



## The Rowan Tree



Number 53

## Clan Lachlan Association of Canada Inc.

[www.clanlachlan.ca](http://www.clanlachlan.ca)

Hon. Patron, Euan Maclachlan of Maclachlan, Chief of Clan Lachlan

### President's Message

Greetings Clan Members,

This has been a hot summer to remember. Unfortunately, I have been largely confined indoors.

Your Council in Scotland faces decisions on the future of the Society which has declined in membership by 50% since 2005. We do not know which Branches of the Society will survive. If the 5% decline per year continues, we will have effectively one world-wide branch with world-wide communications. Individuals will look to the Society for information on the Clan, its families and traditions.

There is one icon of the Clan which will survive, and that is the Old Castle Lachlan.

### Preservation of Old Castle Lachlan

The castle has been the center of the clan since at least the 14<sup>th</sup> century. After the successful preservation of Kilmorie Chapel, the burial place of the Chiefs, the Council decided to preserve the iconic Castle Lachlan.

The urgent priority was to stabilize the surviving walls, otherwise the castle would be reduced to a jumble of rocks. This has been a major project which required raising £650,000. The Clan Lachlan Association of Canada played a key role by providing donations from a source of "ancestral" tourists whose donations were multiplied many times by funds from government resources whose policy was to encourage "ancestral" tourists.

Plans have been drawn up for the final stage of securing the Old Castle's future. Improvements to be made include:

Removing the ivy and tree shoots from the walls followed by stabilization works.

Providing internal stairs to the first-floor level and access to the west and east viewing floors where the outer walls have collapsed, but with the appropriate safety barriers.

Provide access to the top of the main castle wall by an internal stairway to offer a further viewing point.

The work is estimated to cost about £1.6 million

In addition to major contributions from Heritage and Lottery funds, the target of the Lachlan Trust is to attract large donations from individuals and companies with the offer of some permanent recognition of their generous help.

Once funds are available it would require about 2 years to complete the project.

There is an urgent need to have a regular source of donations from individual members to demonstrate to Funding sources that there is an ongoing population of "ancestral" tourists who support this project.

In Canada we will have the **Save Old Castle Lachlan Fund [SOCL]**.

We plan to contact all existing and past members and welcome all donations.

We will offer:

\$25.00 CA21. One-year membership in Clan Society, Canadian Branch and Lachlan Library.

\$100.00 CA19. Five-year membership in Clan Society, Canadian Branch and Lachlan Library.

Donations and Membership

Cheques to *Lachlan Trust*

David MacLachlan , PO Box1380, Sault Ste. Marie, ON, P6A 6N2

Cheques to *Clan MacLachlan Society*

James MacLachlan, 1639 Bateau Lane, RR#3, Gananoque. ON, K7G 2V5

### **Lachlan Library**

This has PDF copies of the past issues of "Clan Lachlan" magazine; family histories, clan traditions and history, genealogy articles, classics of Scottish literature. For Canadian Members it also has copies of the "**Rowan Tree**".

I take this opportunity of welcoming **Brenda and Rick McLauchlan** as CLA Membership Secretaries.

The Branch and Society needs more volunteers.

I wish you all well for the Fall and Winter

Duncan MacLachlan - #41

**Editor's Note:** I have repeated the list of 'Volunteers Required' below, in hopes that someone would wish to volunteer for one of these positions. Note that, with e-mail, these can be done from anywhere in the world.

## **Volunteers Required**

***Webmaster*** who would be responsible for maintenance, upgrading, etc.

***Assistant to David MacLachlan*** - re matters of the Lachlan Trust of Canada

***Librarians.*** (Hopefully there will be several - filing digital magazines, assisting with Family Histories etc., entering Members Data, etc.).

## **Clan MacLachlan on Facebook**

You might want to look at the CMS Facebook page, which enables you to post information, ask questions, and view updates (as they occur).

<http://www.facebook.com/ClanMacLachlanSociety>

## ***Ceud Mile Failte: 100,000 Welcomes to our New Members***

### **Full Members**

5286 Carol Chapin - Madison, Wisconsin, USA

Note: Due to privacy concerns, stemming from new Federal legislation, we are no longer publishing full addresses of new members. However, should an individual member wish to contact another member, we can put both in touch with each other.

## **Flowers of the Forest**

Thankfully, we have nothing to report in this section for this issue.

*Submitted by Ken Godfrey - #802*

## **CLA Membership Renewals**

As the new Membership Secretaries, we are currently involved in validating the membership data base for the Clan Lachlan Association of Canada Inc. [CLA] This project will probably take the better part of 2019 and hopefully create a basis for communication with our members and a foundation for growing our membership. All communication about membership data should be sent to us at [rmclauchlan37@gmail.com](mailto:rmclauchlan37@gmail.com) .

To date, we have attempted to contact, via email and letter post, all the members that have been identified as "Active". If you have been contacted but have not had a chance to reply, please consider doing this and send us your membership number, name, home and email addresses to the email above. If you do not know your membership number, we should be able to figure it out for you.

We are just now attempting to contact members that have been considered “Inactive”. Our hope is to encourage these folks to rejoin our Association.

Also, if you know of anyone claiming heritage with Clan Lachlan (family members or acquaintances) invite them to join our Association. They need not reside only in Canada, as we do have members from all over North America, as well as other countries. Have them contact us.

We are about to start our **Membership Dues Renewal Campaign**. Through this, we will be sending out reminders at the beginning of each quarter (January, April, July and October) to those members whose membership will be expiring within the next three months. On this first communication there will be members whose membership has expired some time ago. For those, we only wish to have you buy a 1-year or 5-year membership for the future, **NO BACK DUES**.

In closing, the Clan Gathering in Scotland is tentatively schedule for 2022. Why not consider that event as part of your travel plans.

Fortis et Fidus  
Brenda and Rick McLauchlan - #5215

## **Invitation to View Contents of Electric Scotland Website**

I have a huge amount of Scottish content on my web site, and you are most welcome to view and enjoy its offerings. There are tons of humour, stories, recipes, children’s stories, general articles, and much more.

Alastair McIntyre FSA Scot  
Electric Scotland  
<http://www.electricscotland.com>  
<http://www.electriccanadian.com>

## **Scottish Studies Foundation Fall Colloquium – Sat. Oct. 5 & Sun. Oct. 6**

This year's topic is entitled “*Representing the Scottish Past in Film, Text, and Media*”

Registration fee is \$25 for Scottish Studies Foundation members, \$30 for the general public and \$10 for students. You can register via the Scottish Studies Foundation by [mail](#) or [online](#).

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## Genealogy Research Sources

The following link is to a wonderful FREE database of the thousands who died from cholera and other diseases, as they left Ireland in hopes of a new life in Canada, and possibly in the USA as well. Grosse-Isle (an island in the St. Lawrence River, near to Quebec City) was used as a quarantine station, to prevent the spread of disease to residents of Canada, but unfortunately, many, many immigrants did not get any further than this point.

Note the clickable date ranges on the left-hand side of the web page, to see additional years. If you have been looking for an ancestor that you think left Ireland, but cannot find elsewhere, perhaps they died on Grosse-Isle!

<https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/lhn-nhs/qc/grosseile/decouvrir-discover/natcul4/a>

For example, there are several "McLaughlins" listed in this data base - e.g. George & Margaret McLaughlin in 1834. As well, for general interest, look at the year 1847 as there was a huge number of deaths in that year!

*Submitted by Ken Godfrey - #802*

## Daniel McLachlin – Lumber Baron: Historical Resources

THURSDAY, 18 APRIL 2019

[Arnprior & McNab/Braeside Archives DHCP Funded Project](#)



The following is an extract from a 16 April AMBA press release giving details on one of the [12 Ontario Documentary Heritage Communities Program projects funded by the LAC for 2019-20.](#)

*ARNPRIOR, ON— The Ottawa Valley has a deep and rich history linked to the lumbering industry and one of the most influential people from that era was Daniel McLachlin. McLachlin was a lumber baron, entrepreneur and politician. He is considered by many to be the true founder of the Town of Arnprior.*

*As part of its mandate to acquire, preserve and make accessible important historical documents relating to our local region, the [Arnprior and McNab/Braeside Archives](#)(AMBA) is launching a new project to explore McLachlin's legacy. The project will digitize and provide online access to the historic letters, ledgers, maps, plans and images from that era. From shanty accounts to personal correspondence, we will shed light on the life and activities of one of Arnprior's most influential residents.*

*Funding for this project comes from the [Documentary Heritage Communities Program](#)(DHCP) of Library and Archives Canada (LAC). The DHCP provides \$1.5 million annually to support projects by archives, libraries and documentary heritage institutions throughout Canada. AMBA will receive \$49,568 in 2019-2020 for its project [Daniel McLachlin's Legacy: Exploring the Lumber Era of the Ottawa Valley](#).*

*Work will begin shortly with the goal to finish in Winter/Spring 2020. A launch date for the online material will be announced closer to the completion of the project.*

According to Emma Carey, AMBA Archivist, the project will digitize and provide online access to the historic letters, ledgers, maps, plans and images from approximately 1852 to 1929. Besides protecting the delicate originals from further handling, it will provide access to rare documents of the timber industry. These include a 1890/91 shanty accounts ledger; a circa 1900 manuscript on life in the lumber camps with 80+ images; timber limit maps; and plans of piers, mills, railways, and a log slide. McLachlin's 600+ letters from 1834 to 1857 provide insight into both the business and personal life of this community leader.

While some of the digitization will be outsourced much of the delicate and oversize material will be processed within the archives by community volunteers using newly purchased equipment. The AMBA website will be updated to create more dynamic user experiences. This will include an image zoomer (for looking closely at large digitized maps); a map feature to link photographs and documents with geographical locations and, a flipbook viewer for more easily viewing the manuscript and ledger books.

Questions and comments on the project may be forwarded to:

Emma Carey

Consulting Archivist

Arnprior and McNab/Braeside Archives

613-623-0001

[adarchives@hotmail.com](mailto:adarchives@hotmail.com)

With thanks to John Reid and his Anglo-Celtic Connections blog for this news item.

#### **JOHN D REID**



[Tweets about "#genealogy"](#)

## **Lost Villages Museum commemorates Civil War Memorial anniversary**

LONG SAULT – “Over 40,000 Canadians served in the American Civil War,” said Rob McLachlan, president of the Blues & Greys of Montreal. “This is the only national memorial to their memory, and this is the first anniversary of the Memorial’s dedication. We are here to remember this special occasion.”

The Lost Villages Museum, home to the National Memorial Commemorating Canadians who served in the Civil War, welcomed re-enactors and visitors to the first anniversary of the Memorial, September 8-9, 2018.

Included in weekend event were infantry drills, artillery demonstrations, a mock battle and a special memorial service where new “bricks” were dedicated.

Re-enactors were on hand to share information and describe the history of several key Canadians who rose to prominence during the conflict. New information is being discovered every year.

The National Memorial at the Lost Villages Museum, on the outskirts of Cornwall, was completely paid for through private donations. The four-year campaign raised the needed \$70,000 from donors in the private and public sector, without any government funding, explained Stewart Irvine, the vice-president of the Blues and Greys of Montreal, a group dedicated to keeping alive the memory of Canadians who served in either the United or the Confederate States of America, 1860-1865.

The Memorial was officially dedicated on September 17, 2017.

“We never thought four years ago when we started this campaign with Jim Brownell, (past president of the Lost Villages Society), that we’d ever see so much interest across Canada for the project, or receive so much financial support,” said McLachlan. “It’s an honour to return to celebrate the first anniversary of the Memorial.”



Left to Right: Rob McLachlan, President Greys & Blues, and Stewart Irvine - VP

Canadian families who traced their ancestors that had served in the War, placed special memorial bricks at the monument to honour them.

While Canada was technically neutral during the Civil War, many Canadians, for a variety of reasons, chose to fight in the War, the majority on the side of the United States. Family ties, private convictions, sometimes the promises of recruiters all played a part in the decision to serve made by Canadians, especially those who lived near the American border.

“It was important to us to build our memorial to these men near the border,” said McLachlan. “And we wanted the Memorial to be at the site of a living history museum, not in some out of the way place. The Lost Villages was an excellent choice.”

By the way, Rob McLachlan also advises that he still has available a limited number of Grey Granite Memorial Bricks (12in. x 4in.) - which can be “individually engraved” for what the donor might want to put on it: (example) “In memory of the 40,000 Canadians who served” - Fred & Louise MacLachlan - Kingston ON. Cost (including engraving & installation in the Monument walkway is only \$125.00 Cdn.

**Editor’s Note: Rob McLachlan is our Interim Regional Director for Quebec**

*Submitted by Ken Godfrey - #802*

## **Wind River Canoe Trip – Yukon, Canada**

Jim MacLachlan #352 (our Treasurer) spent 15 days in late July - early August canoeing 280 km on the Wind River in the Yukon. The Wind River starts in the mountains and heads north to join the Peel River, which then drains easterly to the Mackenzie River.

Getting there involved flying to Whitehorse, driving 5 hours north to Mayo, and taking a floatplane flight to a remote lake. The 300 m portage to a tributary creek in the headwaters of the Wind River was the only portage. The river was like a 5 km/hr. conveyor belt with easy rapids (Class 2 maximum). This meant great daily distances on the river were possible, but paddling days were often shorter to allow for resting or hiking in the bordering scenic mountains.

The only large wildlife spotted was a single caribou, though there were lots of tracks of moose, caribou, grizzly bear and wolf. Also, there were lots of small critters – ground squirrels, red squirrels and chipmunks. The mosquitoes weren’t too bad, probably better than Southern Ontario.

The party of 8 canoeists, all experienced outdoors people from Ontario, aged late 50s to mid-70s, organized and conducted the trip themselves. An outfitter was used only to supply canoes, paddles and lifejackets and to do the shuttle to and from the river.



Jim's Caribou from his Wind River Canoe Trip

*Submitted by Jim MacLachlan - #352*

## **How DNA Matches Broke Down a Long-standing Genealogical Brick Wall**

Until recently, my longest standing “brick wall” surrounded a branch of my family tree that started my quest into family history. My grandmother’s cousin visited many years ago with some data about this side of our family, and gathered information about our immediate family. Hearing the family stories and histories exchanged by these two women hooked me on the fascinating journey into researching family history.

Mind you, it didn’t hurt that there was a very interesting and mysterious story attached to this family line. There was that missing link that would lead to a massive Estate in England and the fortunes attached to it, if we could just make that connection. And attempts had been made over the years by families who made application for shares in the Associations formed to employ researchers to go to England, research the records there, and to prove and prosecute their claim to the Estate. Shares were being offered for \$100 each in the 1920s promising “the sum of five hundred dollars out of the first moneys of the Estate received by the Association”. Reports were sent to shareholders from London keeping them up to date on the progress of the search.

As I was to find out after much searching, this venture proved to be a scam. There were many versions of the scam using different versions of family names to keep the scam going. It proved to be a later version of the scam that originally surfaced in the late 1800s. Unfortunately, my grandmother's cousin could never be convinced that there was no truth to the family story.

In checking my DNA matches recently, I found a pattern to certain matches. There were folks I matched with who had family trees posted, referring back to common ancestors. Although these ancestors didn't seem to fit the data I had for my family of the same last name, I was curious enough to follow through researching to see if I could find the connection. I had always thought this line of my English ancestors, who had first lived in New York in the early 1800s and migrated to Upper Canada, might be United Empire Loyalists. As I made the various connections, did more extensive research and analysis, and contacted some folks in these other families, I found what I believe to be my connection. I now know that my ancestor's father and brothers fought for the State of Vermont in the Revolutionary War. There went that Loyalist idea!

I discovered that my ancestor, although married in New York State where the children were born, had migrated there in 1807 from Vermont where he was born. A cousin I found and contacted had a family Bible confirming his birth in Vermont. I found my ancestor had a number of siblings and I proved to be a DNA match to a number of their descendants. Many of the families migrated over the years to Oxford County in Ontario where my ancestors also lived. I found records that some of the descendants had the same family story about the England Estate and referred to the siblings. My ancestor just wasn't one of them referred to, as he migrated much later, and appears to be the youngest of the family.

If previous research I found about this family can be verified, the family appears to have been in the United States for a number of generations going back to the mid-1640s, living originally in Massachusetts, then migrating to Vermont around the time of the Revolutionary War. My ancestor's older siblings migrated to Upper Canada during the years 1795 to 1805, while my ancestor took the detour to New York first. Upper Canada Land Patents proved to be useful in providing bits of information e.g., indicating some relationships, where they came from, what year, and how many children, if any, came with the applicant.

Although I was very reluctant to do a DNA test, DNA matches proved to be the catalyst focusing my research in a particular family line. Through obtaining document images, researching history, verifying data, investigating family trees, analyzing military records, newspapers, and maps, contacting related folks etc. and finding these DNA cousin matches, I believe I have finally broken through my brick wall. DNA testing has proven again to be another valuable tool in the Genealogical toolbox.

My winter project will be to fit all of these pieces together, to compare data with distant cousins, to update my family tree, to find more related DNA matches and possibly write more of the family history story for this family line.

*Submitted by Cheryl Munkholm - #1715*

Editor's Note: Although Cheryl was careful not to mention the DNA company with which she tested (so there would be no implied endorsement favouring one over another), I wanted to indicate that if one of our members is considering this as a help in their own research, then there are several companies to be considered for your own choice – such as Family Tree DNA, Ancestry DNA, 23andMe, My Heritage, Living DNA, etc. You can GOOGLE “DNA Testing Companies” to learn more, and also find some pro and con comments for each one, to help in making your decision.

## Prince Charles Teenage Portrait on Display in Edinburgh

Item per Edinburgh Evening News – April 24, 2019 - by Brian Ferguson



A rediscovered portrait of a teenage Bonnie Prince Charlie is to go on public display in Scotland for the first time ever. The National Museum of Scotland has secured a loan of a little-known painting Charles Edward Stuart sat for in Venice when he was just 16 years old. It is thought to have been disliked by his father because the prince looked unusually mature and confident for his age.

It is believed to have been given away to an aristocratic Italian family, who kept it for centuries, before selling it on more than 50 years ago. It was snapped up at auction in New York after being spotted coming up for sale by a Warsaw-based art historian, Peter Pininski, who claims to be a direct descendant of the prince.

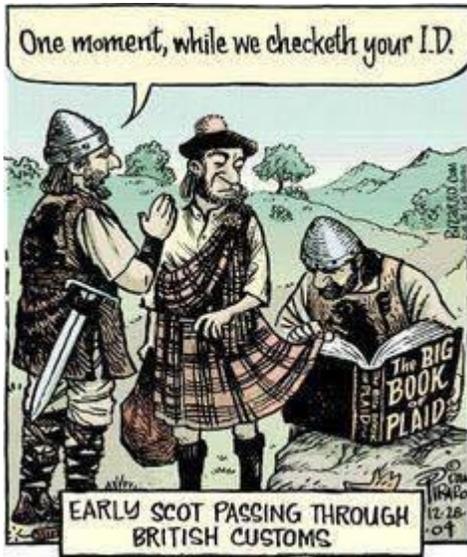
The portrait is said to be a rare accurate depiction of the young prince. Created by the Venetian artist Rosalba Carriera, it is believed to be the only portrait of the prince before the 1745 Jacobite Uprising which was not painted in Rome. The National Museum is putting the portrait on display alongside the prince's silver canteen of travelling cutlery and shield from April 25 until May 27, 2019. A spokeswoman said: "This is a rare opportunity to see the portrait on public display for a short period of time.

"Carriera painted the prince in 1737 while he was in Venice on a tour of the major cities in central and northern Italy. "That the portrait was produced in Venice rather than Rome is significant because it was not commissioned or supervised by his father, the exiled James VIII, and therefore was free from James' undue influence upon the

artist and likely to be a more accurate representation. The portrait was sent to King James in Rome who at some point gifted it to one of his friends and supporters. It remained in a private collection unknown to the general public until it was auctioned last year.”

*Submitted by Bob Bissett – per Ken Godfrey*

## Scottish Humour



## Water, Water Everywhere ...

An attractive older woman is in the bar of a cruise ship and asks for a Scotch with only two drops of water. As the bartender gives her the drink she says, "I'm on the cruise to celebrate my 80th birthday and it's today!"

The bartender says, "Well, since it's your birthday, I'll buy you a drink. In fact, this one is on me." As the woman finishes her drink, the woman to her right says, "I would like to buy you a drink, too," The old woman says, "Thank you for your kindness. Mr. Bartender, I'll have a Scotch with only two drops of water." "Coming right up," says the bartender.

As she finishes her second drink, the man to her left says, "I would like to buy you one too." The old woman says, "Thank you for your kindness. Bartender, I'll have another Scotch with only two drops of water."

Coming right up," the bartender says. As he gives her the drink the bartender says, "Ma'am, I'm dying of curiosity. Why the Scotch with only two drops of water?" The woman replies, "Kid, when you're my age, you've learned how to hold your liquor. Water, however, is a whole different issue!"

*Submitted by Judy Gauthier - #802*

## Editor's Message

Please tell me what you do and don't like about the items in "The Rowan Tree", so that we may try to improve its content. Remember, this is your newsletter, and it can only be as good as your input to it, so I welcome your submissions; especially those from new members, and those from outside of Ontario. It is only in this way, that we can expand the geographic appeal of the newsletter.

*Ken Godfrey - #802*

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**Remember:** If you have moved recently, have you notified CLA of your new address, so you will receive all of your newsletters - i.e. *The Rowan Tree*, and your magazine - i.e. *Clan Lachlan*? Also, if you have recently changed your e-mail address, send any/all of your changes to James MacLachlan, our Treasurer, with a copy to Ken Godfrey, please, whose names and addresses appear below. Also, remember to keep your Membership Dues current as well. Thank you.

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### *Officers of Branch*

<b>Interim President: CLA, &amp; Executive Trustee</b>	<b>Vice President - Toronto Area,</b>
<b>Lachlan Trust of Canada</b>	<b>and "Rowan Tree" Newsletter Editor</b>
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