



The Rowan Tree



Number 47

Clan Lachlan Association of Canada Inc.

www.clanlachlan.ca

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

President's Message

Greetings Fellow Clan Members,

This has been a year and summer of change—record temperatures, violent weather, widespread terrorism, millions of refugees, radical political change threatening established social structures, economic dislocation etc. Perhaps in this climate of change it is appropriate to look at the Future of the Clan.

For over 700 years the Clan Lachlan has been a Scottish Highland clan. If the concepts of clanship are to be relevant to younger people in today's society and to future generations, we need to encourage worldwide members of our clan to know and be proud of their history and heritage. The constitution of the Clan Society entails an obligation to preserve the "worldwide Records of MacLachlans" and to preserve physical icons such as Kilmorie Chapel, the burial place of the Chiefs (*project completed*) and "Old Castle Lachlan" which is a work in progress. "Old Castle Lachlan" takes us back to the days of the Kingdoms of the Gael where in Ireland, Western Scotland and the Isles, our ancestors lived by the two-thousand year-old clan values and communal culture of the Celts.

For this generation, the goal of the Save Old Castle Lachlan Fund is to preserve "Old Castle Lachlan" as an ancient Scottish structure of national importance, and to preserve the history and heritage of the clan. This is part of the larger vision of preserving the heritage of a clan and developing the Strathlachlan area in Argyll as an "ancestral tourist" destination, while respecting its natural beauty and historic importance. A project of this scale will require us to raise major funding of say £1.5 million.

Funding of £650,000 has been raised, mainly from the Heritage Lottery Fund and Historic Scotland, with support from members of the Clan Society through the Lachlan Trust charities registered in Scotland and Canada. This Phase 1.0 has stabilized the walls of the old castle which were in danger of collapse. This represents about one third of the work to preserve the entire castle.

To complete the preservation requires future funding of say £700,000 for Phase 2.0. Over the next year the Lachlan Trust will establish a work program and sources of funding. An important factor for securing funding from institutional sources in Scotland is that we continue over the years to demonstrate strong interest and financial support from the descendants of emigrant Scots.

An annual modest charitable donation to the *Lachlan Trust of Canada* brings *Lachlan Library* membership. This membership program funds the preservation of "Old Castle Lachlan", the preservation of "clan records", and provides the fellowship of international membership in the Clan Society for present and future generations. *Lachlan Library* membership is a "promotional gift" from the *Save Old Castle Lachlan Fund* to annual donors of \$25.00 or more to the *Lachlan Trust of Canada*. This Library Membership brings membership in the worldwide Clan Society and in the Clan Lachlan Association of Canada or any other Branch which joins this program. (*Donations must be sent via Lachlan Trust of Canada as the current charter of the Lachlan Trust of Scotland does not permit "promotional" gifts.*)

Lachlan Library membership gives access to a growing library with over 250 E Books on the Heritage and History of Scotland and on Clan Lachlan history & family genealogy for some 1500 members. It gives access to a Family History & Ancestors Data Base. E books have revolutionized the preservation of family genealogy information. Instead of a paper copy bequeathed to some family member, you could have your family story, genealogy, pioneer experience, memoirs of a family ancestor or wartime experiences etc. published by the *Lachlan Library* as ISBN registered E Books and filed in the *Library & Archives of Canada* and in the *National Library of Scotland*. Your extended family and descendants can add to your family history.

Support the Clan, add to this repository of our history and bequeath a permanent, growing and living legacy to your descendants.

Duncan MacLachlan - August 2016

Volunteers Required

I have had a very difficult two years since my cancer surgery and will be 86 in November. I live from day to day. In two weeks I will have a decision as to whether the risks of another surgery outweigh the benefits.

In the immediate future I plan to concentrate on a new web site for the *Lachlan Library* which could handle individual donors from anywhere in the world or a complete Branch.

Required.

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

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

***Membership Secretary* (contact point for Branch Membership Secretaries)**

***Genealogy Coordinator.* (Hopefully there will be a several Genealogy representatives replacing the Sennachie.)**

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

In the future I see most social contact for members through social media which may be on an international basis but this is an individual or regional choice. Whether Branches exist or not, there is a place for digital regional newsletters which would be posted to the Library.

Duncan MacLachlan - August 2016

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

5270 James McLeary – Bangkok, Thailand

5271 Giles Forrest – <Address not available at time of finalization>

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



Ian Gibson MacLachlan - #1457

November 16, 1932 - March 29, 2016

It is with great sadness that we share the loss of Ian MacLachlan. Ian passed away on Tuesday, March 29, 2016 at the Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital, in his 84th year after a brief illness. Ian lived a life full of adventure and shared his love of travel, strong wit and humour, and generosity with all who knew him.

Ian is predeceased by his wife of 59 years, Patricia, who passed away in 2015. He was a wonderful father to Ruth (Jeff Cassidy) and Neil and an adored grandfather to Duncan, Riley, Robert and Sarah. He will be sadly missed by his sisters, Irene (Alex Profit) and Morag (Peter Spencer), his nieces and nephews and many other relatives and good friends from Canada, the United States, Australia and Scotland.

Born in Edinburgh, Scotland in 1932, Ian's quest for adventure and travel began early on when he studied at Leith Nautical College leading him to join the Merchant Navy and set sail at the young age of 17. This was the beginning of a lifelong love of travel and the sea.

A stop in Australia introduced him to his beloved wife Pat, and the adventure for two then began.

A long trip by sea to Canada with baby son Neil landed him in Montreal in time for Expo 67 and the arrival of daughter Ruth. His career in computer science started at the University of Guelph and from there he helped build Cincom Systems Canada and Australia. This allowed him boundless opportunities to travel the world, where he immersed himself into every culture he landed in. A man with more passport stamps will never be found and no exotic food was left without sampling! Wherever he went, he always had great stories to share. Even in his later years, his wanderlust and love of the sea continued. In 2007, at the age of nearly 75, Ian was in all his glory when he embarked on his last great maritime voyage aboard the Flottbek, a cargo ship which sailed from Montreal to Liverpool, and onto Antwerp.

Though Ian was a proud Canadian, he never forgot his Scottish roots and was heavily involved in the Clan Lachlan Association of Canada, acting as Membership Secretary for the past several years, and also lending a welcome hand at our past appearances in the Avenue of the Clans at the Fergus Highland Games.

Above all, Ian was a true gentleman, a devoted family man and the most generous person you will ever meet. Nothing was more important to him than his family and throughout his life he remained dedicated to his parents, his wife, his sisters, his children and especially his grandchildren. In his later years, Ian assumed the role of caregiver to Pat when she was faced with mobility issues and lovingly took great care of her. Ian has made a huge impact on the lives of many and will be truly missed by all those who knew him.

A memorial service was held at 2:00 pm on Wednesday April 6, 2016 [Tartan Day] at St. Simon's Anglican Church, 1450 Litchfield Road, Oakville. Reflections on Ian's life were made by his son-in-law, Jeff Cassidy; Jeff's son, Duncan; and by Brian Profit, Ian's nephew. The service also included the singing of "Amazing Grace" and "Ode to Joy", the recitation of the 23rd. Psalm, The Apostles Creed, The Lord's Prayer, A Commendation, and a reading from Matthew 11: 25-30. As well, a eulogy for Ian, sent by our president, Duncan MacLachlan, was read during the service by Jeff Cassidy (see below for its text). During the reception following the service, a wonderful slide show (produced by Ian's grandson, Duncan) of almost 200 photos from Ian's life were shown as a video.

The family requested that, in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions to the **Old Castle Lachlan Project** at www.oldcastlelachlan.com; or via www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/lachlan-trust-of-canada, would be appreciated.



Fergus Highland Games – Aug. 8, 2009. L to R: Ken, Judy, Ruth & Duncan, & Ian (with tartan headband).

So, this photo shows 3 generations: Ian, his daughter Ruth Cassidy, and his grandson Duncan (standing between Ruth & Ian).

Eulogy for Ian MacLachlan from Duncan MacLachlan, President CLA

Ian volunteered in 2006 to help the Canadian Branch in any way he could. He became a member of the Branch Council and soon took over the job of Membership Secretary of the Branch and then added the Lachlan Library Membership Secretary. Ian's initial contribution included the creation of a membership data base serving the Clan Society, Branch and the Lachlan Library.

Over the next 10 years Ian was a friendly and welcoming face for over 125 new members and always available for any queries. He maintained contact by following up on 150 membership renewals a year.

Ian played a key role in operations both for the Branch and for the Lachlan Trust. Ian had planned to give up this commitment about 3 years ago, but there was no volunteer willing to take over so Ian carried on faithfully until his passing.

Ian retained a youthful spirit, he was always full of vim and vigour, he was always receptive to finding a new approach to a problem. He was open, generous, trustworthy and loyal. I have never heard him "bad mouth" anyone. As a colleague and friend he will be sorely missed.

On a personal note, I was honoured to have had Ian and Pat as friends; they are now together again. We extend our deepest sympathy and prayers to Ruth, Neil and the family.

Farewell dear Ian.

Your work is done - now may peace rest with thee.

Your kindly thoughts and deeds - they will live on.

This is not death - 'tis immortality.

As a final note, the memorial service brochure, featured not only the MacLachlan Clan Badge, a photo of Ian, but also included a poem by Robert Burns, written on the occasion of the death of his good friend, William Muir, which follows.

"An honest man here lies at rest,
As e'er God with his Image blest:
A friend of man, the friend of truth,
The friend of age and guide of youth;
Few hearts like his-with virtue warm'd,
Few heads with knowledge so informed:
If there's another world, he lives in bliss;
If there is none, he made the best of this."

John McLachlan Howes - #1706

Former member, John McLachlan Howes, passed away peacefully in his 93rd year in the Veteran's Wing of Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre in Toronto. He was the beloved husband of the late Marguerite Howes (2002); and loving and kind father to Heather (Rick) Howes, the late Sarah (Gord) Howes, and the late Peter Howes. He was grandpa to MacKenzie, Mitchell, and Reid. He is survived by his sister Isobel Wilcox, and nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was predeceased by his brother Warden Howes. A Flag Service was held at Sunnybrook Hospital on June 7, 2016, with private interment at Belsyde Cemetery. Donations may be made in John's memory to the LGSW Wing of Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, or Melville United Church, Fergus, Ontario.

Source: Toronto Star – June 11, 2016



Sarah and children, with her father John McLachlan Howes, Fergus Highland Games – Aug. 13, 2005

CLA Membership Renewals

Please check out the website at www.clanlachlan.ca. Remember your access codes are User ID (either macxxxx or LACHxxxx) and password is your postal/zip code!

You can renew easily via the secure on-line payment. CA-21 at \$25.00 for twelve months, or CA19 at \$100.00 for five years!

For those members with access to the Lachlan Library, you will have received a copy of the new electronic newsletter. We hope you enjoyed it. We are dependent on members to keep us supplied with new content. If you did not receive this e-mailed newsletter, you are likely linked to the magazine library, and can gain full access to the Lachlan Library by purchasing the upgrade CA03 for \$10.

Editor's Note: Since we are without a Membership Secretary at the present time, please check your own records, and keep your renewals up to date by payment through our website. If you are receiving this as a complimentary issue, and have not been a member for some time, we would welcome your return via membership payment at our website.

Castle Lachlan Videos on You Tube

This first URL link takes you to a May 2016 video featuring Donald MacLauchlan and Martin Hadlington, speaking of the history of the old castle, and the current preservation effort.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6f7m5jNbN4Q>

Old Castle Lachlan

www.youtube.com

Conservation Project Update - May 2016

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FFG7YKjKeHc>

This second URL link takes you to a Guided Walk on Lachlan Bay by Marion Bowman, Project Co-ordinator, and includes the historic Kilmore Chapel and graveyard, the Inver Cottage Restaurant, once a croft before its conversion, and the importance of the position of the Castle and the Clan on Loch Fyne.



[A guided walk at Lachlan Bay](#)

www.youtube.com

Take a short walk through Lachlan with your guide Marion Bowman.

News from/about our Members

Three Missing McLachlan Brothers – Can You help Solve the Mystery?

This puzzle, which has been outstanding for at least a couple of years now, was re-invigorated by the following e-mail (dated May 29, 2016) from David McLaughlin, the Britain & Ireland newsletter Editor.

“Hello Ken

One of our members, Linda Demery, is trying to trace any descendants that might be living in Canada. The background relates to a programme called British Home Children which, I understand, placed children taken into care, to places in Canada.

In 1893, 3 brothers, James Henry McLachlan, born 1878; Sydney John McLachlan, born 1880; and Stanley Robert McLachlan, born 1882; were relocated to Canada. All three were born in Lambeth, Surrey, England.

Do you have any member who might be able to find out any information about the British Home Children society in Canada and whether there are any public records which might indicate where these 3 boys were sent? If we have that background information, we might then be able to research for descendants.

Yours in anticipation,

David McLaughlin
Editor
LNRU
Britain and Ireland”

Then, more information was supplied through a subsequent e-mail:

Sydney John changed his name to John McDill in 1896 while in Toronto, and then it seems promptly disappeared. I [Linda] have long felt that he probably went over the border into the USA with his new name when he would have been 16 years old, probably because he was mistreated. I have searched for Sydney under both names and have had no luck at all.

With regard to James Henry and Stanley Robert, I have been able to trace them both through to their deaths. Stanley Robert in Toronto in August 1970 and James Henry in New Jersey USA in August 1974. Neither of them left any children. I do have Stanley's army records, marriage and death certificate.

If your colleague is able to find out any information about Sydney/John McDill it would be very helpful.

The query comes from Linda Dimery, and her e-mail address is: linda.dimery@mypostoffice.co.uk

More information:

Hi Ken. In 2014, Duncan forwarded a query he received from Linda about the three McLachlan boys who were sent to Canada as Barnardo Home Children. In order for Linda to get details from Barnardo files in England she has to find a direct descendant of one of these three McLachlan brothers. This is what Linda told me:

“Because I am not a direct descendant of these boys [I am their 1st cousin x 2 removed] Barnardos will not let me purchase their records. They say that I must find a direct descendant and get their written permission first.

At that time in 2014, I contacted Linda. She gave me more information and I did research to try to help her. I sent her a number of web sites I thought might be helpful as well as other research I did on all three. I also suggested trying to contact the descendants of the woman that James had married as James had no children of his own that we could find. Stanley's only child that we found died as an infant. Sydney did not appear in any of the research done on his two brothers after they left England. We tried researching under his name as Sydney John McLachlan and derivatives of the names as well as the name given to Linda by Barnardos who did tell her that he went by the name John McDill and various derivatives. After Barnardos lost contact with him he appears to have disappeared. It is a much greater challenge to find him given we have no idea what name he went by, where he went, or what he did after the age of 16. Searching Canadian, US and UK records so far have proven unsuccessful.

Many of the Home children never talked to their descendants about being Home children or their experiences being sent at very young ages to Canada from Britain. So it is possible that if Sydney did have descendants he may not have related his early history. I know there are web sites where either Home children themselves or their descendants have posted information but I haven't found anything for Sydney.

I've tried again to see if I can find anything new that would relate but I'm still having no luck in finding any kind of data that would suggest what happened to Sydney. I've followed a number of leads but they all tend to end up not being Sydney or at least I couldn't prove that they were.

A while ago, Judy also sent me Linda's query that she found posted somewhere. I told Judy at that time that I had already answered Linda from the first query forwarded by Duncan. I've also seen Linda's query in other web sites.

I wish I could solve this mystery for Linda but just haven't been able to find anything to confirm Sydney's whereabouts or his history. On Ancestry, Linda has him noted as John Madill and indicates 1911 and 1916 Canada Census reports with him married and living in Russell Manitoba. Although this may be Sydney, I don't see any evidence to suggest that it is from what I can see from analyzing the data although Dr. Barnardo did have a Training Farm in Russel Manitoba.

<http://canadianbritishhomechildren.weebly.com/russell-manitoba---barnardos.html>
<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/special/ourcityyourworld/uk/the-barnardo-boys-149343895.html>

Sorry I haven't been of more help.

Cheryl

Editor's Note: If any of our members can supply more information on any of these 3 brothers, and especially on the elusive Sydney John McLachlan/John McDill, please contact Linda directly, but let us know as well, so that we may publish the success in a future "Rowan Tree" newsletter. Thanks.

Submitted by Cheryl Munkholm - #1715

Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games – August 13, 2016

This year, (as part of a trip to the Stratford Festival, to see a couple of plays), my wife, Judy and I decided to take in the Fergus Games. Now, as some of you know, we used to 'man' a tent in the "Avenue of the Clans" there, but due to advanced age (and lack of support) we have not done so for a few years.

So despite the dark skies, and weather forecast, we did arrive in time to see the official Opening Ceremonies on the main field, with the 'Parade of the Clans' who were attending. This year, Clan Leslie was the "featured clan" and their Chieftain was in attendance. His official title is The Honourable Alexander Leslie, Chief of Clan Leslie; and, as one of the featured speakers, presented 1,000 years of his clan history.

However, just after noon, as the American National Anthem, God Save the Queen, and O Canada were being sung at the commencement, the deluge of rain started with a vengeance! Now, southern Ontario had been in the middle of one of the biggest droughts for many years, but the amount of rain, and its ferocity, was more than enough to dampen (if not drench) the spirits of those attending! The ceremonies were cut short, and the already sodden clans people were announced, and quickly marched off the field. Even Diana Gabaldon, author of the now-famous Outlander series of books, and television series, got thoroughly soaked!

Everyone took refuge in the closest spot available, and we managed to get into the Sponsors Information Tent, until the storm abated. There, we enjoyed some pleasant conversation, some free coffee (laced with a wee dram of Bowmore single malt, which mysteriously appeared), and when the rain finally let up a bit, headed out to have some lunch (sausage on a bun). When finally it stopped completely, and the sun came out, we did some shopping, (Scottish accessories, Empire cookies, Eccles cakes, etc.), and just as we were heading back to our car, the heavens opened once again!

So ... our attendance at the 71st Fergus Games, while much-abbreviated, was still enjoyable, and we were able to have brief visits with other Clans (Sinclair, McInnes, Johnston, etc.) that we had known from years prior.

Although the Pipe Band Competition was unfortunately cancelled, due to the thunder storm and now-marshy field, I did spot some bandsmen wearing the MacLachlan tartan – much to my surprise! It happens that this band is a collaborative effort of 2 countries (Canada and the USA) with its members coming from the Windsor/Detroit area. See below for a photo of three of them (a bit blurry, I'm afraid, due to the high humidity on the camera lens).



Three Members of the Border Cities Caledonian Pipe Band – Grade 4 Competition

McMichael Art Gallery Visit

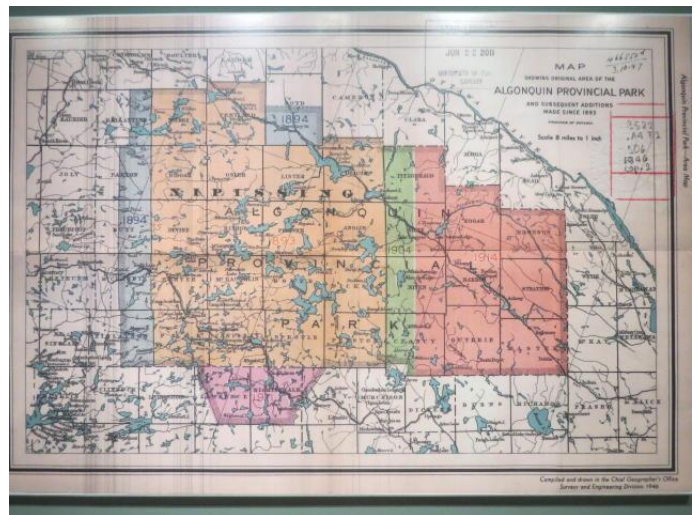
Last January our daughter, Bonnie Armstrong, took us for a visit to the McMichael Gallery in Kleinburg, Ontario.



McMichael Art Gallery – Kleinburg, Ontario

Neil & Daughter Bonnie Armstrong

During our visit, our interest was drawn to a map of Algonquin Park (see 2 photos below) dated 1946. On this map, Algonquin Park was divided into sections. (We do not know if there is a name for the sections, or if they are townships.) We noted one section with the name “McLaughlin” on it. Does anyone know for certain what the McLaughlin connection is to Algonquin Park? We believe that it has something to do with their timber rights there.



Reaching the internet, we found the file shown below re: Daniel McLachlin and McLaughlin Brothers, Lumber Barons.

The McMichael Gallery is a delightful place to visit... there are many hiking trails which would be wonderful to travel in the summer and fall.

Submitted by Neil & Jean Armstrong - #1431

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5.2 A History of Mattawa Mattawa Heritage Designation Committee

Famous lumber barons associated with the Upper Ottawa area include: The Gillies Brothers, The Mackeys, The McLaren's, **The McLaughlin Brothers**, The Hurdmans, The Calvert Brothers, Alex Lumsden, J .B. Klock, E. B. Eddy, and of course the king of the lumber barons J .R. Booth.

Source for material below: [The Upper Ottawa Valley](#), by Clyde Kennedy, page 128



Two pioneer lumbermen whose names became prominent in the great Valley industry. Daniel McLachlin (left), represented Bytown in the first Canadian Assembly after the Act of Union, 1841. He founded his lumber business, now gone from the river, in the upper Ottawa Valley and developed the town of Arnprior. John Gillies (right), obtained the patent to land on the Clyde River in 1840 and erected a small sawmill. He carried a 90-pound saw on his back 55 miles from Brockville to Lanark. Eventually he went into the square timber trade and founded the large-scale, modern business of "the Gillies people". In 1873 he bought the Braeside mill site for his four eldest sons.



Scottish Studies Foundation – Fall Colloquium, Saturday, Sept. 17, 2016

Saturday, September 17, 2016

10:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m.

Robert Whitelaw Room
2nd floor, McLaughlin Library
University of Guelph



At this year's Fall Colloquium we will be commemorating the 30th anniversary of the Scottish Studies Foundation and its relationship with the Guelph Centre for Scottish Studies and we are delighted to have persuaded an impressive lineup of speakers to attend the event.

Ted Cowan was the former Director of the University of Glasgow's Dumfries Campus and Professor of Scottish History and Literature. His main research interests include the history of Viking Scotland, the Scottish Wars of Independence, Early Modern Scottish Political Thought, the Covenanters, Scottish Emigration history and the Scots in the Arctic and Pacific North West. From 1979 to 1983, Ted was Professor of history and chair of Scottish Studies at the University of Guelph. Ted will deliver this year's Jill McKenzie Memorial Lecture which he has titled *Caledonian Canada: Building the Foundations*.

Elizabeth Ewan is University Research Chair and Professor of Medieval and Early Modern Scottish History at the University of Guelph. With a PhD in History from the University of Edinburgh (1985), Ewan is an expert in medieval and early modern Scotland, focusing especially on urban history, women's history, and the history of crime. She is the author of several books, including *Town Life in 14th-Century Scotland* (1990) and *Finding the Family in Medieval and Early Modern Scotland* (2008), and over 20 papers published as book chapters or articles in academic journals.

Graeme Morton joined the University of Dundee in August 2013. He gained his MA in Economic and Social History and Sociology as well as his PhD from the University of Edinburgh. There he was appointed Lecturer then Senior Lecturer in Economic and Social History, including a 70% secondment as ESRC Research Fellow (1994-8). In 2004 Professor Morton was appointed to the inaugural Scottish Studies Foundation Chair at the University of Guelph in Canada. As Director of the Centre for Scottish Studies, he promoted graduate research and writing and attended the odd Burns Supper or two. Coinciding with his appointment as Chair of Modern History at the University of Dundee in August 2013 he was appointed Adjunct Professor of History at the University of Guelph.

Katie McCullough is Director of the Centre for Scottish Studies at Simon Fraser University. Born and raised in Victoria, B.C., she completed her undergraduate degree in history at the University of Victoria and then pursued an MA in history and a PhD in modern Scottish history at the University of Guelph where she was very active with the Centre for Scottish Studies and in the local Scottish community. Having spent many years travelling to Scotland, she now considers it her second home. Her research focuses on transatlantic networks of support for Highland Scottish economic and cultural development in the British Empire in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries and future research will place Scottish settlement in British Columbia in the context of broader patterns of

imperial expansion.

James Fraser holds the position of Scottish Studies Foundation Chair at the University of Guelph. Prior to that, James was a Senior Lecturer in Early Scottish History at the University of Edinburgh. He is the author of *From Caledonia to Pictland: Scotland to 795* (Edinburgh University Press, 2009); *The Roman Conquest of Scotland: the Battle of Mons Graupius AD 84* (Tempus Publishing, 2005); and *The Battle of Dunnichen 685* (Tempus Publishing, 2002). He has extensive teaching experience at the graduate and undergraduate level, and is also a graduate of the University of Guelph (MA '99). The Scottish Studies program at Guelph focuses on graduate studies and includes research on both the history of Scotland and the lives of Scottish immigrants to Canada and James is looking forward to helping the program at Guelph to thrive and prosper. He is encouraged by the broad community of people in Ontario with an interest in Scottish history. "People donate their family treasures to the University and they contribute funds to Scottish research as well," Fraser says. "Our connection to the past can be surprisingly powerful."

The colloquium will run from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with registration starting at 9.30 a.m. The event is \$30 for Scottish Studies Foundation members, \$35 for the general public and \$10 for students. You can register via the Scottish Studies Foundation by [mail](#) or [online](#).

For more information, please contact:

Scottish Studies Office
MacKinnon Building, Room 253
University of Guelph
Guelph, Ontario, Canada
N1G 2W1
Tel: 519-824-4120 ext 53209
Email: scottish@uoguelph.ca

THE GUELPH CENTRE FOR SCOTTISH STUDIES - AN UPDATE

Dr James Fraser, Chair of Scottish Studies, University of Guelph

Our December 2015 "crowdfunding" campaign raised almost \$2000, which will be invested in kick-starting the development of a Research Repository, for genealogical and related information about Scottish Canadian families and their history, at the University of Guelph. We anticipate that this Repository will take the form of a searchable online database into which researchers will be able to deposit their findings, and which they will be able to use to undertake research into a range of different aspects of Scottish Canadian history. Creating the right sort of tool for researchers that does not simply "reinvent the wheel" represented by such websites as Ancestry.com requires a great deal of forward planning and consultation. Thanks to your generous support, we will be able to set that process in motion in 2016.

Our aims for this Research Repository are that it will store, safeguard and widen access to genealogical research relating to the Scottish Canadian community. It will enable family historians to ensure that their labours are preserved for future generations, with all of the custodial care that universities routinely devote to the records that they hold. But it will do more than that. By presenting collected information in a form usable by academic historians, research students, population scientists, journalists, heritage workers, writers and others, it will help family historians, including members of the OGS, to make an enriching and vital contribution to the study of Canadian history and the Scottish "diaspora".

We have a great deal of preparatory work to do, before such a Repository can be created. Ongoing fundraising success will greatly help to expedite the process, and we would certainly welcome and gratefully appreciate support from new donors who share our aspirations. The crowdfunding window has been closed, but donors can still make a gift by visiting the following website and selecting a suitable method: http://www.alumni.uoguelph.ca/give/give_how.shtml

MacLachlans in the News

While watching the Rio Summer Olympics on TV, I noticed that an American girl, by the name of Sydney McLaughlin (only age 17) was competing in the 400 metre Hurdle heats. While she did not advance to the next heat, it was good to see a young McLaughlin out on the track, trying her best, on what many consider to be the most important athletic even in the world – the Olympics!.

Note that, while the Olympics may get all the press, it is NOT the largest sporting event in the world. That honour goes to the **World Masters Games**, which is held every 4 years, just like the Olympics – and with all of the Olympic events. The summer Olympics has approximately 12,000 athletes, and the WMG has had in excess of 26,000 competitors. "Masters" are usually athletes 35 years and older (I've seen some 100 year-old competitors at these games!). They compete in 5-year age categories, and do not have to pre-qualify to attend. The last one that Judy and I competed in (Lawn Bowling) was in Sydney, Australia, in 2009. We hope to be able to repeat our trip "down-under" in April of 2017 to once again compete in the Mixed Pairs of lawn bowling in Auckland, New Zealand.

Submitted by Ken Godfrey - #802

Editor's Message

Once again, I would ask that any of you currently receiving hard-copy of this newsletter, who would like to venture into the realm of an on-line PDF file (more articles – than our 10 page hardcopy limit, and with colour photos) to please tell me. Over 95% of our members

have now chosen this “green option”. Check it out on our website: www.clanlachlan.ca

Also, 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

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 appears below. Also, remember to keep your Membership Dues current as well. Thank you.

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