Piper has to welcome the Salute Taker for that show.

They perform the Ceremony of the Gaelic Toast, where the Piper and Salute Taker each have a Quaich (Scottish drinking cup) of whisky, the Piper recites the Gaelic Toast (welcoming the Salute Taker to the Castle, wishing them, the Queen and everyone there the best of health) and then they drink together. The Piper then gives a salute and the Salute Taker takes their seat.

*Continued on page 15*



**The Hermitage Plantation in Nashville, Tennessee on Saturday September 10, 2016 from 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM.**



Clan Grant is not just a historical society, it is a **living clan** whose members consider themselves extended family and kin and who keep their heritage alive through participation in many gatherings and events around the country. Your ancestors are calling you, honor them by joining the society today!

Membership in the Society is open to any person who is lineally descended from the surname "Grant", a recognized Clan Grant sept name, or anyone who is generally interested in or in sympathy with the purposes of the Clan Grant Society.

*Membership includes the Quarterly newsletter, "Craigellachie", via email or regular mail. It is also available in the Members Only section of the website.*

Visit our WEB page at  
or like us on Facebook at

<http://www.clangrant-us.org>

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

### ***Stand Fast, Craigellachie!***

***Craigellachie*** (pronounced Kra-GEL'-a-key) is Gaelic for "rock of alarm." The Clan Grant motto is "***Stand Fast, Craigellachie!***" *Craigellachie* is the hill or mountain behind the modern town of Aviemore. It is also the name of a village situated about thirty miles down the River Spey from Aviemore.





# Entrepreneurs, developers & designers Startup Weekend 2017 in Salt Lake City, Utah

FamilySearch International and RootsTech are hosting an exciting family history edition of Startup Weekend designed by Techstars ([techstars.com](http://techstars.com)), an international firm that helps technical and non-technical entrepreneurs, developers, and designers put their ideas into action and learn how to build successful start-up companies. The event's goal is to foster innovation in family history-related concepts or technology. The conference runs August 25 to 27, 2016, at the Riverton FamilySearch office building, 3740 West Market Center Drive, (13175 South). Registration is required. Find out more at [Start-up Weekend Riverton](#).

The family history-themed Startup Weekend will help entrepreneurs take the first steps toward launching a start-up that focuses on the rapidly growing, \$4 billion family history market. Entrepreneurs' concepts or projects need not be family history specific, but simply related to family history in some way. Many



aspects of family history are now being sold in the technical market, even activities that some people have never considered as "family history." These include photography, scrapbooking, maps, DNA testing, medical histories, preserving family artifacts, storytelling, and all parts of a person's life story, including social media where many posts expand these stories.

Startup Weekend begins Thursday night with pitches and continues Friday with brainstorming, business model development, and prototype creation in collaboration with enthusiastic local industry experts

and mentors. It culminates Saturday afternoon with demos and presentations in front of the industry's experts.

Startup Weekend Riverton is sponsored by Grow Utah, ancestorcloud, Durham Jones & Pinegar, findmypast, and DevMountain.

For information on how to sign up and participate, go to [Start-up Weekend Riverton](#).

## About FamilySearch

FamilySearch International is the largest genealogy organization in the world.

FamilySearch is a nonprofit, volunteer-driven organization sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Millions of people use FamilySearch records, resources, and services to learn more about their family history.

To help in this great pursuit, FamilySearch and its predecessors have been actively gathering, preserving, and sharing genealogical records worldwide for over 100 years.

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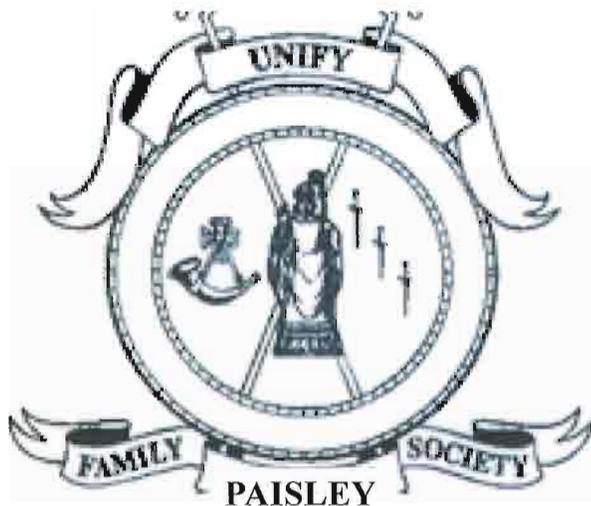
## Lone Piper, *continued from page 13*

"I'm more nervous about the Gaelic Toast than about the piping," said Megan,

Megan is the first woman from a Regular Army Pipes and Drums to take on the role, which is normally reserved for the infantry and Royal Armoured Corps – parts of the Army that will only start accepting women later this year for the first time.

Being the first woman to have achieved her Pipe Major's qualification, she hopes she won't be the last.

She said: "I hope that I've inspired other female Pipers to join the Army. It's a great job and I'm really pleased to be able to do it."



The guidon of the Chieftain



The Chiefly Arms of Paisley of Westerlea

The Paisleys are a family of considerable antiquity, having been associated with Lochwinnoch and Paisley (parts of what later became Renfrewshire), with Cunningham and Kyle (North Ayrshire), Innerwick (East Lothian) and Roxburghshire, since the time of William I King of Scots 1165 - 1214.

William I Paisley (died ante 28 September 1171) and William II Paisley (killed in battle ante 1218) were prominent in the following of the first three hereditary stewards of Scotland, while William II Paisley is also noticed attending the itinerant court of the King of Scots during 1179 - 95.

Separate and quite distinct branches of the family had already developed at Lochwinnoch and Paisley and in the Roxburghshire barony of Hawick before the end of King David Bruce's reign in 1371 and the beginnings of others are found in records for Edinburgh and the three Lothians from 1389 onwards and at Dunrod near Borgue (Kirkcudbrightshire) in still Gaelic speaking Galloway from 1585.

The Paisley Family Society will attend the Charleston, SC Scottish Games Sept. 17, 2016. See you there!



Duncan W. Paisley of Westerlea, Chieftain of the Paisley Family

**WOW!** NC's Triad Games, MD's Fairfield, Charleston, SC and Richmond, VA! The Paisley Family Society was busy in 2015. Check our webpage <[www.paisleyfamilysociety.org.uk](http://www.paisleyfamilysociety.org.uk)> to see what we're up to in 2016. Contact Martha Brown at: [mbrown2205@aol.com](mailto:mbrown2205@aol.com). Paisley DNA project: <[dlangsto@yahoo.com](mailto:dlangsto@yahoo.com)>



AGM & Spring Gathering 2015 at Ardfalla, Scotland

# Flowers of the Forest



Sympathies and condolences to the family of **Eleanor Turnbull Sassano.**

Eleanor passed away August 9 at the age of 95. She leaves behind five children, 16 grandchildren and 13 great grand children.

Eleanor, or Ellie, as she was called, was the youngest daughter of Wallace and Therese Turnbull and sister of Kay, Janet and Marge.

She was married to Joseph Matthew Sassano for 59 years before his death in 2006.

Many of her grandchildren carry the middle name of Turnbull. She will be greatly missed.

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**Anne Walsh**, who broke through gender barriers as a reporter covering the home front during World War II and later became a fixture in journalism in Phoenix, has died at the age of 93.

Walsh was a pioneering reporter and part of a family of journalists. Her husband, Mason, served as managing editor, general manager and publisher of the *Phoenix Gazette* and *Arizona Republic*, and two of her children, Kevin and Peggy, worked as bureau chiefs for The Associated Press.

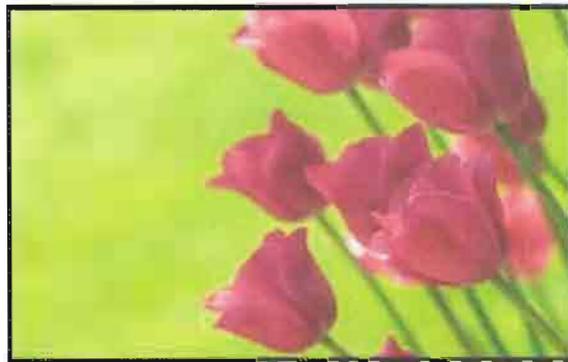
Walsh was hired as a reporter at the *Dallas Times Herald* in 1940s at a time when very few women were working in journalism. She was initially given mundane tasks like weather reports, church notes and obituaries, but took on more coveted assignments as the U.S. was plunged into war, covering government

agencies, housing issues and labor relations.

"They decided to take a chance on satisfying my hunger to report the news on the street," she said in a newspaper profile in 1946.

Her byline soon became a regular presence on the front pages of the Dallas paper as she landed interviews with oil tycoon H.L. Hunt, labor organizer Walter Reuther and actor Victor Mature. *Mademoiselle* magazine profiled her and other women in journalism in 1946, noting the strides they had made but the looming challenges as men returned from the war and reclaimed jobs.

"Women will be able to retain that portion of their gain which they want to retain," she said in the interview. "There may have to be some backtracking, some moving out for returned servicemen. It appears, though, that businesses have expanded enough that any woman who wants to stay in her job, and who has proved herself capable, will have a place."



Walsh moved to Phoenix in 1961 when her husband became managing editor of the *Gazette*, an afternoon paper that closed in 1997.

She wrote a book review column from 1962 to 1976 at the paper and remained active in Arizona journalism as her husband ran the *Republic* and *Gazette*.

She remained a news junkie up until her death last week, regularly watching *CNN* and reading two newspapers a day from her home in the Arcadia neighborhood of Phoenix.

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# SEASIDE HIGHLAND GAMES



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# Lucky 13<sup>th</sup> year for the Seaside Highland Games in Ventura, CA!

The Seaside Highland Games, now in their “Lucky 13<sup>th</sup>” year, have become one of the West Coast’s major Scottish/Celtic Gatherings.

Their home on the Ventura County Fairgrounds in the lovely seaside village of San Buenaventura, California is ideal for the vast Scottish cultural event staged there each October (this year on October 9 through 11).

Situated between Santa Monica and Santa Barbara and right at Surfer’s Point, you could not ask for a more idyllic California coastal location!

This Festival will be a special one in every respect as we once again host The Third Marine Aircraft Wing Band out of MCAS Miramar in San Diego, California.

And to show true international flavour, how about the famous *Tannahill Weavers* direct from Scotland? They will pair up with *Golden Bough* just returning from one of their own European tours on the Alex Beaton Center Stage.

Three other stages will be alive with fine musicians all day long—check out *Highland Way* and *The Angry Brians* on the Celtic Rock Stage or everyone’s favorite *Celtic Spring* on their very own Celtic Spring Stage!

Scottish Heavy Athletes from across the US and Canada will amaze with their feats of strength and agility—all weight & age classes and abilities for both men and women to try their hand! Morgan Arena is the place to check them out and directly oceanside from

there is Sara Goodman’s All Breed Herding Dog Demos Arena where you will see a most entertaining show of canine skill and training!

Numerous bagpipe and drum bands from across the Southland competing *en masse* and singly for trophies and prizes (as are the Scottish Heavies above and our Highland Dancers, Scottish Fiddles and the “peacocks” of all competitors, the feisty Drum Majors on the Village Green!

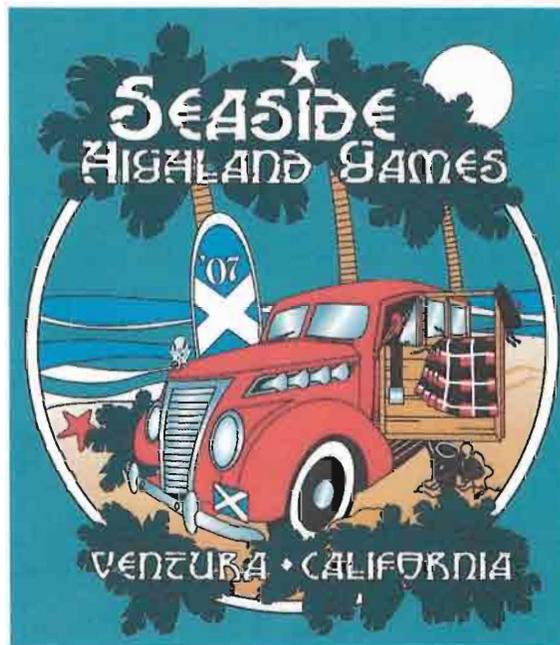
A complete Children’s Glen the young ones will *not* want to leave (!), more entertainment and Scottish Country Dancing in Morgan Arena, oh my, our Harp Glen and Harp Petting Zoo (*no animals were harmed in its formation*) sponsored by Clan Currie and numerous classes in Gaelic Language, Genealogy and Scotch - all for everyone to enjoy!

Be there for the Opening Ceremonies and Grand Parade at NOON

on Saturday before you shop the unique Vendor Buildings and follow your senses to the amazingly satisfying Food Court for a wee bit of food and bev!

Come early for Friday’s Four Points Sheraton events—the huge Single Malt Tasting and our “A Scottish Evening” (a fine buffet supper w/live entertainment and the famous Scottish Fashion Show)! What more can you ask...*and we probably have that, too?!*

See <[seaside-games.com](http://seaside-games.com)> for more information or call John & Nellie at 818-886-4968. See you in California!



*The 2007 Seaside Highland Games t-shirt and pin design by Tom Freeman.*

# The Families of Clan MacTavish Welcome You to Discover Your Scottish Heritage!



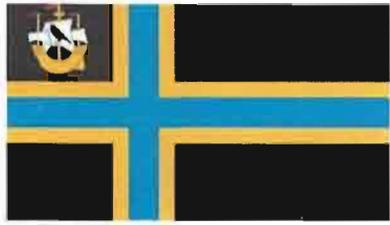
Chief Steven  
MacTavish

Family names associated with Clan MacTavish:  
*Cash, Kash, MacCamish, MacCash, MacCavish,  
MacComb, MacCombie, MacComich, MacComish,  
MaComie, Macomie, MacCosh, MacLaws,  
MacElhose, MacLehose, MacTavish, McTavish,  
Mactavish, Mactavis, M'Tavish, MacThomas,  
Stephens, Stephenson, Stevens, Stevenson, Tavish,  
Tawesson, Thom, Thomas, Thomason, Thomasson,  
Thompson, Thomson, Tod, and Todd, and all variant  
spellings.*

## We Are Clan MacTavish!



For information about joining us email: [clanmactavishUSA@gmail.com](mailto:clanmactavishUSA@gmail.com)



## More Summer in Caithness

One of the big events of the Caithness summer is the Caithness County Show. It is remarkably like a County Fair back in Indiana. There is animal judging (lots of sheep – big surprise)



and horses



and cattle.....though you do not see many hieland koos in Indiana.



There is a dog show.



There are tractors, both old and new



And food vendors



*Continued on page 23*

**Dr. Pete Hylton,**  
(EdD), Ph.D,  
Fellow of the  
Institution of  
Engineering and  
Technology,  
FSA Scot,  
Fulbright  
Scholar  
shares his  
own  
Scottish  
Adventures  
with us!

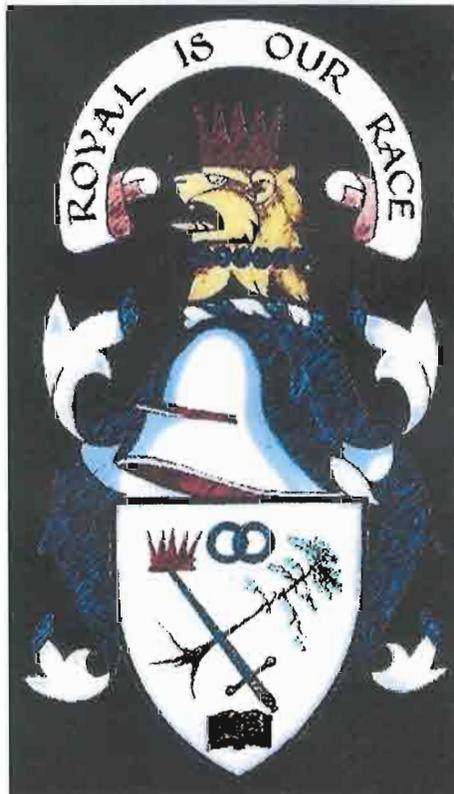
# THE CLAN GREGOR SOCIETY

## 'S Rioghal Mo Dhream! Royal is my Race!

Fàilte! The Clan Gregor Society is a growing organisation with membership throughout the world. It's most active objectives are to extend the links of kinship and friendship between MacGregors, wherever they may be, and to provide a focal point for all members of the Clan and interested visitors who wish to learn more of our noble past.

**Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor**  
7th Baronet of Lanrick and Balquidder  
**24th Chief of Clan Gregor**

Clan Gregor  
has  
Great Lakes,  
New England,  
Pacific  
Northwest,  
Western  
United States  
and  
Southeast  
Chapters



For membership,  
contact:  
120 Wicksford Glen  
Sandy Springs,  
GA 30350

Ms. Ishbel McGregor,  
Secretary  
5 Alloa Road  
CAMBUS by Alloa  
Clackmannanshire  
FK10 2NT  
Scotland

**Join Clan Gregor today! [www.clangregor.org](http://www.clangregor.org)**

Dr. Pete Hylton, *continued from page 21*

There are baked goods to be judged.



There are a few things you might expect to see ONLY in America.



And a few scenes which are simply out of place.



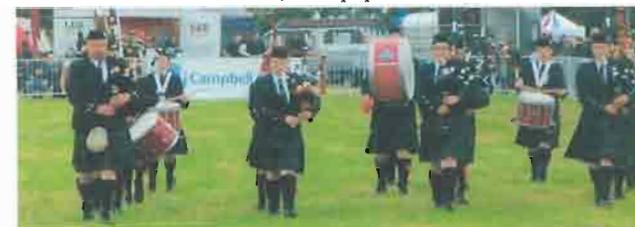
There are information booths.....like the one for North Highland College.....with our mascot, Hamish.



There's a midway



And of course, the pipe band.



If you have been following the newsletters from our Scottish adventures, then you are aware that the experience has given rebirth to my childhood interest in the World Land Speed Record (WLSR) and those brave men who have pursued it. I have had the chance to associate with the current Bloodhound Project to break the existing 763 mile per hour record, which is amazing. But, no less amazing are the men who held the record in the fifties and sixties, like Craig Breedlove in *Spirit of America* and Sir Malcolm Campbell and his son

*Continued on page 25*



## Elliot Clan Society, USA Membership Information 2014

The Elliot Clan Society is a worldwide organization, with active branches in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States. In accordance with Scottish Clan Law, Clan membership includes all Elliots, Elliots, Elliotts, those of whose mother or grandmother was so named and their spouses. This also applies to Elliotts of known Scottish descent.

If you are a person of Scottish ancestry bearing the name Elliot, Elliott or Eliott (Including the spouse or descendant of such person) and wish to join the Elliot Clan Society, please fill out the membership form. Those forms may be found on the "Official ECS Website" at:

[www.elliotclan.com](http://www.elliotclan.com)

For US residents, please make sure that you send your completed ECS USA membership forms to the Membership/Treasurer. Once you join the Society, you will receive periodic newsletters from the ECS USA and our Parent Society in Scotland. The newsletters will inform you of Scottish festivals in your area and other announcements of importance to our Clan. Membership allows you to meet other Elliots with similar interests who share our Scottish heritage.

Contact Patricia Tennyson Bell

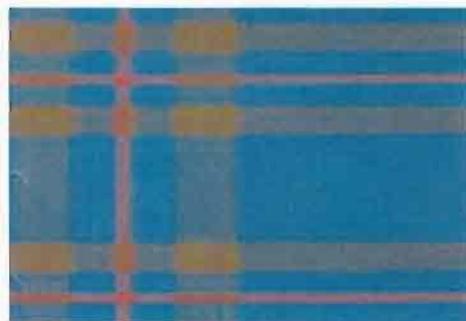
Email: [dublincollen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dublincollen@sbcglobal.net) or write

2984 Siskiyou Boulevard

Medford, OR 97504

*(Fortiter Et Recte)*

*Boldly and Rightly*



**Dr. Pete Hylton, *continued from page 23***

Donald, in their Bluebirds. I even turned one of my Bloodhound kits into a model of Sir Malcolm's Bluebird that was the first car to break 300 mph.



And I recently read "My Speed King," the autobiography of Donald by his wife, Tania Bern-Campbell, who saw him through a 1955 World Water Speed Record in one of the Bluebird boats at Coniston Water in the British Lake District, through a horrendous crash at Bonneville while pursuing the WLSR, through the incredible year of 1964 when he broke both the land and water records in Australia, and back to Coniston for another record attempt in 1967, that resulted in his death.

Donald's Bluebird CN7, the first car to exceed 400 miles per hour, was one of the most technologically advanced vehicles, relative to its era, in history. Adrian Newey, well recognized Formula One designer, has described the CN7, as one of the biggest ever automotive advances, and "arguably, for its time, the most advanced vehicle." Campbell prepared a revolutionary car featuring advanced aluminum honeycomb chassis, fully independent suspension and four wheel drive. It was also the first true ground effects car. It was the last WLSR holder to be wheel driven rather than thrust driven, as all subsequent record holders were jet or rocket powered. The car was designed to exceed 500 mph, but track conditions held Campbell to just a bit over 400. Newey claims that the car was so advanced, that were it to be dusted off and freshened up, that it could still, today, break the world record for a wheel driven car.....50 years after it last ran. Unfortunately, Campbell died before he got to run her a second time.

On my way to collect Wendy on her return to the UK, I made a side trip to visit Coniston Water.



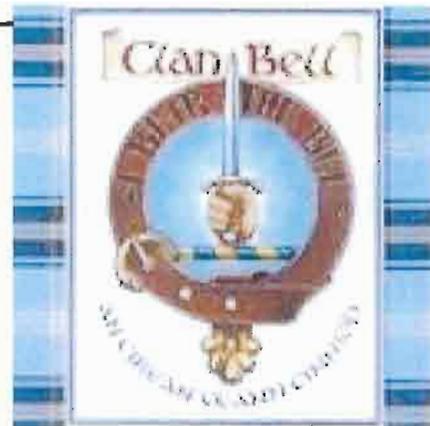
I stayed in the Black Bull Inn, one of the places Donald and Tania stayed during the record attempts. I ate dinner at the Sun Hotel, the other hotel they utilized. It was very strange to be in the places that I had read about, and that one of my heroes had frequented during the height of his career. The locals are very cognizant of the speed history of their town and lake.



*Continued on page 27*



# Clan Bell North America, Inc.



This old West Marche Riding Clan, one of the Border Clans from the early 1100s, were retainers of Clan Douglas and also allied with the best Border families through blood and friendship. Their land holdings were extensive. To survive on the often invaded Borders, they engaged in the “rieving” of the period and participated in many battles against the English.



Declared “unruly” by the Scottish Parliament, many of the Clan were “encouraged” to emigrate to the Ulster Plantation in Northern Ireland after 1610.

After William Bell, called “Redcloak” and Chief of the Clan died in 1627, the chiefship became dormant. Without leadership, the Bells ceased to exist as a viable clan.

Clan Bell North America is a charitable organization of Scottish descendants and friends of Family/Clan Bell dedicated to the study of Bell Genealogy and Scottish history and the perpetuation of family tradition.

CBNA cordially invites membership inquiries from persons named Bell (all spellings), their descendants and friends. A quarterly newsletter is published. Tents are hosted at major Scottish festivals from coast to coast in the USA.

President & Membership:

**David E. Bell**

1513 Anterra Drive  
Wake Forest, NC 27587  
debellinn@reagan.com

*Visit our Website:*

**clanbell.org**





Coniston is a lovely village surrounded by hills, lakes, and streams.

I picked Wendy up in Manchester a day late, after a weather delay due to US storms. But her cat did not arrive with her, having been left in Indianapolis by the air cargo folks. That necessitated yet another day's delay. We took the time to drive into the Peak district in Yorkshire, where we visited a lovely mountain town. No self-respecting historic town in Britain can get by without a ruined castle and at least one 17<sup>th</sup> century pub. So we visited the castle and ate at the pub, built in 1660. The sign on the low hanging beam in the center of the pub bore the humorous sign shown in the photos.

*Continued on page 29*





# ClanKeith-USA.org

Official website of The Clan Keith Society USA, Inc

If you have genealogical ties to the surname Keith (including alternate spellings such as Keeth) or any of Clan Keith's Sept family names, you were born into the Clan Keith!

Septs and spellings include: Achindachy - Astine - Aston - Austen - Austin - Cate(s) - Dick - Dickson - Dicson - Dixon - Dixon - Falconer - Faulkner - Harvey - Harvie - Hackston - Haxton - Hervie - Hervey - Hurrie - Hurry - Keath - Keech - Keeth - Keith - Keyth - Kite - Lum - Lumgair - MacAustin - MacDick - MacDicken - MacDickie - MacDeetch - MacKeeth - MacKeitch - MacKeith - Marshall - Urie - Urry

The Clan Keith Society would be delighted for you to join us as a member. For more information, please email [membershipclankeith@mindspring.com](mailto:membershipclankeith@mindspring.com) or call 404-539-5222.



Dunnottar Castle, stronghold of the Keiths (near Stonehaven)

Please plan to attend your local Highland Games and, if you see our tent, please come by for a visit. The tent convener will have information about Clan Keith's fascinating history as well as membership information. Membership in the Clan is not expensive but one of the finest investments that you will every make. Hope to see you soon!

Dr. Pete Hylton, *continued from page 27*



After we collected the cat, we headed back to Thurso. Two days after we arrived, the ship believed to be carrying our furniture sailed through the Pentland Firth, and we sat on Thurso Bay and watched it pass by, between us and the Orkney islands. That was a truly strange feeling.



It turned out that our container had missed that ship, so it had still not arrived yet, when we got the keys to our new house.



So we had to borrow a couple of chairs and sleep on an air mattress for a bit. But, that did not dampen our excitement. We finally have our wee Scottish cottage. Our new address is

13 The Crescent  
Glengolly, Thurso  
Caithness  
KW14 7XL  
United Kingdom

One of the biggest events of the summer in Caithness is the Halkirk Highland Games, which celebrated its 130<sup>th</sup> year this July. It was truly a special year, as wee Halkirk played host to the World Heavy Championships – for the biggest and strongest of the world's Highland Game athletes. They participated in 8 events to crown this year's world champion.

The first competition was tossing a 15 pound ball the furthest distance. Then, as the next two pictures show, there was a contest to toss the Halkirk Stone.....a 22 pounder.....as far as possible. Believe it or not, someone tossed that thing over 46 feet. These are strong lads !!! Next there was a contest to see who could swing a 28 lb weight and hurl it the furthest. Then repeat with a 56 lb one.



*Continued on page 31*

The Clan Colquhoun Society in North America  
is now...

**The Clan Colquhoun International Society**

**<http://www.clancolquhoun.com>**



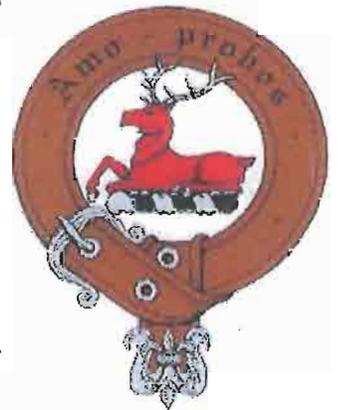
Contact Tom Hodges:  
[sijepuis@bellsouth.net](mailto:sijepuis@bellsouth.net)

Allied Families and Septs of

**Clan Colquhoun are:**  
Colquhoun, Calhoun, Cowan,  
MacClintock & MacManus

# Clan Blair Society

Memberships are cordially invited for Blair  
descendants and other interested parties.



**[www.clanblair.org](http://www.clanblair.org)**

President Clan Blair Society: Jim Blair  
7200 S. Prince Street  
Littleton, CO 80120  
Email: [president@clanblair.org](mailto:president@clanblair.org)



Membership Chairman: Charles Diman  
3413 Sunnybrook Drive, Charlotte, NC 28210-4715  
Email: [ClanMembership@clanblair.org](mailto:ClanMembership@clanblair.org)

**Dr. Pete Hylton, continued from page 29**

There was the hammer toss (22 and 56 lb versions – the heavy one went over 121 feet for the winner), followed by a contest to see who could toss a 56 pound weight the highest. And last, but certainly not least, was the caber toss (throwing a 20 foot pole).



There were two Americans in the contest, one of whom was the defending world heavy champion, and they each won a pair of the events. But the title this year went to (oh horror !) an Englishman.

There were also foot races and bike races for all age groups, sack races for the kids, and naturally a highland dancing competition.



As well as other strange things.



And of course, there was a pipe band.....but not just any pipe band....the world famous Royal Scots Dragoon Guards. This British army regiment is perhaps the world's most famous military musical group, having produced albums, serenaded royalty

Continued on page 32

**Dr. Pete Hylton,** *continued from page 31*

and dignitaries from around the world, and still serving as active military soldiers in hot spots around the globe. Their 2008 platinum album was recorded in Iraq, making it the first professional album ever recorded in a conflict zone. They have been around quite a while. Note they all wear black Canadian bearskin hats....except the bass drummer, who wears a white Polar Bear one presented to the corps by the Tsar of Russia, when they performed before him.....in 1894.



Quite a large crowd came out to see the show.



Another notable event of summer in Caithness is the annual open garden day at Dunbeath Castle. It is a privately owned castle, and closed to the public.....except one weekend a year, when the incredible gardens are open to the public. They have quite a reputation, and it is well deserved.

Here is the castle.



This is the carriage house, now a garage.



And these are a few shots of the gardens.



*Continued on page 33*

Dr. Pete Hylton, *continued from page 32*

And of course there was a pipe band.



Summer is also a good time to visit the Orkney Islands, just a half hour ferry ride away. This is the stunning St. Magnus Cathedral



The 5000 year old Skara Brae Neolithic village, built into the hillside for protection from the incredible winds that Orkney experiences.



And the Ring of Brogar, a standing stone circle from 3000 years BC.



There is also the remarkable Italian Chapel, built by the World War 2 Italian prisoners of war. They were engaged in building causeways to connect the islands (and by the way, keep German submarines out of Skapa Flow, where the British Navy was based). In their free time, and using only scrap materials, they built a beautiful chapel.



This is the lighthouse at Duncansby Head, which you pass during the ferry trip.

*Continued on page 34*



Here is a traditional thatched roof cottage.



Here is the passage way you have to crawl to get inside. Viewed from both outside and inside.



The shipping container finally arrived...returning Maggie, our MG-TC to Britain for the first time since she was built in 1948. And, we found a stowaway! Vicky flew over to help unload and unpack.

*"Did not strong connections draw me elsewhere, I believe Scotland would be the country I would choose to end my days in." .....*Benjamin Franklin



She also went exploring with me, in this 5000 year old burial cairn.

