



# KINTAIL

The Newsletter of the Clan MacRae Society of Canada  
Volume 18 No. 1 Issue 40 Winter 2017/18



## UPDATE

### CLAN MACRAE SOCIETY OF CANADA ANNUAL AGM & GATHERING



Guelph/Fergus, Ontario  
August 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018



For 2018 we start with activities in Niagara Falls, Ontario (August 6, 7, 8); before going to the Guelph/Fergus area. Along with the Falls Boat Tour and Illumination/Fireworks we have added a Tour of Peller Estates Winery including their 10 Below Icewine Lounge. For Friday's Tour of the Scottish Archives at the University of Guelph we have added guest speakers Professors Elizabeth Ewan and Kevin James. Also, Special guest for our Banquet & Ceilidh will be Linda Granfield with a 45-minute power point presentation entitled "John McCrae: Behind the Legend" followed by a 15-minute question period.

Register now, if your plans change prior to August 1 full refund returned

Book your accommodations ASAP so everyone can be at the same hotels

*We extend a warm welcome to Clan MacRae members from around the world!*



**Lest We Forget Bracelet FREE to first 20 families who register** includes with "In Flanders Fields"



**Car Pooling:** Car-pooling will be available, if you wish to ride along with other members. You can indicate on the Registration Form if you will be renting a car and willing to have others with you. Or, if you need to have car-pooling with someone else; and, whether you wish to share the rental cost with another member.

### Itinerary Outline:

**Prices are in Canadian dollars, see Registration Form if you are paying in US dollars.**

Barb Duff has worked hard to make our Gathering enjoyable for all. Any questions you have, Barb would be pleased to hear from you. [barbbduff@gmail.com](mailto:barbbduff@gmail.com) *be sure the double "b" is in the middle of the email address*

### Mon Aug 6<sup>th</sup>: Niagara Falls Accommodations - Check in after 3:00 p.m.

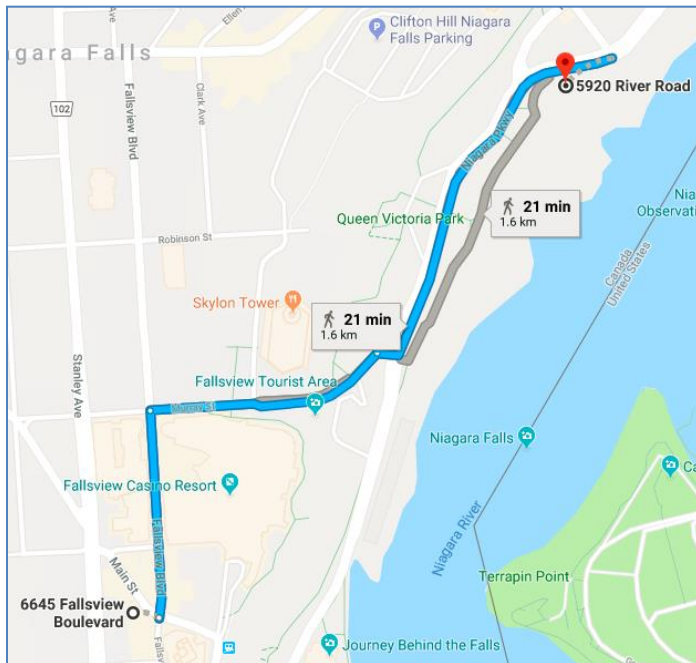
**Comfort Inn Fallsview**, 6645 Fallsview Blvd., Niagara Falls, ON L2G 7G1 (12 rooms being held) 905-358-9353 or 1-800-463-1938. Please ask for reservations under "Clan MacRae Society of Canada" Group Rate \$185.00 + taxes (everyone books their own). There is a fee for parking because of the peak season plus the limited parking. Breakfast included.

P.S There are a couple Comfort hotels in Niagara, so make sure you use this one.

### Tues Aug 7<sup>th</sup>:

**8:00 a.m.** Breakfast Comfort Inn (included with hotel price)

**10:00 a.m.** Gather at the bottom of Clifton Hill next to the river/falls side. (5920 River Road, approx.



21-minute walk from Comfort Inn) Pick up your tickets from Barb Duff or Ann MacRae for the "Hornblower Niagara Cruise" (to take place at **10:30 a.m.**) There is an elevator as well as a tram to be completed for 2018.

**Cost: \$35.00**

**12:00 noon** Lunch - (pay your own) your time is free after the cruise to do what you would like until supper. Information for things to do at 1-855-356-5672 Ontario Travel Information Centre - Niagara Falls, 5355 Stanley Ave.; and below at Web Sites for Itinerary Outline.

**5:30 p.m.** Dinner & Show (Greg Frewin Theatre – Amazing Magic)

**Cost: Adults \$75.00 – Children \$58.00 –**

**Optional VIP – \$35.00** This is an extra before dinner; a visit backstage with Greg and his tigers.

Greg does not usually do this during the week but has opened it up for us. Check him out at: <http://gregfrewintheatre.com/>

**10:00 p.m.** Falls Illumination & Fireworks (stroll along the falls and experience the magic of the fireworks) Go to <https://www.niagaraparks.com/> (type in "fireworks" at the top right to search)



**Wed: Aug 8<sup>th</sup>:**

**8:00 a.m.** Breakfast Comfort Inn (included with hotel price)

**9:45 & no later than 10:00 a.m.** Drive to Niagara-on-the-Lake to Pellar Estates - takes about 30 mins.

**10:30 a.m.** Meet at Pellar Wines Estates <https://www.pellar.com/>

**11:00 am. sharp** Wine Tasting Tour. After the main tour you will be taken to the [Icewine Lounge](#). This is the **ULTIMATE 10BELOW EXPERIENCE** which lasts approximately 20-25 minutes. Make sure you wear slacks, socks and proper footwear (not sandals) the Parkas are provided. Highly recommended.

**Cost: \$35.00**

**12:30 p.m.** Lunch – BBQ at Pellar Estates (pay your own)

**1:30 p.m.** Leave Pellar Estates. The drive is about 2 ½ hrs. depending on traffic from Pellar Estates to Holiday Inn, Guelph.

**4:00 p.m.** Approximate arrival at Holiday Inn, Guelph.

**Wed Aug 8<sup>th</sup>: Guelph Accommodations - Check in after 3:00 p.m.**

**Holiday Inn & Conference Centre**, 601 Scottsdale Drive, Guelph, ON N1G 3E7 (519)836-0231 (**SEE email attachment for Reservations Instructions**) Be sure to give the password “CMS” (meaning Clan MacRae Society) to get the reduced group rate of \$124.99 + taxes (everyone books their own) which includes 2 coupons per person for buffet breakfast. Book the sooner the better, so we can all stay at the same place where the Banquet and our AGM will be held. Reservations need to be made by July 13, 2018.

**5:00 p.m.** Dinner/Supper (pay your own) at Fionn MacCool’s Pub, 494 Edinburgh Rd S, Guelph; a couple blocks from the hotel.

**7:00 – 9:00 p.m.** Welcome Reception in Owen’s Suite. Come and Go as you like – make sure you pick up your Welcome Bag with all your information and goodies from Barb or Ann.

**Thurs Aug 9<sup>th</sup>:**

**8:00 a.m.** Breakfast at the hotel (coupon or pay your own)

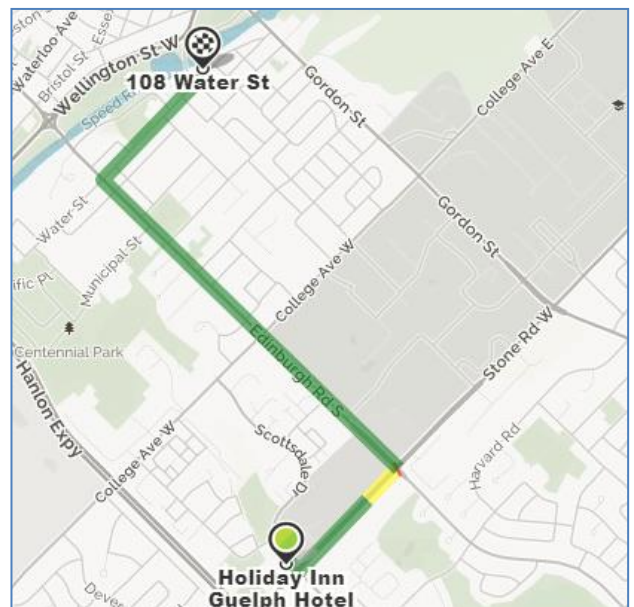
Drive to McCrae House, 108 Water St, Guelph; approx. 8-minutes from hotel. Parking at the McCrae House or across the road at the Boathouse parking lot.

**9:30 a.m.** Bus will be at McCrae House to start loading the people - **leaving 10:00 a.m. sharp** – we will tour the House at the end of the Bus Excursion.

**10:00 a.m.** Lt. Col. John McCrae Bus Tour (and Lunch) includes:

- Guelph Museum & McCrae Statue
- Woodlawn (McCrae) Cemetery
- University of Guelph where Lt. Col. John McCrae taught

and end up again at the newly renovated McCrae House for an 1867 themed afternoon Tea in the Garden (if it rains tea at Museum). There may be two seatings depending on number of people. Bottomless pots of McCrae Private Blend and Guelph Town



Garden Blend teas. While at the museum, visit the current galleries and exhibitions, including Canadian Eh? and To the Gathering Place.

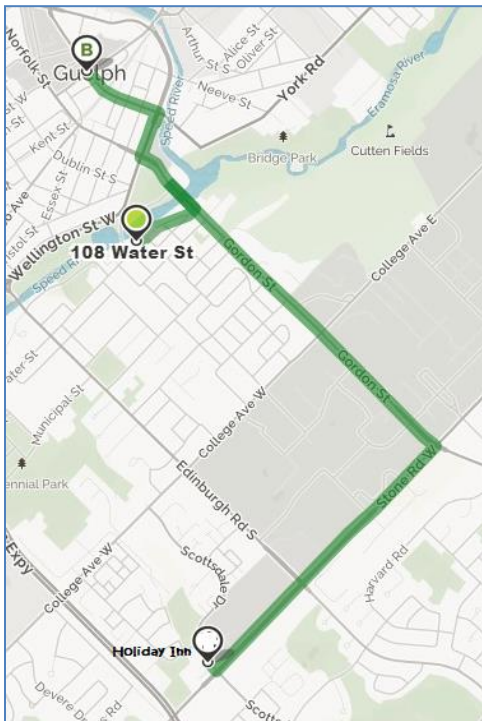
**Cost: \$35.00 Adults – Children ages 5-12 \$20.00 – Under 5 free**

**Picnic Lunch Cost: \$12.00**

Check **The Boathouse Tea Room** web site to choose a cold sandwich or a wrap

<https://theboathouseguelph.ca/>

Indicate your choice on your Registration Form – cold sandwiches or wraps only please. We will add fruit and a bottle of water for you.



**4:00 p.m.** Supper & a Wee Dram at The Shakespeare Arms Pub/Restaurant, 35 Harvard Road, Guelph (pay your own).

Allow 40 minutes to drive to Fergus if you are going in the parade. We need as many MacRaes as possible to participate with Banners and flags. Please be there no later than 7:00 p.m. to get organized and line up. We also need to sign-in and pick up a number for our MacRaes.

**6:00 p.m.** Leave Guelph for those planning on participating in parade.

**7:30 p.m.** Pipes, Plaid and Pageantry Parade in downtown Historic Fergus. Those participating are to meet at the corner of St. David's St. and Albert St. The Parade will take about 30-45 minutes; ending at the Legion Hall on St. Andrew's St.; in front of the Breadalbane Inn.

Evening free

There is Celtic music in the pubs, restaurants, legion and streets in the evening after the parade until they close.

### Fri Aug 10<sup>th</sup>:

**8:45 a.m.** Breakfast at the hotel. (coupon or pay)

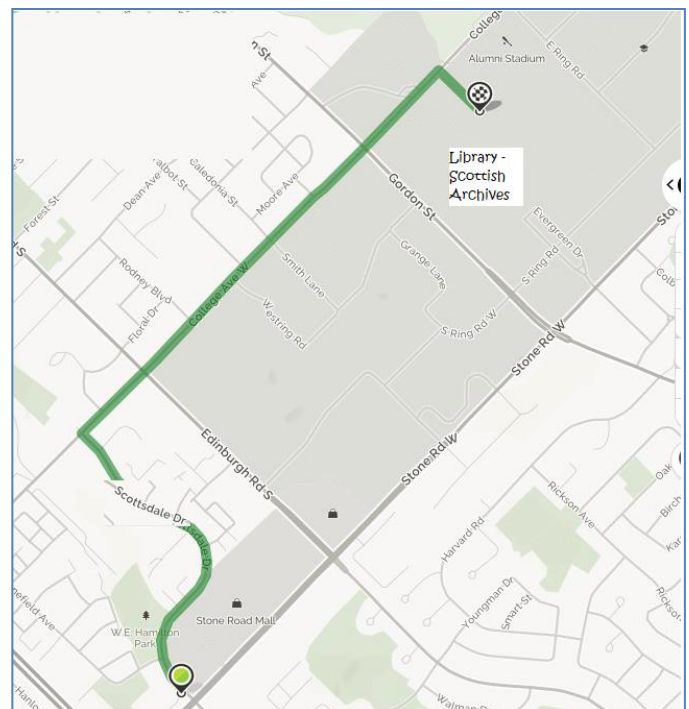
**10:00 a.m.** AGM in the morning at the Holiday Inn meeting room on the main floor.

**12:00 noon** Lunch at the hotel.

**Cost: \$22.00 Adults – Children ages 5-12 \$12.00 – Under 5 free**

**1:00 p.m.** (earlier if finished lunch) Drive to the University of Guelph McLaughlin Library, 50 Stone Road, East, Guelph - **Parking off Trent Lane**

**1:30 p.m. sharp** Tour the Scottish Archives at the Guelph University (room to be announced). A lecture on Medieval/Scottish Charters by Professor Elizabeth Ewan. Viewing of old charters from the 13<sup>th</sup> c. and letters written to and from Lt. Col. John McCrae. A talk by Kevin James on "A Mobile People as Migrants to



Canada” & “Dynamics of Scottish Migration”. Society donation will be made to Special Archives.

**4:00 p.m.** Supper at Fionn McCool’s or in Fergus – to be announced (pay your own)

**5:30 p.m.** Leave for Fergus to attend the Tattoo & Opening Ceremonies for those planning to participate or to stay for the evening EVENTS. Traffic will be fairly heavy.

**7:30 p.m.** Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games - Tattoo and Opening Ceremonies. Lighting of the Hearth Clan participation followed by fireworks. (check the festival site for lectures and shows)

NOTE: You must purchase your tickets ahead of time or on the Friday evening of the Games (or whatever day you are attending). You may purchase only one day passes or the WEEKEND (cheaper) pass. Barb is trying to get a group rate for us, but it is not available yet. These must be purchased by each person either on line or at the event. [www.fergusscottishfestival.com](http://www.fergusscottishfestival.com)

**9:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.** Main Concert event for the weekend for those wishing to stay, check online to see who will be featured.

### Sat Aug 11<sup>th</sup>:

**8:00 a.m.** Breakfast at the hotel (coupon or pay your own)

**9:00 a.m.** Day at the Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games. This will be a very busy day. There is lots of entertainment and lectures, so please check online to see if there is anything you wish to do and sign up early. Barb & John will also need help at the MacRae tent, a sign-up sheet for helpers will be available. (1-2hrs. intervals manning the tent)

For those who would like to see the historic town of Fergus or Elora, take a bus tour or walking tour. There is free bus transportation. Pickup is in front of the Sports complex. Check Wellington County’s website [www.centrewellington.ca](http://www.centrewellington.ca) to search for places to see and what to do in the areas of Fergus, Elora, Bellwood, & Guelph and a bit for St. Jacobs.

**12:30 p.m.** The Clan Parade - MacRaes and septs must participate in the parade with your finest tartan - assemble at 11:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m. This is part of the Welcoming Ceremonies which all clans participate in. We will be piped in through the Castle gate to the main field. Have your Clan War Cry practiced “Sgurr Uaran” - nice and loud. We want to be heard this year.

**2:30 p.m.** The “John K. Campbell Award” for best clan tent to be chosen. All clans participate in choosing the winner.

**6:30 p.m. Banquet & Ceilidh** at the Holiday Inn, Guelph. Linda Granfield will speak on her books and life of Lt. Col. John McCrae. Please dress appropriately for the Banquet - no jeans and wear your tartan if you have any.

**Cost: \$50.00 Adults – Children ages 5-12 \$20.00 – under 5 free**

### Sun Aug 12<sup>th</sup>:

**9:00 a.m.** The Festival gates open. This is the day to showcase the Clans community – dress appropriately. This day is dedicated as Family Day, so we need to try and get more Family memberships. Help is needed to man the tent. Barb & John will be there setting up early to be open for 9:00 a.m. A schedule will be set up for volunteers to sign up for helping in the tent.

**10:30 a.m.** “Kirkin O’ the Tartan” at St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church, 61 Norfolk St, Guelph, ON N1H 4J7 Lt. Col. John McCrae and his family worshipped here. The elders are allowing the MacRaes to participate in the service. After the service there is coffee time and we are planning a tour of the Church Archives if someone is available.

**12:30 p.m.** Lunch in Guelph (pay your own) to be announced; and, then the afternoon will be back at the Highland Games for Family Day and the music. This day is quite busy, so we do need help. We hope to meet many more MacRae families and get some new members; or, you can have a free afternoon to shop or take a bus tour of the area. Fergus & Elora are quaint little villages that you should see if you haven't already. The Elora Gorge as well has some lovely scenery.

**4:30 p.m.** Festivals closing ceremonies.

**6:00 p.m.** Supper at Fionn MacCool's in Guelph. Join Barb & John to end this year's AGM & Gathering 2018.

*Review our prior edition of Kintail for interesting facts and info on Guelph, Fergus and the activities planned*



### **Web Sites for Gathering:**

- Voyage to the Falls Boat Tour <https://www.niagaracruises.com/>
- Tuesday Afternoon Free Time, Niagara Parks include a Floral Showhouse, Butterfly Conservatory, Botanical Gardens <https://www.niagaraparks.com/visit-niagara-parks/nature-gardens/> Many attractions near The Falls <https://www.cliftonhill.com/attractions/featured-attractions>
- Greg Frewin Theatre—Amazing Magic <http://gregfrewintheatre.com/>
- Illumination of the Falls and Fireworks <https://www.niagaraparks.com/events/event/falls-illumination/>
- Peller Estates Winery Tour <http://www.peller.com/>
- Guelph Civic Museum Tour <http://guelphmuseums.ca/venue/civic-museum/>
- McCrae House <http://guelphmuseums.ca/venue/mccrae-house/> and <http://www.gotyoullooking.com/1mccraehouse/mht.html>
- University of Guelph Centre for Scottish Studies <https://www.uoguelph.ca/arts/scottish>
- The Boathouse Tea Room <https://theboathouseguelph.ca/>
- Scottish Archives, U of Guelph <https://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/find/find-type-resource/archival-special-collections/scottish-studies> <https://www.uoguelph.ca/arts/history/people/elizabeth-ewan> <https://www.uoguelph.ca/arts/history/people/kevin-james>
- 73rd Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games <https://fergusscottishfestival.com/> 519-787-0099 or 1-888-871-9442
- Highland Games entertainment and lectures <https://fergusscottishfestival.com/events/heritage-clans/>
- Presentation by Linda Granfield <http://lindagranfield.com/index.html>
- Free shuttle bus service travels between Fergus, Elora, Bellwood and Scottish Festival site grounds <https://fergusscottishfestival.com/info/shuttlebus/>
- St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church <http://www.standrewsguelph.com/>

Clan MacRae Society of Canada thanks the **St. Andrew-Caledonian Society of Calgary** for their Donation

This greatly helps with our objectives to promote, encourage and educate about CLAN MACRAE in Alberta





**Professor Elizabeth Ewan, guest speaker at Scottish Archives Tour (Friday afternoon)**

**Professor Ewan** is University of Guelph Research Chair and Professor of History. Educated at Edinburgh University (Ph.D.1985) and Queen's University (B.A.1979); her professional career includes University of Toronto (Associated Graduate Faculty) 2005- ; University of Guelph, Department of History, 1988-Present; University of Victoria 1986-1988; and University of Western Ontario 1985-1986.

Current area of research is medieval and early modern Scottish gender history, focusing on the period 1450-1600; has supervised several MA and PhD theses in this area, as well as others in the more general area of medieval and early modern Scotland.

Her early work, *Townlife in Fourteenth-Century Scotland* (1990, 1992), examined the social history of fourteenth-century towns. Since the late 1990s, she has been working with others to research the history of pre-modern Scottish women and gender. This has resulted in four co-edited essay collections: *Women in Scotland c.1100-c.1750* (1999); *Finding the Family in Medieval and Early Modern Scotland* (2008) and *Children and Youth in Premodern Scotland* (2015), both co-edited with Janay Nugent (PhD, Tri-U/Guelph, 2005); *Nine Centuries of Man: Masculinities in Scottish History* (2016). A large-scale collaborative project, involving over 270 contributors, was published as *The Biographical Dictionary of Scottish Women* (2006, 2007), co-edited with S. Innes, S. Reynolds and R. Pipes. A second expanded edition will appear in 2018. With Tri-U PhD students Heather Parker (2013), Jodi Campbell, Sierra Dye (2016) and Alice Glaze she has co-edited *Shaping Scottish Identities: Family, Nation and the Worlds Beyond* (2011) and *Gender and Mobility in Scotland and Beyond* (forthcoming)

Major research projects underway include:

- a study of gender and physical and verbal assault in late fifteenth- and sixteenth-century Scotland, using the legal records of town courts;
- a biography of an Edinburgh woman, *Alison Rough* (c.1480-1535);
- a website, *WISH* (Women in Scottish History) which offers a bibliography, primary source material and other resources for those interested in exploring the history of Scottish women from the medieval period to the twenty-first century. <https://womeninscottishhistory.org/> Several students have been funded to work on this site
- masculinity in medieval and early modern Scotland.



**Professor Kevin James, guest speaker at Scottish Archives Tour (Friday afternoon)**

In this talk, Professor James explores Scots' centuries-old willingness to uproot themselves for commercial advantage, as both temporary migrants and settlers, in a variety of capacities, around the world. He focuses on Canada and various waves of migration characterised by different source locations in Scotland, areas of settlement in Canada, and migration and settlement structures.

Kevin James is Professor of History at the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada. He is author of two monographs, most recently *Tourism, Land, and Landscape in Ireland: The Commodification of Culture* (London: Routledge, 2014). He has also published widely in journals and edited collections on the labour history of the Irish and Scottish textile trades and the development of the tourism sector in the nineteenth-century United Kingdom, and on social, economic and

cultural interactions between Scotland and Ireland. The recipient of numerous major national and international grants, deputy editor of the *Journal of Tourism History*, and founder of the *Tourism History Working Group*, his current research programme explores the history of the hotel as a social, cultural, and commercial institution in Britain and Ireland from 1832-1922.



### **Linda Granfield, guest speaker at Banquet/Ceilidh (Saturday evening)**

**Linda Granfield** is the award-winning author of 30 history books for adults and young readers; John McCrae is the subject of two of those titles and she continues to chip away at “McCrae mysteries.” For a previous issue of *Historic Guelph* (Vol LIII, 2014-2015) she wrote “John McCrae and the Mysterious Miss Packard;” Linda has also discovered the location of John McCrae’s will and has added that to the list of McCrae material she’ll further investigate. Linda holds two M.A. (English) degrees, from Northeastern University in Boston and the University of Toronto. She is an Associate Historian for the Royal Canadian Air Force and has been a consultant on documentary films (*Nanking, John McCrae’s War, and others*). She has lectured at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington D.C., the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa, and the National World War I Museum in Kansas City, Missouri. Linda is currently completing a biography (for adults) of John G. Magee, a hero of the Nanking Massacre of 1937. (a First Nations artist made the poppy pin)

### ***DNA Notes from Laurie: Part 2***

#### ***Making the most of your autosomal DNA testing***

#### **Test your elder family members first using the FTDNA autosomal test:**

If you are fortunate enough to have members of your elder generations to test, do them first. Use them in combination for best results. For example, test your mother and a sibling. However, testing your mother and two of her siblings is ideal. Since your mother cannot pass on all of her own DNA to you, you can make the leap from that 50% of her DNA which reveals itself in you, to 100% of her DNA if you test her saliva. If you test yourself, you’ll find only about 25% of the DNA of her parents within your own test.

#### **Siblings are not clones – they are similar for purposes of DNA:**

If, for example, you have tested your mother you will be able to evaluate 100% of her DNA. But her DNA reflects only 50% of the DNA of each of her parents. If you want to be able review 75% of the DNA from her parents, you should add in one of your mother’s siblings. For a chance to review 87% of the DNA of your mother’s parents, then add in another sibling who will have somewhat differing DNA – all from the same roots. Similar ratios apply in case you do not have a parent or aunts or uncles to test. In that case, move to your elderly cousins for the opportunities that their DNA will reveal on those extended lines.

Siblings or close cousins inevitably relate to matches on different elements of your ancestral lines. For example, in my own family I have tested 3 elderly cousins age 90 plus who can claim a Parker grandmother.



Even though they all have the same Parker heritage, it is Jane who is the strongest match to those Parker ancestors from Oxford. Together, this group of first cousins gives a much better window into my ancestral matches than if I had used only one of them. Repeat for paternal side.

If you do not have living elders to test, try to test your own siblings.

#### **How to respond to DNA contacts:**

The response rate is always higher on FTDNA matches than on matches from other sites even though it is true that Ancestry has gathered more testers. You will find more committed genealogists on FTDNA than on Ancestry of 23&me.

Do not accept a contact that seems to be a “broadcast email”. Ignore it. It’s like chasing your tail. It’s not product and is poor etiquette. The best way to reach out to a contact is to remember that the name on the email contact may be a manager for several family kits.

Say this, “Hello \_\_\_\_: I am \_\_\_\_\_, and I match \_\_\_\_\_ at chromosome # 2 for 120 total cM”. Use the first name of your match.





**Niel Gow (1727–1807)** the most famous Scottish fiddler of the eighteenth century

Excerpt from [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Niel\\_Gow](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Niel_Gow)

Portrait of Niel Gow, 1787, by Sir Henry Raeburn

Featured on Album #4 of Scottish Music on Clan MacRae Society of Canada web site

<https://www.clanmacraecanada.org/>

Neil Gow's Lament On The Death Of His Second Wife

Acoustic Guitar / Album #4 - Ben Nevis, Corpach, Fort William

Gow was born in Strathbraan, Perthshire, in 1727, as the son of John Gow and Catherine McEwan. The family moved to Inver in Perthshire when Niel was an infant. He started playing the fiddle when very young and at age 13 received his first formal lessons from one John Cameron. In spite of being something of a musical prodigy, he originally trained as a weaver, but eventually gave up that trade to become a full-time musician. He was widely considered the best fiddle player in Perthshire, an area which was renowned for its musicians—the story goes that at age 18 he entered a competition that was being judged by John McCraw, a blind musician, who awarded him the first prize and then went on to claim that he "would ken his bow hand among a hunder[d] players" (detect Niel's style among a hundred players). This attracted the attention of the Duke of Atholl, who became Niel's patron, and also ensured Niel's employment for balls and dance parties put on by the local nobility. In time he became renowned as a fiddler.

Niel Gow was married twice. His first wife was Margaret Wiseman, and they had five sons and three daughters. His sons William, Andrew (1760), Nathaniel (1763), and John (1764) all followed their father as fiddlers and composers of fiddle music; two of the daughters were Margaret (1759) and Grizel (1761). The youngest son, Daniel (1765), died in infancy; William died in 1791 at age 40, and Andrew died in 1794 at 34. Of Niel's sons, Nathaniel is by far the most well-known and another fine composer of Scottish music, with nearly two hundred tunes to his credit. As a

widower, Niel married Margaret Urquhart from Perth in 1768, and they went on to share a happy marriage until she died in 1805, which prompted his composition of one of his most famous tunes: "Niel Gow's Lament for the Death of his Second Wife". Niel died at Inver on 1 March 1807, aged 80.

According to John Glen (1895), Niel Gow composed, or is credited with composing eighty-seven dance tunes, "some of which are excellent." These tunes form the backstay of Scottish country dance music even today. However, it must be said that he was not above claiming good material from other composers as his own; Glen claims that at least a quarter of the eighty-seven tunes are either derived from older tunes or are copies of tunes published earlier elsewhere, often under a different title. The Biographical Dictionary of Eminent Scotsmen indicates that Gow's air of Locherrock Side was the basis for Robert Burns' ballad, "Oh! stay, sweet warbling Woodlark, stay."

This "borrowing" was a common practice at the time and it didn't seem to hurt his reputation; in fact, the famous painter Henry Raeburn was commissioned to paint him several times. It also must be said that Celtic musicians are usually happy to share tunes and habitually lax about titles, with no intent to defraud other musicians. A tune may be known by multiple titles by different sets of people. Moreover, it's difficult to tell a tune composed in the eighteenth century (unless by Niel Gow or Robert Burns), and no longer in copyright, from one composed in the 1980s. A good example of this practice is the jig "Calliope House" by Dave Richardson of the Boys of the Lough and

introduced on their 1984 album *Open Road*, which appears on many recordings labelled "traditional."

Many of Niel Gow's compositions are still played today at ceilidhs and country dances. He himself spelled his name Niel, although others sometimes spell it Neil or even Neal. To add to the confusion, he had a very musical grandson (by Nathaniel) who did spell his name "Neil".

The annual Niel Gow Fiddle Festival takes place in Dunkeld and Birnam, Perthshire, Scotland. It was established in 2004 to celebrate the life and music of Gow. It is envisaged that through time the festival and other activities will gather enough

funds to erect a fitting memorial to him in Dunkeld and Birnam. The 2008 festival took place between 14–16 March.

Hear a haunting trio arrangement of Niel Gow's beautiful 'lament for the death of his second wife' at

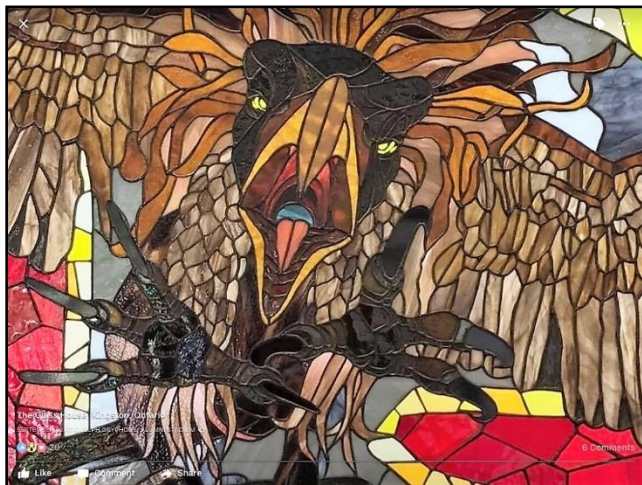
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3GEcRirHlqE>  
Performed by Jed Mugford, Kate McCullough and Mike Gardiner.

Our Thanks to Susan MacRae for directing us to Niel Gow and his music.

### **From the Editor:**

In the Fall Edition of *Kintail*, an article entitled "University of Guelph, Library Scottish Studies" mentioned that the university's mascot was the Gryphon. We received the following email from Ann MacRae from London, ON – Society member since 2005.

*Thought you might be interested in these pictures for the next Kintail. My brother Dr. Craig MacRae and his wife Lynda made this stain glass panel for the university's Alumni stadium. Both their children are currently enrolled at the university and one was on the football team. They live in Kingston and own [The Glass House](#).*



Craig explains, "we were asked to design a panel with the Gryphon flying out of the wall in attack mode with talons raised and wings outspread. There are approximately 2,300 pieces of glass in the panel and many are tiny – giving the piece a certain character. The panel measures 48 ¾" X 64 ¾", it is held in an extruded aluminum frame and suspended off the wall on bolts. The panel is backlit using an edge lit LED flat panel custom built by a company in Seattle. The LED panel is the same size as the stained-glass panel. The wall around the frame is illuminated by 2 strings of full color LED strip lighting operated by a programmable remote control." Lynda told us, "The words 'wisdom, courage, leadership and loyalty' are characteristics unique to the gryphon."



## **Peller Estates Winery – added to 2018 Itinerary**

Since 1969, Peller Estates have been producing exceptional wines. They have won many prestigious awards for signature products, like Icewine, as well as Chardonnays and Rieslings, which are as good or better than those produced anywhere abroad. They have also earned international acclaim, being recently named *Best Canadian Winery of the Year* at London's International Wine & Spirit Competition.



The **10 Below Icewine Lounge** has been completely revamped with all new ice and made bigger.

It is Niagara's only igloo-like lounge.

Visitors don a Peller Estates parka and step into their winery ice bar.

The Icewine Lounge is constructed out of 13,607 kilos of ice and kept at a frosty 10 ° below zero; the ideal temperature for harvesting Icewine grapes, and for sampling!

<http://www.peller.com/>



### **Balmorals Off!**

As we express our thanks to **Gayle & Allen McRae from Nanaimo, BC** for generously sponsoring this issue of Kintail.





This hooked rug was made by Marie Helen Camus on Cape Breton Island, NS  
In Gaelic it reads: "A Hundred Thousand Welcomes"

The Clan MacRae Society of Canada says,  
*A Hundred Thousand Welcomes to New Members of Clan MacRae*

**Jaime Alexander, Donald Angus MacRae, Duncan & Necia Black,  
Andrew Catherine Laura & Heather MacRae**

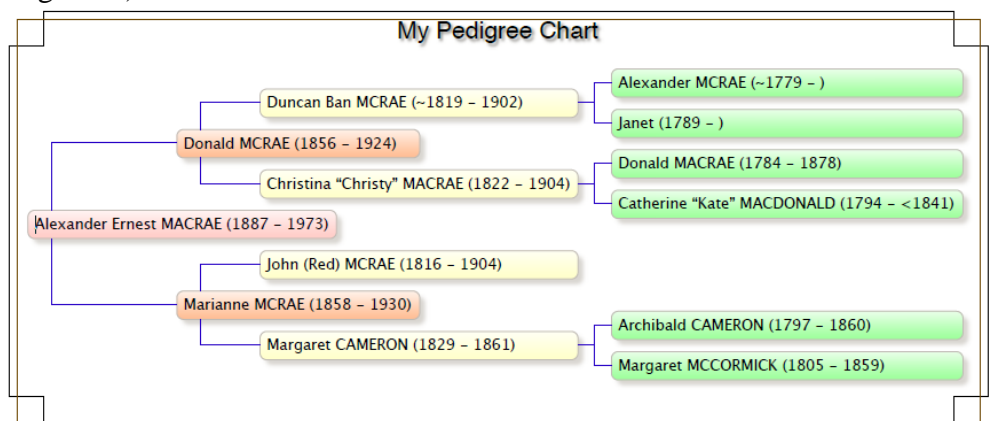
## My MacRae / McRae Research Part 4 by Joanne Monahan

You may recall how my last article (Kintail 39, Fall 2017) described my attempt to determine whether a particular 1841 Scotland Census (suggested by my 4C Tina-Glen Ridell, the U.K. Clan MacRae Genealogist) represented the childhood family of my GG grandfather, Duncan Ban McRae. Through the use of **Scottish Naming Patterns**, and the names of Duncan Ban's children, everything fell together perfectly, except for the name of his daughter Jessie. To follow the naming pattern, I thought Jessie's name should have been Janet, as was the name of the mother of the Duncan named in the 1841 Census. Because Tina Glen-Riddell has told me since then that Janet and Jesse are interchangeable translations of the same Gaelic name, I'm now confident that I have the correct census. I now believe that Duncan Ban McRae's parents were Alexander McRae (b. ca 1779, Inverinate, Kintail, Ross-shire, Scotland) and Janet (b. ca 1779, Scotland) as described in the census, and that he had a sister named Flora (b. ca 1821, Inverinate).

How did I learn the various **Scottish Naming Patterns**? Google provided me with several patterns (some of which were: **Scottish Naming Patterns for daughters**; **Scottish Naming Patterns for sons**; **Scottish Naming Patterns for middle names**; as well as **Scottish Honour of the Family-naming**). Although one article cautioned that in the latter part of the 1800's people were beginning to expand a little on the naming of their children, I found no mention of the variability in the translation of Gaelic names. After my experience with the names Janet and Jessie, followed by my 3C Deb Gemmell's e-mail which mentioned other interchangeable names such as Marion and Sarah, I googled **List of Scottish Gaelic given names**. To my surprise there were many different translations of several Gaelic names (e.g. my name, Joanne /Johann, which in Gaelic is Siubhan, may also be translated as Judith; Sorcha may be Claire, Clara or Sarah; Sine may be Jane, Jean, Jenny or Sheena; and Lomhair may be Edward, Iver or Ivor). My conclusion, is that despite the variability of names, and the care which must be taken with the use of Scottish Naming Patterns, they belong in my genealogical toolbox.

Now as promised in my third article, I'm ready to begin dealing with the third question I asked in my first research article (Kintail 37 Spring 2017).

Christy and Duncan Ban McRae's son, Donald McRae, married Marianne McRae (nee McRae), daughter of John Red McRae and Margaret Cameron. Old letters stated that John Red McRae was somehow related to Christy MacRae). If so how?... because the corollary would be the relationship between Donald McRae and his wife, Marianne McRae?



What I knew of my grandfather's great grandparents at this point in my research.

What did I already know about my GG grandfather, John Red (Ruadh) MacRae? Fortunately, the following notes were written by my grandfather, Alexander Ernest MacRae, concerning his grandfather, John Red MacRae.

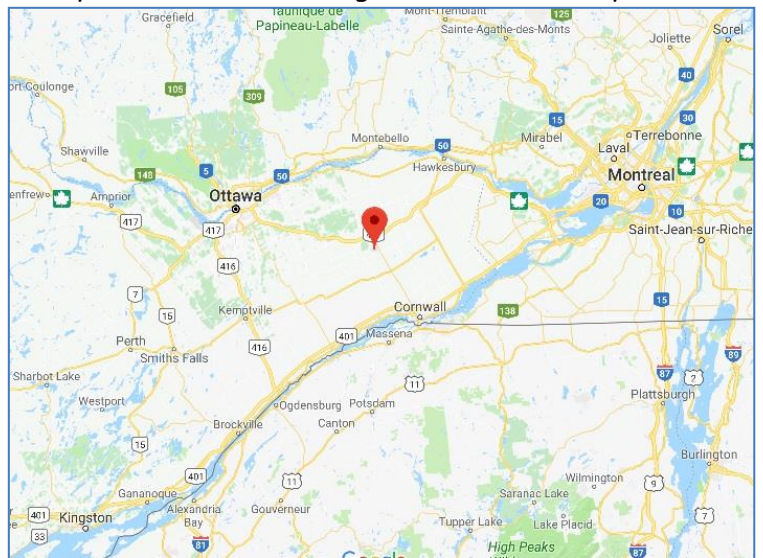
*“John MacRae, [locally known as Red John] father of Mrs. Donald MacRae [i.e. Marianne MacRae] was born in Glenelg, Scotland in the year 1816. He was the eldest of a family of seven. He had the good fortune to be born in a home where the name of God was revered, and where the things of the mind were greatly appreciated. He and his brother Alexander were instructed in Greek and Latin by their grandmother Katherine Sage MacRae. Alexander, while yet a mere boy, was sent to Aberdeen University, where he made a remarkable record. During his course there, however, he contacted the dread disease smallpox, and died.*

*Meanwhile John Red hoped to become a minister, and as his first step in that direction became a parish school master. He taught at Dingwall. His hopes for a University education were however never realized. When he was about thirty years of age he and the family came to Canada. For a time they stayed at the home of his mother’s brother, on a farm between Williamstown and Cornwall. While they were there, smallpox broke out in the home and they were all stricken with it but himself. In the Spring of the year following their arrival, they moved to a farm in Roxborough Township. Here the father died.*

*It is impossible for us to realize the loneliness that must have been theirs during the first years of their settlement in the new land. From their earliest years they had been surrounded by kind friends. They had lived in an atmosphere of refinement and culture, but here all was different. The country was a solid wilderness. The forest was not the friendly place it is to-day; wild animals haunted it. Communication with neighbours was difficult, and oftentimes dangerous.*

**This is where my MacRae family settled in Roxborough, Stormont County, Ontario.**

*Even after coming to Canada it seems that his thoughts turned to the ministry, but the pressing needs of the home prevented him leaving. In the year 1856, at forty years of age, he married Margaret Cameron. His cup of happiness was full, and when after a couple of years the home was blessed by the coming of a daughter whom they named Marianne, their cup overflowed. Two years more passed and a son was given them, but with his coming his beloved wife and mother were taken. Her death nearly crushed his spirits. After eight years he married Ellen Ross. His later years were beclouded by much sorrow, but through it all his faith never wavered.*



*He was a man of strong personality and of outstanding worth. For many years he was a Justice of the Peace, and in this capacity he acted as guide and councillor to the whole countryside. His reputation for integrity was of the highest. The words engraved on the monument of Alexander MacKenzie, Prime Minister of Canada might truly be applied to him:- “Duty was his guide and conscience his law giver.” In politics he was an ardent Liberal, and in religion a devout Presbyterian, but he was not a slave to either Party or Church. He would not tolerate what he believed to be corrupt practises. Later in life he and a few others built the Presbyterian Church in Roxborough. It was made of logs. He was an elder there until his death.*

*He was an omnivorous reader, British, American and Canadian periodicals were to be found in his home. A clergyman, speaking from the pulpit of the Roxborough Church, on one occasion referred to him as the intellectual force of the community. He was believed by many to be the lawful chieftain of the MacRae Clan, but when he was urged to take steps to have his claims recognized he always refused, holding that earthy honours were but vanity.*

*He had two brothers, Donald, a bachelor who in his later years lived with him, and Duncan, a farmer, who lived near Avonmore. His family consisted of:*

*Marianne: Mrs. Donald MacRae, and*

*Archibald: who married Mary Buchanan, and who lived in the family homestead.”*

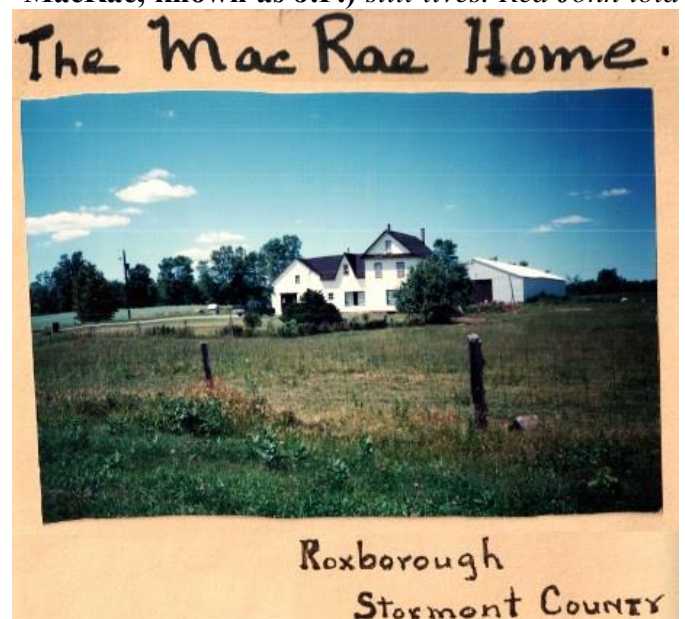
Besides the above notes, concerning John Red's life, I have the following information from an undated letter written to my grandfather by his sister, my great aunt, Margaret Phillips (nee MacRae). Since some of the information duplicates that provided by my grandfather, I've condensed the letter and clarified information via parentheses. Interestingly, between the two accounts you may notice some contradictions, such as the number of siblings John Red had. As far as I know, he had five siblings, counting Alexander who had died of smallpox.

*“John (Red) MacRae's father was the son of a MacRae who married Katherine Sage. She ran away from a boarding school in Inverness to marry her beloved. John Red's mother was also a MacRae, related to our father's mother (i.e. **Christy McRae, nee MacRae, wife of Duncan Ban McRae**). John's sisters were Flora and Margaret/Mrs. Robertson (mother of Alex R. and Belle, Flora, Maggie, Annie, Katherine/Mrs. McAuley). His brothers were Duncan and Donald, whom you remember, and Alexander, a prodigy, who died of smallpox, at the age of twelve as I believe the story goes, while taking his Arts Degree at Aberdeen University with grown men. (There is a legacy leaving free tuition at Aberdeen University for any MacRae.) After this shock John's mother would never hear of John going to University as he had planned to do. I should return to the story of Alex and explain that his brilliancy was quite remarkable. The Principal of the University informed his father that it would be considered an honour to be related to him. Both John and Alexander were taught Greek and Latin by their grandmother Katherine (Sage MacRae) and the whole family were of a very literary turn of mind.*

*I think John Red was 27 when he with his parents and all his family came to Canada, first staying with his mother's brother Duncan, who had a fine place on the St. Lawrence between Williamstown and Cornwall. This uncle had his M.A. from Aberdeen University. While they were staying there, smallpox broke out, and all but John fell ill. (He seemed to have an immunity from a number of diseases which attacked the rest of the family.) Poor John almost lost his mother, and in his sorrow he would sit at the foot of her bed to keep her feet covered as she tossed in her delirium. However she lived to a good old age. I think when spring came they moved to Roxborough settling at what we later knew as Uncle Donald's place. Here his father died and he married Margaret Cameron. Red John taught for awhile in Glengarry, and I don't know how long they stayed with his uncle. Sometime after his marriage he took over the farm we knew as 'Grandpap's'. Here Mother (Marianne) and Archie were born, and here Margaret died. After eight years he married Ellen Ross and they built the house in which his grandson John (**Finley "John" MacRae, known as J.F.**) still lives. Red John told mother (Marianne McRae (nee McRae) that he was the rightful chieftain of the clan and explained it to her. When she urged him to lay his claim he answered "God has shown me that worldly honours are but dung in His eyes". I asked Uncle Donald to explain it to me, but I have no clear idea of it.” (Note: There were rumours at one time that John Red McRae's grandson, J.F., might be chief. If so, the line would have ended as he didn't have a son.)*

**How I've attempted to use this information to answer my third question, and whether I have the answer must wait until my next article.**

This is the MacRae home in 1950 when it belonged to Finley "John" MacRae, known as J.F.





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2018, February



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See if you are right in the next edition of KINTAIL.**



**KINTAIL**  
 Newsletter of the  
 Clan MacRae Society of Canada  
 published by  
**The Clan MacRae Society of Canada**  
 Founded 2000  
<https://www.clanmacraecanada.org/>  
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