



Broadsword

Newsletter of the
Federation of Scottish Clans in Nova Scotia

Volume 4 Issue 13 Fall 2005



"My mandate, as I see it, is, "to get the Clans supporting the Federation in its work." Jean Watson, President, in her address to Federation members and guests at the Annual General Meeting held in Stellarton N.S., October 15, 2004.

President Jean Watson's address to the attendees at the Annual General Meeting is printed in full. Her words are intended to initiate action.

Outgoing President, Bill Sutherland, formally passes the gavel to in-coming President, Jean Watson during the Annual General Meeting".

To all Clan Presidents and Individual Federation Members:

As I take on the position of President, I am well aware that no one wants the job. I have not taken this on without much thought as to what could be done.

It is pretty obvious why people don't come forward to serve on the Board. It is a thankless, time-consuming, expensive job, with not even a free meal. If the Board Members didn't reach into their own pockets for gas, meals and other expenses, we would have collapsed long ago.

Like many of you, I have been a member of the Federation almost since it formed (1982). I have always been on the Board, or a Committee, because I feel that the Federation is a good thing. Over the first 5 years or so, we received grants to help us with various activities. When this stopped, the Federation was left without money – there was no infrastructure in place to carry the Federation forward.

Lack of funds

Our membership dues kept us alive, but, other than operating costs and a couple of \$100.00 donations a year, we do little else. Presidents have struggled over the past years, unable to do things to bring our culture alive in this province. The Federation:

- now has the provincial governments' attention, but cannot match their offers.

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Continuing... The Federation:

- cannot afford to act on opportunities we see.
- cannot afford to hire a web designer for a Federation web site.
- cannot afford an accountant to look after obtaining a charitable number for the Federation.
- cannot afford to hire a summer student or maintain an office to assist visitors to NS link with clans
- cannot afford to put ads in the papers.
- was unable to host visiting delegates to our province in 2003.
- is able to give only \$100.00 seed money to the 2007 International Gathering of the Clans Committee.

We cannot afford to promote our own culture!

When talking to Jodi Noiles at Pictou Tourism a few months back, I asked if they would again put on the opening and closing of the 2007 International Gathering. She asked me how much money was the Federation going to put into this and I was ashamed to say, "We have no money".

Ladies and gentlemen, this was an embarrassment not only to the Federation, but to the 32 Clan Societies who belong to it. It shames us and our people before us. As of today, our way of thinking must change. Our way of operating the Federation must change, and the clans must change. My mandate, as I see it, is, "to get the clans supporting the Federation in their work."

Raising of the sword

[At Jean's cue, Tom Brown raised a replica of a Scottish broadsword.]

"I am raising the sword as a sign – we will never be shamed again! From now on, our motto will be, 'Scots wha' hae'. The clans *must* pull together as a united group in this province – united behind the Federation, from strength to strength.

The Federation must become "the sword" before you –

- the sword to deal with government... with money behind us'
- to apply for grants... and be able to match their offers;
- to work with Scotland... to put on joint ventures when possible;
- to put proposals to towns... to hold cultural events;
- to go with conviction before the Clans... as your representative;
- to raise up our cultural image in Nova Scotia; and
- to create interest by being able to run stories in newspapers... so people will join their respective clans and feel pride in their culture.
- *The Sword of Leadership*... that clans can point to with pride and say they belong to the Federation.



(continued on page 3)

Federation of Scottish Clans in Nova Scotia

Officers:

President: Jean Watson	864-1994
Past-President: Bill Sutherland	435-2660
1 st Vice-President: Tom Wallace	252-2653
2 nd Vice-President: Helen MacRae	422-7119
Treasurer: Tom Brown	865-9665
Secretary: Bill Fisher	835-2506

Membership:

Tom Brown, Treasurer
140 Zinck Avenue Lower, Sackville, N.S. B4C 1W3

Membership Dues: (Sept 1 – Aug 31 year end)

Individual: \$15.00 Clan \$30.00

Includes newsletter 3x year to President & Clan Rep

*Members may order newsletter direct for a modest charge.

Directors:

Mel Baird	462-3067
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Sheila MacDonald	435-4223
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BROADSWORD is published 3 times a year: November, March & June
Submission deadlines: October 31, February 28, May 31

Continuing... President's Address:

We must rebuild the Federation from the ground up, starting today.

I am not asking the clans for money, though the International Gathering Committee will need your help. *I am* asking you to help the Executive raise the funds by *working together*. We need to have \$10,000 in the bank, as a start. We need to raise these funds and, every year thereafter, we need a fundraiser. We need to show that we can organize ourselves. *We must never be shamed again!*

Bringing coffers to our purse

By getting a charitable number, we will be in a better position to get donations. I have the papers to apply. We will establish a yearly budget once we have money to work with – the Federation must become a force to be reckoned with!

Today I am asking all the Presidents of Clans in the Northern area to meet with me and help me set up a Dinner and Silent Auction, to be held in the area in conjunction with the Spring General Meeting. I will contact all Presidents and come up and meet with you. I have attended dinners where these fundraisers have raised funds for causes and I feel that we should start by raising funds as soon as possible. I also propose the same for the Clans in the Central Area. We will also hold a Silent Auction and Dinner in Halifax in the fall. Here, again, I will be asking Presidents to get behind this venture.

This will give us a boost toward the \$10,000. We can do this, providing the presidents support me and get their people active and out to the dinners. I will gladly work with you on this. We need inexpensive locations; talented people who will entertain us during dinner; donations of items such as paintings, a jacket, a fishing rod, knitted goods, chocolates, water buckets, home baking, preserves... anything people can donate. This can be done, ladies and gentlemen, and we can have a fun time doing it.

We have been crippled too long due to lack of money. Once funds are raised, it is up to you to see it is used wisely and never allowed to fall again. With our membership dues and the grants we will be able to apply for, we will be able to achieve our goals each year.

Help me make this happen. I am now tossing the "Fiery Cross" to you. I will do my part. I ask the presidents to work with me. *We must unite behind the Federation if we are to bring our culture to the forefront of this province.* For those clans too far away to attend upcoming events I ask them to host an event in their area and donate the proceeds toward building the \$10,000 funds we need – large or small – it will be appreciated.

Anyone with fundraising ideas is asked to contact me. Phone: 864.1994

E-mail: jean.watson2@ns.sympatico.ca

Thank you.

(Mrs.) Jean L. Watson



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Annual General Meeting Stellarton Nova Scotia October 15, 2005

The Hector Heritage Quay



Murray Hill, Chairman, Ship Hector Foundation will be contacting clans with details of the 2006 Avenue of the Clans maintenance program.

AGM keynote speaker, Murray Hill, gave an overview of many cultural and, aye, financial successes enjoyed by Pictou's Hector Heritage Quay, noting that a significant percentage of visitors to Nova Scotia coming by way of the PEI ferry schedule a stop in Pictou, a town of 3800 citizens (48,000 folks in the county). The Hector Foundation Board of Directors is exploring ways of ever increasing the visitor impact.

He recounted how, having named Caladh Avenue (Road to Ships) and placing 19th century light standards for period ambiance, the Sutherland clan requested permission to display a clan sign. That request gave birth to what has become known as the Avenue of the Clans, leading folks to the heritage display and Pictou's floating jewel, the Ship Hector. Murray reassured FSCNS members that the signage program remains open. Still costing \$1,000.00, the fee pays for a clan sign (\$300) and designates \$700 to the Foundation for ship maintenance.

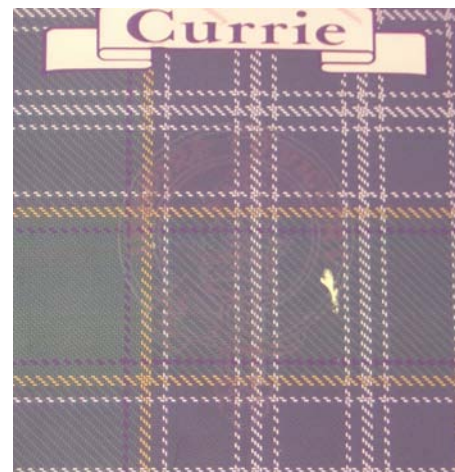
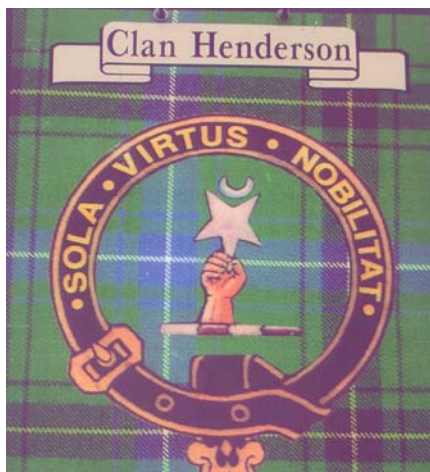
Time ensures that a toll is extracted on all things physical. Murray presented findings of an audit on the vessel; identified needed repairs to the 27 existing signs; spoke of program expansion; and introduced a *maintenance program* for clans with existing signs at an annual fee of \$25.00.

Avenue of the Clans Signage

Ship Hector Foundation board member, Bill Henderson, provided a pictorial review of clan signage maintenance needs. Bill stated that the project on Caladh Avenue, when begun as a fundraiser, had a 6-8 year signage life expectancy. Now a number of signs show various degrees of fading and require repair. The proposed maintenance program will permit restoration (at a cost of \$300/sign) in a timely manner as individual signs succumb to weather and sunlight. There are currently 7 openings for new signs, with development plans in the process to open an additional 40 openings for clan signs. Look for more news to come!



Right: Bill Henderson, Clan Henderson and Ship Hector Foundation



Above: Refurbished Clan Henderson, Clan MacKenzie sign fading; Clan Currie sign faded with loss of the clan crest.

Annual General Meeting Stellarton Nova Scotia October 15, 2005

Scot of the Year 2005

Reverend Donald Sutherland



Rev. Donald, a retired United Church of Canada minister, has, for over six decades, been in the forefront of the preservation of our Scottish culture and heritage here in Nova Scotia. His many accomplishments include:

- A founding member of the Clan Sutherland Society of Atlantic Canada
- A past president of this Society as well as their current chaplain
- A founding member and first president of The Federation of Scottish Clans in Nova Scotia.
- In 1994 he was honoured by being appointed President Emeritus of this organization
- A past president of the St. Andrews Society of Pictou County
- An active participant in the various Scottish festivities in Pictou County
- A member of the Clan Sutherland Societies in Scotland and the United States and he has represented Nova Scotia at many Clan Gatherings in both countries.

"Rev. Donald is indeed a true Highland gentleman and a fitting recipient of this award,"
Bill Sutherland, President, FSCNS.

2007 International Gathering of the Clans

A Past-President of FSCNS and Chairman of the 2007 International Gathering of the Clans, Mel Baird spoke on developments already underway for the IGC that will again, be hosted by Nova Scotia.

Mel urges each clan and Scottish cultural group to begin gearing up now for an exciting year. People with commercial interests will want to keep abreast of planning developments to become aware of how they might participate. If you have questions, ideas, or want to set up a brain-storming session, Mel urges that you contact him.

Participants will be drawn from a net cast worldwide as planning progresses to develop concerts, events throughout the province, and – always – clan gatherings, Highland Games, Celtic services, Kirkings of the Tartan, parades and Receptions. Planning is afoot for a Highland Ball... a grand touch to a wonderful summer. Become part of it all. Begin planning now so there is no rush or confusion as we march towards 2007.



Mel Baird, Chairman, 2007
IGC Committee
Photo: Brundage MacDonald



Annual General Meeting Stellarton Nova Scotia October 15, 2005



President Bill Sutherland addresses members



Above: L-R Bill Sutherland, Margaret Sutherland-granddaughter of 2005 Scot of the Year recipient, Rev. Donald Sutherland. Displaying the trophy is 2004 Scot of the Year Recipient, Brundage MacDonald. Prior to the presentation, Margaret piped the lament in honour of members who had passed away since the AGM of 2004.



Incoming FSCNS Executive:

From L-R: Audrey Manzer, Helen MacRae, Sheila MacDonald, Barry MacDonald, Past-President, Bill Sutherland, President, Jean Watson, Jerry MacGillivray, William (Bill) Fisher, Tom Brown





Dirk Bishop of Perth-Andover, NB, is the first recipient of the Clan Lamont Heavyweight Trophy. Presentation by Maj. Gen. (Ret'd) Ian Patrick, Chief's Commissioner for Clan Lamont in Canada

NEW TROPHY FOR NOVA SCOTIA CLAN LAMONT HEAVYWEIGHT TROPHY 2005

Submitted by T.D. Brown, President,
Clan Lamont Society of Canada

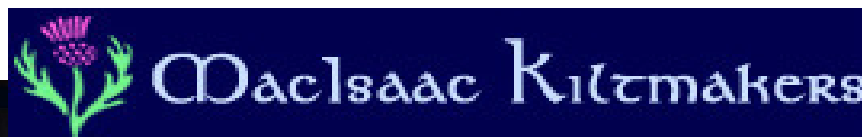


Above: "Keeper" replica to be retained by recipient and Clan Lamont Heavyweight Trophy

The Clan Lamont Annual Trophy for highest point aggregate score in the Heavy Weight field competition was presented for the first time this year.

Competitors were invited to the "Heart of the Valley Highland Games" in Middleton by event organizers, who hold their event the second weekend of September. This year it was held on the 10th of September, a day that saw the weather change as the day progressed to a rather cold day with increased winds. The chill factor did not seem to affect the competitors at all.

The winner of this first presentation of the award with the best over all score was Dirk Bishop of Perth-Andover, New Brunswick. 🍀



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Clan MacKenzie



Shirley MacCormack is the historian for the Clan MacKenzie Society of Nova Scotia. In their newsletter, *TULLOCH ARD*, she related a story about an intriguing funeral procession that Dr. John MacKenzie (1803 – 1886) wrote of in his memoirs, *Pigeon Holes of Memory*. Son of the 12th Laird of Scotland, Sir Frances MacKenzie, Dr. John was responsible for administration of his father's lands and attempted to introduce modern farming methods to the crofters. He practiced medicine in Edinburgh and tackled social problems of poverty, alcoholism, slum clearance and care of the insane.

Clan Farquharson



The Pipes and Drums of Clan Farquharson participated in many festivities throughout Nova Scotia in 2005, both on parade and in concert. Venues included: Kentville's Apple Blossom Festival Parade, Bedford Days, Canada Day parades, Eastern Shore Summer Festival Parade, the Sam Slick Parade, and concerts in support of the Canadian cancer society, amongst others.

Their Fall schedule is equally busy –finishing in November with the Santa Clause Parade in Truro.



The Pipes and Drums of Clan Farquharson – 50th Anniversary of the Canso Causeway opening, August 2005

Do you teach Gaelic language?

Advertise upcoming Gaelic language classes open to community members in the FSCNS newsletter - **Broadsword**

Promote Scottish Culture



A very Merry Christmas to FSCNS members, friends, and visitors.

- Your Executive

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Clan MacGillivray Gathering



Clan MacGillivray gathered July 16, 2005, in Antigonish. Pictured on location in Ron MacGillivray's show room:



(L-R) Lewis MacIntosh, President Clan Chatton, NS, Michael Anderson, Clan Genealogist, Rev. Hugh MacGillivray, Newsletter Editor, Beth MacGillivray, Newsletter Publisher, Aubry MacGillivray, Clan Representative in California, Ray MacGillivray (Died July 29, 2005) who was the Custodian of Chattan, the Clan Mascot, Foreground: Chattan

Clan Gunn



Clan Gunn's *Gunsmoke* reports an intriguing bit of news out of the USA, which supports a theory that much of America's music tradition can be traced to Scotland – not only Country music but Black Gospel music. Said to have evolved from Gaelic Psalm signing, Chuck Mccutcheon (Newhouse News Service), writes that "Jazz artist Willi Ruff, a Yale University music professor, is convinced that 'presenting the line' – the unaccompanied singing of psalms in Gaelic by Presbyterians of the Scottish Hebrides – is the direct ancestor of 'lining out', a hymnal singing style of 19th century slaves still practiced in a dwindling number of black southern churches."

The Scotsman's Susan Mansfield, wrote about the all-black choir from Killeen, Alabama, whose members visited Scotland, "because of their own connection to the Gaelic psalm singers of the Western Isles". Calum Martin teaches music on the Isle of Lewis. Mansfield states that Martin feels he has found evidence of black churches in the deep south worshipping in Gaelic up to 1919. Read the Scotsman article on line: <http://news.scotsman.com/topic.cfm?tid=715&id=65502005> Visiting this winter? Salm and Soul will be at Glasgow Cathedral January 21, 2006.

The Clan MacRae Society of Canada



2006 AGM Saturday, April 22 2006

The Annual General Meeting of The Clan MacRae Society of Canada will be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Details, location map, and registration information will be posted in *Scur Uran*.

Reception for members Friday, April 21 2006 5 – 7 pm

Symphony Nova Scotia, Aliant Maritime Pops Series:
Celtic Colours Apr 21, 2006 (Optional)

Clan site: <http://clanmacrae.org/>
Inquiries: admin@clanmacrae.org

Book Symphony Nova Scotia via <http://www.halifaxinfo.com/>



An Invitation is extended to all the Nova Scotia Scottish Clans to join us in 2006 as we celebrate our 25th Anniversary of the games July 28 – 30.

Please confirm by January 2006

Note Date Change

Donald & Ardean MacKinnon
Clans/Association coordinators
NBHG&SF 2006
268 Sewell Street
Fredericton, NB E3A 3G6
Phone: 506.472.2871
Email: damackam@nbnet.nb.ca

Stone of Destiny – The Coronation Stone



The **Stone of Destiny** was returned to Scotland on St. Andrew's Day, 1996. Upon its return, it was deemed to be "probably" the original stone by Historic Scotland.

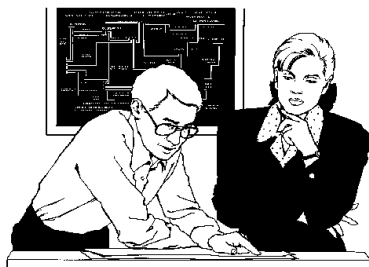
Not familiar with the story of the coronation stone: Visit <http://www.rampantscotland.com/know/blknow16.htm>

Saint Andrew is Scotland's Patron Saint and a day of celebration is held each year on November 30th. If you've wondered about the history of this celebration, visit www.saintandrewsday.com

Saint Andrew's Day



That's a great idea!



Now, how do we get there?

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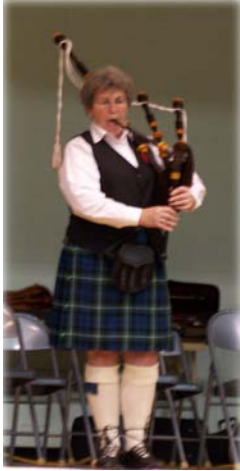
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Pat Mackay

Pictou County Branch, Clan Donald, November 9, 2005

Annual Remembrance Memorial Service and Ceilidh,

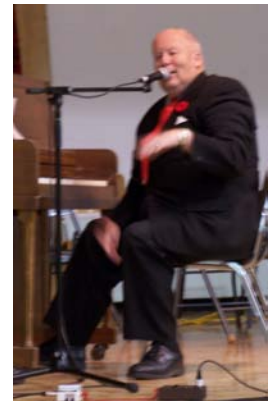


Beverly Underwood

On November 9th 2005 the Pictou County Branch of Clan Donald held a Ceilidh and Memorial Service to honor the men and women who served our country in the wars. It was held in the Nova Scotia Community College Gymnasium, in Stellarton. Commissioner Irma Isnor welcomed the guests and performers and members, before turning the program over to the very capable hands of W.D.J. Mac Donald, our Master of Ceremonies for the evening.



Our program started with Pat MacKay on the bagpipes. She played several Scottish tunes. We were very fortunate to have Tom Mac Donald, from Arisaig, a very talented tenor singer, as our star performer. He was accompanied by Rob Wolfe on guitar, and he sang many lovely Scottish songs and was accompanied by some of the audience on the choruses.



Burns MacDonald



L-R: Rob Wolfe, Guitarist
Tom MacDonald, Tenor

*Report by Irma Isnor, Commissioner
Photos contributed by
Brundage MacDonald*

The very capable group of the Pictou County Fiddlers, under the direction of Hughie MacDonald, played a medley of lively waltzes, jigs and reels. They were followed by two young ladies, who were very talented step dancers. Burns MacDonald played some of Don Messer's songs on the piano, "Smash the Window, Petronella, Saint Anne's Reel, Princess Reel, Sheehan's Reel, the River John Sunset Waltz and the Robin's Return". His lively music is always a hit. This was followed by intermission and lunch was enjoyed by all.



Lunch Committee:
Anne MacGillivray & Pat Christensen,

There was a display of photographs of some of the Clan members and their relatives who also served our country which were seen at the back of the room. Following intermission, Tom Mac Donald returned to sing "Scottish Soldier", "Danny Boy" and the memorial to his Father, which he had composed. Beverley Underwood from Pictou, sang a medley of World War Two songs: "Lillie Marlene", "White Cliffs of Dover", "Keep the Home fires Burning", and "It's a long way to Tipperary", with all joining in on the chorus. This was followed by "Coming in on a Wing and a Prayer", "Waltzing Matilda" and "Now is the Hour". The piper, Pat Mac Kay, played the Lament and Commissioner Irma Isnor thanked the guests for coming, thanked them for the donations to the Pictou County Food bank, and wished them a "Safe trip home". This concluded a lovely evening.





Fundraisers in the making – From President Jean Watson:

I find it very hard to realize I am the President at this stage, and must line up the meetings and get cracking on the year ahead. I have big shoes to fill as I feel Bill Sutherland has done a great job, and I will be looking for lots of support from Bill, which I am sure he will give me.

I know that because I was telling Bill I was forming a “Fund Raising Committee” and Bill was quick to say, “I’d like to go on that Committee with you”. Tom Brown has also come on the Fund Raising Committee.

On Nov. 19th we held a meeting in the new Eureka Fire Hall with 12 Clan Presidents and Representatives and set up the groundwork for the first dinner/auction/entertainment night. This will be held on April 29th, the date of our General Meeting in Stellarton. Those wishing tickets are to contact Chairlady, Fiona MacLean at 863-2233, or by e-mail at

maclean_20@msn.com. Everyone is looking for donated items so please contact Fiona if you live in the area (Northern) and can get donated items. As soon as the dinner entertainment is in place the tickets will be made up and at this point we have approximately 30 spoken for so only 70 left!!!! The General Meeting will be timed so one can leave it and go right to the hall, view the items, place your tickets on items, listen to the music, have your dinner and be on the road home (hopefully with your prizes), before it gets too late.

We are also planning to hold the second fund raising dinner/auction at St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church, Dartmouth. We will be looking for donated items in the Halifax/Dartmouth area as well. We will be calling a meeting of Presidents and Representatives in this area as soon as Bill and I meet with the Minister and Ladies Auxiliary at the church and they tell us what date we can have. I want to thank all those who are showing such support to us in our effort to re-organize and move forward.

On behalf of our Executive, my husband Andy, and myself, I want to wish you a Happy Holiday Season and good Health and Happiness. Until we meet again...

Yours truly, Jean Watson

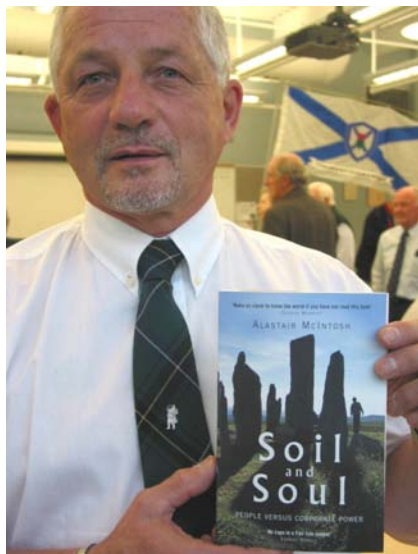


Meeting at the Eureka Fire Hall, November 19, 2005:

*Back row (L-R):
Page Baird, Tom Brown,
Bill Sutherland, Barry,
MacKenzie, Brundage
MacDonald, Merle
Chisholm.*

*Front row (L-R):
Joan Baird, Pat Christensen,
Fiona MacLean,
Jean Watson, Jerry MacRae.*





The Return of the Summit of Mount Roineabhal

Scotland's Alastair McIntosh has played a leading role in land reform. He was instrumental in saving Mount Roineabhal on the Isle of Harris in Scotland's Outer Hebrides from becoming an open superquarry. Nova Scotia's Mi'Kmaq warrior chief's offer that the First Nations "hold" the mountain in spiritual safely began a political, environmental, and social excursion not before seen. As the treaty of 1752 bound Mi'Kmaq to assist Ship Hector settlers to endure the harsh winter, so, in 1991, did Nova Scotia's First Nations people symbolically offered to care for Scotland's mountain top – resulting in the summit rock of Mount Roineabhal coming to Pictou, Nova Scotia, to be held in trust. Incredibly, the mountain was saved. Alastair returned to Nova Scotia in June 2005, retrieved the rock, and returned it to the summit.

Through conversation and correspondence with Bill Henderson, Alastair is permitting an amazing story to be shared with Nova Scotia Federation members.

"When I read about the story, it had an unbelievable impact on me. It really touched my heart," Bill Henderson.

"Soil and Soul: People versus Corporate Power" tells the full story of this incredible undertaking, which George Monbiot, Sunday Express describes to be "world changing" and a "classic" (On line review)

Because many members do not have Internet access, the pictorial story posted on Alastair's website is being serialized for Broadsword readers. First published in 2001, Soil and Soul is now available in paperback; a French edition was also published earlier this year.

The first story installment begins on the next page.

Soil and Soul ISBN 1-85410-942-1

Alastair's homepage: <http://www.alastairmcintosh.com/> Direct links to books and pictorial story.
Photographer Murdo Macleod's picture of Sulian Stone Eagle Herney is used with permission.

Seeking Sallywags of Aberlour Orphanage

Eddie Bruce writes, "I wanted to take the opportunity to ask if anyone out there was brought up at Aberlour Orphanage, or knows of anyone who was connected with the home.

The institution was demolished in the 1960's, but there is a web site and reunions of old boys and girls are held each year. Photographs of the home and the "sallywags" who lived there are urgently required."

Yours aye,
Eddie Bruce
"O wad some power the giftie gie us
To see ourselfs as others see us!"
Robert Burns
A Drifter's Legacy



Do You Know A Scallywag?

Aberlour Orphanage founded in 1875, housed 1000 children during the 1950's. Changes to social programmes reduced its need, and the orphanage was closed in 1967. In 2001, a reunion as held. Visit the Official Aberlour Orphanage Reunion Website: <http://website.lineone.net/~niceco/welcome.htm> Scallywags, please contact the Reunion site.

Looking for someone in Scotland? Post a note on the Missing You web site: <http://missing-you.net/Scotland.php?startnum=2560>





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Bursaries for Scottish Cultural Studies



Several newsletters mention bursaries and other gifts available to students wishing to enter – or further – Scottish studies. Funds are offered through a number of institutions.

Would FSCNS members like a listing to be posted in each issue of the *Broadsword* stating the source (i.e., Clan sponsoring), type, application criteria, and institution to which students may apply? Cost? A brief note about the recipient for publication in the *Broadsword*.. Interested?

Email: hmacrae@ns.sympatico.ca



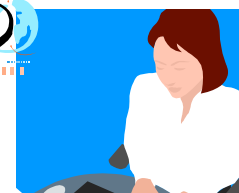
Broadsword

IS NOW ONLINE...R U CONNECTED?



With this issue, Clan and Individual members who have access to the Internet and who can receive (access/read) the *Broadsword* electronically are asked to help FSCNS save the cost of paper production and mail out.

At present, the newsletter is available in PDF format. The program that allows you to open and read PDF is free at:
<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>



Need help?

Questions?

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The Return of the Summit of Mount Roineabhal

This is a photo essay summarising the remarkable events leading to the return of the summit rock of Mount Roineabhal at Lingerabay, Rodel, on the Isle of Harris in Scotland's Outer Hebrides. The pictures here speak to the symbolic taking of the mountain top into sanctuary by the Mi'Kmaq First Nation people, the saving of the Scottish mountain, my journey to Nova Scotia to retrieve the summit rock, reciprocally assisting a superquarry-threatened community there, visiting some inspirational activists in the USA, and finally returning to Scotland to ascend the mountain for the summit rock's repatriation.



In 1991 Mount Roineabhal in the south Harris National Scenic Area came under threat of being turned into the biggest roadstone quarry in the world. An almighty battle ensued, during which time an indigenous elder in the community broke off the summit rock and asked me to present it to the then warrior chief of the **Mi'Kmaq First Nation of Nova Scotia**, Sulian Stone Eagle Herney. I had invited him to Scotland to testify in the 1994 government public inquiry into the superquarry. This picture of Mt. Roineabhal (shrouded by clouds) is taken from St Clement's Church, Rodel. ``St Clement is the patron saint of quarry workers because his martyrdom involved being a quarry slave in the Crimea. The picture of me with the summit rock of Roineabhal was taken in 2005 courtesy of the Canadian filmmaker, Tim Wilson



I presented Stone Eagle with the elder's "gift" at the 5,000 year old Calanais (Callanish) standing stones, near to where I had grown up on the Isle of Lewis. As documented in chapters 21 & 22 of *Soil and Soul*, he said he could not accept it as a gift. But he could take the rock symbolically into sanctuary under the terms of the Mi'Kmaq Nation's 1752 Treaty with the British! In this, they had agreed to look after our emigrants when they were in need. Today, he said, it was our rocks that were under threat and the need was to take our mountain into symbolic sanctuary.



The mountain top was formally brought into the territory of the Pictou Landing Mi'Kmaq with permission from the then Chief, Albert Denny. He gave permission to hold a ceremony at which tobacco was offered and the stone was passed over for keeping and being placed on public display at the Hector Heritage Quay. The ceremony was attended by Chief Denny and by elders from various areas including Eskasoni and Shubenacadie. Detailed press reports of this can be found in *The Casket*, Antigonish, 7 August 1996. The Hector Heritage Quay commemorates the ship Hector on which destitute Scottish emigrants, many forced off the land by the Highland Clearances, had sailed to Nova Scotia in 1773. Many of the buildings in Pictou town convey Scottish history, Scottish architecture, and even red sandstone that was used in the old buildings came over from Scotland as ships' ballast. Our mountain top would be on friendly territory. The irony, of course, is that too often Scots settlers had pushed the Mi'Kmaq off their land. In the dynamic by which oppressed easily becomes the oppressor, we had often not adequately respected the hospitality of our trans-Atlantic host.

All photos compliments of
alaistairmcIntosh.com

Continued next page

The Return of the Summit of Mount Roineabhal *continued...*

The government public inquiry accepted that the superquarry would locally devastate the National Scenic Area but nevertheless believed that demand in the south of England justified it. However, the newly devolved Scottish parliament rejected this in 2000. Permission was declined. By this time the original company, Redland, had suffered a collapse in its share price caused in part by uncertainty over its "flagship" project on Harris. In consequence, they had been subject in 1997 to a predatory take-over by the French multinational, Lafarge. Lafarge's legal team were robustly fighting a protracted appeal process against the political rejection of their plans. But in 2002 I was contacted by a French futures thinker and head of training in Groupe Credit Mutuel (a mutual bank). He, Thierry Groussin (centre),



came to Scotland with his son and I took them up the mountain. He was shocked by the prospect of such beauty as he could see being desecrated. He doubted whether Lafarge senior management were really aware of what their otherwise reputable company were proposing by virtue of having acquired Redland. After all, they are active in 75 countries, and devolve decision making to local management unless problems specifically come to their attention. He arranged for me to meet Lafarge senior management in Paris in October 2003.

It transpired that WWF International were already banging on Lafarge's door, they being in a "sustainability partnership" with the company that was becoming embarrassing. Other NGOs in the LINK Quarry Group, especially Friends of the Earth Scotland,

They wanted to appraise the situation for themselves. Three of their vice-presidents came in January 2004 - Philippe Hardouin, Gaelle Monteiller and Michel Picard (pictured under Mt. Roineabhal). They returned again on 2nd April 2004 along with two of their English executives, and announced in a public meeting that they were *withdrawing from the project*. They left, making a € 50,000 goodwill gesture donation to the Leverburgh football field fund. Many factors had changed since the quarry scheme had been initiated by Redland. In particular, the damage to the community caused by protracted uncertainty was no longer compatible with Lafarge's corporate social ethics. I was subsequently invited to join their Sustainability Stakeholders' Panel and, after consultation with erstwhile quarry campaigning colleagues, I agreed to do so on an unpaid basis. After all, we all use quarry products and so arguably have a responsibility in supporting the industry in seeking more sustainable solutions and policy environments.



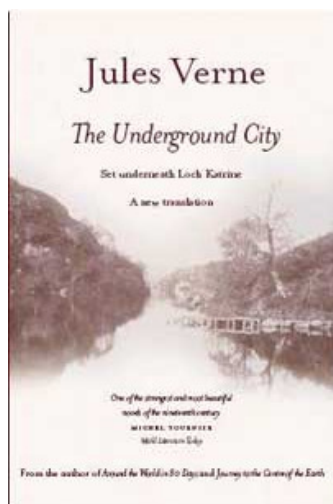
By 2005 the mountain was safe, but the summit rock continued to rest on public display in Pictou at the Hector Heritage Quay. After consultation with the Mi'kmaq and Ishbel Munro (who had also come from Nova Scotia and testified at the 1994 Public Inquiry), it was decided that I should retrieve it in person while on a lecture tour in North America. I had been invited by Jonathan and Diana Rose to speak on environmental leadership at the Garrison Institute in New York State, and this made the journey possible, together with generous grants from Cecilia Croal of the Russell Trust and the Pollard and Dickson Trust (for Quaker travelling in ministry). Thank you, my sponsors!

Excerpt of next segment: coming in the Winter Issue: "As a result of its cornerstone position in the Hector Heritage tour, it is indeed the case that great good and healing comes from it as one of the many spin-offs from the Mount Roineabhal superquarry saga."

Read the full account in **Soil and Soul**



The Underground City By Jules Verne



Thanks to Clan Gunn
for alerting us to
this publication

Jules Verne is world renown for *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea* and *Around the World in Eighty Day*. In his story, *The Underground City* of a "utopian community of miners who live in Coal city, beneath Loch Katrine in the Trossachs", readers encounter vastly different aspects of life in (and beneath) Scotland more than a century ago. Linked to Scotland through his mother, Verne wrote *The Underground City*, (*The Black Indies – Les Indies Noires*) after many visits. For details about the background of Verne's novel, read the on line synopsis/history published by the Sunday Herald, January 2, 2005, prior to the book's March 2005 release: <http://www.sundayherald.com/46913> For a brief story line synopsis, visit: http://www.luath.co.uk/acatalog/Underground_City.html

Two links below take you to sites where visitors may download or read books on line. The Worldwide School site is "easy reading", with a larger font than many. *The Underground City* is available, but having been posted in 1999, is the earlier, heavily edited version. But a brief read may whet your appetite for more.

First published in 1877, major portions of Scottish content were deleted by the publisher – the 2005 publication contains the entire text of Verne's writing.

<http://www.worldwideschool.org/library/books/lit/sciencefiction/TheUndergroundCity/chap1.html>

Another on-line reading site is: <http://etext.library.adelaide.edu.au/v/verne/jules/v52uc/chapter1.html>



"The mark of a Scot of all classes [is that] he ... remembers and cherishes the memory of his forebears, good or bad; and there burns alive in him a sense of identity with the dead even to the twentieth generation."

Robert Louis Stevenson



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"It's good to be in a community"

The content below was sent by Electric Scotland to all subscribers, forwarded by Jean Watson, and reprinted with consent.



Hello everyone... I am sending out this special request for articles to everyone on my weekly email newsletter list hoping some of you would like to immortalize yourselves and your family 😊

I am continually looking for accounts of emigration from Scotland and the process of why people left, why they went to the country they went to, how they found a place to settle in their new country, accounts of the settling process and how they fared in the first or second generations.

Contributions wanted:

If you have such an account in your own family histories I'd appreciate you sharing it with me, for Electric Scotland.

Stories of today for tomorrow:

I'd also be interested in folks of today. How did you end up being where you are now? Are you a recent immigrant or have you been there for a number of generations? Do you have an account you can

New Canadians:

If you are a more recent immigrant can you share your experiences...like how did you decide to emigrate, what processes did you need to go through to emigrate, was it easy or hard, how did you decide where to locate, did you have an employment offer or did you start your own business?

For ongoing research & study:

Electric Scotland creator, Alastair McIntyre, has willed his web site to The Scottish Studies Foundation of Toronto.

This charitable organization is committed to raising \$2 million has recently established a Chair of Scottish Studies at the University of Guelph. Dr. Graeme Morton is the first to hold that position.



ELECTRICSCOTLAND.COM

Pictures:

At all stages I'd be happy to receive lots of photographs to go with whatever article you might be able to put together. You might also want to include a wee collection of photographs of your local area so we can see the area where you have settled. Mind and give us some idea of where you are in relation to some larger city, as we won't all be familiar with your area.

The University of Guelph Library is well known for its extensive Scottish Studies Collection that is the largest in the world outside the United Kingdom. Begun after 1965, it encompasses both Scottish and Scottish-Canadian history and supports many areas of research. <http://www.uoguelph.ca/scottish/>

Visit: <http://www.electricscotland.com>

A CAUTIONARY NOTE:

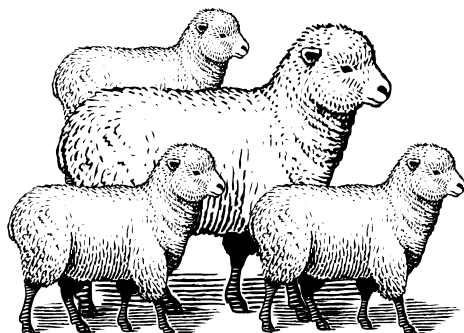
Everything on the web it is public information, so please don't send anything that might compromise your personal security. If you include your email address in your article then we will have that on the web, but we can encrypt your email address if you ask us to do that, so it won't be stored as an email address, yet people clicking on the link will be able to email you.

Contact: alastairi@electricscotland.com



Unique Royal Museum of Scotland Display to come to Canada

...following up on the mention of Canada on Rampant Scotland website's October 29, 2005 update:



Thanks to Clan Donald for alerting us to this bit of news-in-the-making.

Born July 1996 – died in February 2003, Dolly (pictured below) made world history for being the first mammal cloned from a lone adult cell.

During the intervening years, horses, bulls (amongst larger animals), dogs, and cats, swine, mice... have been cloned. No longer science fiction, advocates speak to the advances cloning technology may bring to combat diseases, both acquired and genetic. Not so palatable to many is the readiness such technology provides for reproducing beloved pets, or, recreating animals long lost to history.

The images below, provided by the Roslin Institute, Edinburgh, home of Dolly and many other animals evolved through clone research, may be used free of charge by education, public sector or non-profit making groups.



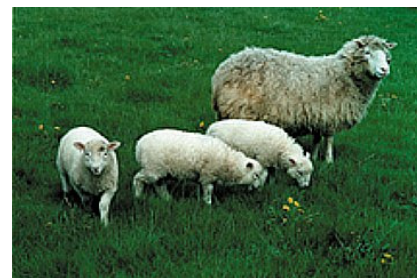
L-R: Dolly, Dolly and her first (of 6) lambs (not cloned), and an European large white pig (cloned).

Below: Dolly with her 3 lambs born in April 1998.



Roslin Institute is one of eight research institutes in the UK sponsored by the [Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council](#). The Institute collaborates with academic and commercial partners worldwide, and plays an important role in post-graduate education, mostly through the University of Edinburgh's Graduate School of Life Sciences. – Visit their web site to read more!

Watch for announcements of a Canadian visit by the Royal Museum of Scotland.





UPCOMING 2006 2007 2008 GAMES DATES

CONFIRMED BY ORGANIZERS IN SEPTEMBER 2005



2006 2007 2008 HIGHLAND GAMES

ACPBA Sanctioned Games

2006

2007

2008

Antigonish Indoor	Antigonish NS	To be set	To be set	To be set
Summerside Highland Games	Summerside PE	June 24-25	June 23-24	June 28-29
Canada Day	Pugwash NS	July 1	July 1	July 1
Gaelic College	St Ann's NS	July 2	June 30	July 5
Halifax Highland Games	Halifax NS	July 8	July 14	July 12
Antigonish Highland Games	Antigonish NS	July 15-16	July 21-22	July 19-20
New Brunswick Highland Games	Fredericton NB	July 28-30	July 28-29	July 26-27
Eldon Highland Games	Eldon PE	August 5	August 4	August 2
Maxville Highland Games	Maxville Ontario	August 4-5	August 3-4	August 1-2
Montreal Games	Montreal PQ	August 6	August 5	August 3
Hector Festival	Pictou NS	August 13	August 12	August 17
Festival of the Tartans	New Glasgow NS	August 19	August 18	August 16
Woodleigh Games	Woodleigh PE	August 26	August 25	August 30

Attention all members and event organizers: The winter issue will post all 2006 event dates as received to February 28. Forward event information to hmacrae@ns.sympatico.ca



UPCOMING FSCNS SPRING AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2006 DATES



2006 FEDERATION MEETING DATES

SPRING GENERAL MEETING

Location: Stellarton

Date: Saturday, April 29th

Plan to attend and then attend the first Dinner/Auction.

FALL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Location: Truro Date: Saturday, November 4th

To be held at the F.A. Tucker Company, North River Road (map will be provided)

All clans are urged to have representatives at these meetings as the International Gathering approaches.

Current Member Clan Societies

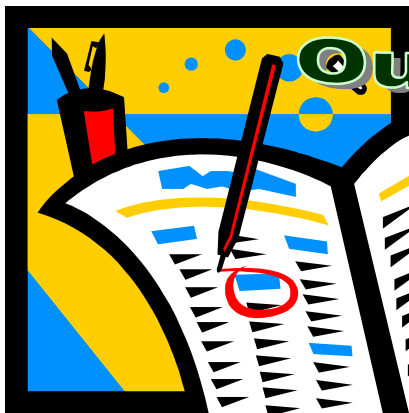
Baird	Elliot	MacRae
Cameron	Farquharson	Matheson
Campbell	Gunn	Murray
Chattan	Henderson	Ramsay
Chisholm	Lamont	Ramsay Family of Pictou
Colchester	MacLaren	Ross
Scottish Societies	MacGillivray	Sinclair
Currie	MacIntyre	Stewart/Stuart
Donald	MacKenzie	Sutherland
Donnachaigh	MacLean	Wallace
Douglas	MacLeod	
Dunbar	MacNeill	



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"Our Purpose"

- ✿ To foster and maintain the Scottish culture and the Gaelic language in Nova Scotia.
- ✿ To provide a focal point for Clan organizations in Nova Scotia and to respond to their requirements.
- ✿ To represent the Clan organizations in dealing with governments at all levels, other Scottish groups, other cultural groups, and the public.
- ✿ To provide a coordinating function for major Scottish events such as The International Gathering of the Clans in Nova Scotia.