

# Clan MacKenzie Society in the Americas

### Cabar Feidh

The Canadian Chapter Magazine



December 2009 ISSN 1207-7232

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An unusual view of Castle Leod showing major repairs undertaken to the chimneys shown on the right. More pictures of the castle can be seen plus a report by the Earl of Cromartie in this issue

### CLAN MACKENZIE DINNER IN VANCOUVER

This is a late notice to let members know that the BC branch of the Clan are holding a dinner on Friday, December 11th at 4;30 p.m. at the Seaforth Armoury, Burrard Street, Vancouver. Tickets are \$30 for adults - less for children. If interested get in touch with BC Commissioner Joan Mackenzie at joan.mackenzie@gmail.com



Clan President Norman S. MacKenzie, CD, (centre right) is shown at the 11th annual Drum Majors' Workshop held at the Seaforth Armoury, Vancouver earlier this year. Norman was the Instructor and he will run the 12th workshop next year at the Armoury in Calgary. The photo was taken in the Seaforth's Sergeants Mess.

#### Cabar Feidh Newsletter:

Members who wish to write to the Society with contributions to the Newsletter please send submissions to The Editor, Clan MacKenzie Society, 580 Rebecca St., Oakville, ON L6K 3N9. or e-mail to alan@mkz.com Clan Web Pages: www.clanmackenzie.com & www.electricscotland.com/mackenzie

### Dr. James MacKenzie of Drumsheugh:

### 2. THE ENLIGHTENED JACOBITE

The varied experiences of the MacKenzies in the Forty-Five contradict any suggestion that an adherence to Jacobitism was derived from the family's separate identity which sought to cling on to a conservative Highland culture in the face of changes imposed from the south. This fact cannot be better illustrated by the example of Dr. James MacKenzie of Drumsheugh. Far from being any kind of Highland Jacobite, as a resident in England by 1745, this clan member's Jacobite background should and can be placed in the context of his English counterparts.

Dr. James had significant Jacobite family connections: his aunt's elder brother, James Strachan, was killed alongside Bonnie Viscount Dundee at Killicrankie in 1689; while her younger half-brother brother, Sir Kenneth Strachan, took the Jesuit name of Francis Xavier on his conversion to Roman Catholicism and between 1700 and 1736 was attached to the Scots Colleges in Douai and Madrid, being sometime Rector of both institutions. His sister, Anne, married John MacKinnon of Torrin, whose family in Skye concealed Charles Edward Stuart during his escape after Culloden. The Doctor pioneered smallpox inoculation with Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, sister-in-law of the Earl of Mar, who led the "Fifteen" uprising, and his cousin, the Rev. Alexander, played a major rôle in the same rising, going on to baptise Lord Fortrose's son at a notably Jacobite ceremony which took place in Old St. Paul's Church in 1744, a church which came to be known as a Jacobite stronghold for its staunch rôle in the Forty-Five rising. St. Paul's Church Register reads like a roll-call of the most prominent members of the Scottish aristocracy who were one year later to play a major rôle in the Jacobite cause. The Rev. Alexander was a former chaplain to Lord Cromartie and fugitive of Presbyterian justice in 1717; and his brother, the Rev. James, was also known to officiate on occasion at St. Paul's. St. Paul's was further attended by Dr. James's niece, Jean, her husband, Dr. Joshua MacKenzie, and his friend and lawyer, John MacKenzie of Delvine, W.S. Dr. James also maintained extremely close ties with Lord Fortrose's family, retaining an estate in Durham, near that of his Clan Chief at Coxhow, often

calling on the family and attending to their health on his way to and from Scotland.

But there was clearly no antagonism between Dr. James's Jacobite family connections and his professional contacts in the Edinburgh Enlightenment. Another constant attendant of St. Paul's was Thomas Ruddiman, the editor of Sir George MacKenzie of Rosehaugh's Works and David Hume's predecessor as Keeper of the Advocate's Library, that encyclopaedic resource that was founded by Sir George and is now recognised by historians as the very nursery of the Scottish Enlightenment. It is also evident from the correspondence in the Delvine Papers that the Enlightenment historian and Episcopal minister, the Rev. Principal William Robertson, was a friend of the MacKenzies of Delvine, as well as of the family of Drs. James and Joshua. He lived in the Close next to St. Paul's and married Dr. Joshua to Dr. James's niece. Jean, in 1762, later baptising their children in the church and there marrying Joshua's son, Henry the novelist, to Lord Seaforth's daughter, the Hon. Helen MacKenzie, in 1821. Delvine's wife was in turn a close friend of Flora MacDonald; while another prominent member of this circle, who is mentioned in Dr. James's will, was Lieutenant-General James St. Clair. A notable Hanoverian diplomat and spy, St. Clair employed that beacon of enlightenment, David Hume, as his secretary; while his elder brother, John, Master of Sinclair, was attainted for his involvement in the 1715 rising and married Amelia, daughter of Prince Charles Edward Stuart's famous general at Culloden, Lord George Murray.

As one of those who attended St. Paul's in the 1740s, Dr. James's professional associate, Professor Alexander Munro Primus, first Professor of Anatomy at Edinburgh University, clearly exemplifies the easy relationship in Scottish society between modern men of science and Jacobitism. A patron of the artist, Allan Ramsay and a friend of David Hume, he shared Dr. James's interest in inoculation against smallpox, publishing a pamphlet recommending the practice in 1765. His family dynasty dominated the Edinburgh medical schools and comprised key figures in the Scottish Enlightenment, even non-medics such as Edward Gibbon and Adam Smith attending their lectures. Munro was both a cousin of Dr. James, through the

latter's Munro mother, and a grandson of the staunch Hanoverian, Duncan Forbes of Culloden. Yet, despite his family, the Munros of Foulis, being traditional rivals of the MacKenzies in Ross-shire politics, two members of his family were themselves Jacobites. It is thus understandable that in his youth he treated the wounded on both sides at Prestonpans.

Indeed, the eminent physician of Worcester Infirmary also had sigconnections nificant Jacobite through the family of his wife, Elizabeth Holte, which came from Aston, near Birmingham. Dr. James was extremely close to the Holtes, for whom he acted as the senior member following the death of his father-in-law, Sir Charles Holte, third baronet, who left two grandsons as minors. As a suspected Jacobite Sir Charles had taken no office under William III and his tomb in Aston Church bears a cryptic Latin inscription which is purported to indicate Jacobite sympathies. His successor, and Dr. James's nephew, Sir Lister Holte, was elected Tory M.P. for Lichfield in 1741 and voted consistently against the Whig administration of Walpole, Carteret and Pelham. Like a number of their Jacobite relatives north of the border, the Holtes were also financially burdened in the 1730s and 40s, so that as a consequence of falling corn prices their tenants were going into arrears. The current guide book to Aston Hall, however, does not label Sir Lister as a Jacobite, owing to the apparent stand he took against the Forty-Five Rebellion. Indeed, in raising 250 horses, which included even his own coach-horse, for the service of the Duke of Cumberland to see off the Pretender's retreating army, he received the public and private thanks of the English Commanderin-Chief. A closer review of his behaviour in 1745-6, however, would suggest close parallels with the way in which his MacKenzie cousins were acting during this difficult time.

When the Jacobite army invaded England, only to turn and retreat, the southernmost point that it reached, on 4 December 1745, was Swarkeston Bridge, which was on the land of Sir Lister's brother-inlaw, Sir Henry Harpur, two miles from his seat at Calke Abbey. The Prince was recorded as having gone outside Derby to canvas the sympathetic Tory landowners in the neighbourhood for written support in order to try and overturn the entrenched view of his council of war, which was in favour of retreat. It is highly likely that he rode out to visit to Sir Henry Harpur at Calke, Sir Henry being one of the most important of those gentlemen - as was the latter's brother-in-law, Sir Lister, in the Birmingham area. Indeed, Birmingham was the next scheduled stop in the planned invasion after Stafford. A further target of the Prince was another relative of Sir Lister's wife at the time, Mary Harpur. This was Sir Nathaniel Curzon of Kedleston Hall, four miles north-west of Derby. Sir Nathaniel is recorded as having disan equivocal played attitude towards the Jacobite rebels and the term equivocating was also used in connection with Sir Lister's course at this time. For, on 27 November, Cumberland's army was concentrated only a few miles north of

Aston Hall at Sir Lister's constituency of Lichfield and yet Sir Lister made no attempt to send Cumberland his stable of horses which he had already raised by November. Indeed, rather deviously, he had not committed his horses to either side and, given that he had evidently raised them for a purpose, if that purpose had been to back the Government there is no question that he would have offered them at this stage. It can only have been the news of the Jacobite army's volte face that led him to back the Government. The news could easily have been relayed by messenger travelling by horseback cross-country in the space of a few hours the short distance between Calke Abbey and Aston Hall.

One recent historian has written that once the Jacobite army's retreat from Derby had signalled which way the cat would jump, Holte discharged his expected patriotic duty to his government. Historians have noted a large support for Jacobitism in Birmingham, particularly among the ironmakers, and Sir Lister's involvement with local resistance strongly suggests sympathies that were more correctly reflected by contingent of the north Warwickshire gentry and folk from Birmingham which he accompanied to the Lichfield races in 1747, who were said to have drunk the Pretender's health publicly in the streets, singing treasonable songs.

It is tempting to speculate what the outcome might have been had Sir Lister taken an earlier initiative in providing the Tory support that Prince Charles was hoping for. His contribution of 250 horses would

have made a significant difference had the Jacobite army advanced further, the Prince invading England with only 600 in total, and this potential support goes some way to confirm the recent consensus of many historians that the Rising was close to succeeding. But much as these people hated the Hanoverians, they were loathe to put their own property and lives at risk. As the Lichfield Tory and Jacobite sympathiser, Dr. Samuel Johnson, once put it: "If England were fairly polled, the present king would be sent away to-night." But then he added that the people would not risk anything to restore the exiled family. They would not give twenty shillings a piece to bring it about.

From what I have seen from the behaviour of Dr. James's family in his homeland, Dr. Johnson's remark might almost equally have been made with regard to Scotland. For, while the clan held a natural sympathy for Jacobitism, by the middle of the eighteenth century it rarely amounted to active participation. Indeed, the very consciousness that led some members of the family to the bitter awareness that they were unequal to their English counterparts and had no choice but to fight for their advancement also inspired in the majority of them a widespread predilection for peace and The Scottish historian, Rosalind compromise. Mitchison, reflecting directly on the case of George Mackenzie, third Earl of Cromartie, made the pertinent observation that the belated Jacobitism of the bankrupt Earl of Cromarty [sic] reminds us that bringing the chiefs into the orbit of other landed society was apt to increase their expenses and there was a marked correlation between bankruptcy and rebellion. The fundamental motivation that lay behind George, third Earl of Cromartie's Jacobitism was not substantially different from that which moved his namesake and grandfather, the first Earl, to be the foremost advocate of Union, even if both their individual characters and capabilities were markedly different. None of these men was a cultural nationalist and it was precisely their desire to emulate and match the status of the English that aroused them.

In the final analysis my extensive researches have shown that it was this fundamental shared identity regarding their own worth that allowed the varying members of the clan to continue to support one another, whatever their political affiliations. The interest the family had in stability overrode ideological divides and by hedging their bets most families ensured that there was a strong contingency on the winning side. What is most remarkable about a wider examination of the history of the MacKenzies throughout the Jacobite period from 1715-46 is that it shows us that for them the clan system was no anachronism that was marching itself into self-destruction. On the contrary, the clan continued to adapt to serve the reciprocal interests of the family, an ever-progressing kinship network that sought advancement for its members. Indeed, it was above all the family's clannishness that allowed its remarkable survival during these, its darkest days.

ED: Our grateful thanks to Andrew and Kevin McKenzie for the huge amount of research that went into this most interesting article on the life and times of Dr James Mackenzie.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Wheaton, Maryland, September 5, 2009 Clan MacKenzie Society c/o Alan McKenzie Commissioner

Dear Mr. McKenzie:

My name is Germán F. McKenzie. I am writing you to ask some advice in order to find my relatives in the United States or Canada.

My grandfather, Alexander Hugh McKenzie, was a seaman and ended his career in the US Merchant Marine in Lima, Peru, South America. He lived in San Francisco before getting there, but was born in Eastport, Maine (very close to the Canadian-US border), on January 22, 1893.

To make a long story short, he raised a family down there and that is how I appeared in this world. Unfortunately he passed away on May 17, 1927, when my dad was a little kid, so my family knows very little about our relatives in the United States or Canada. He had siblings: Charles, Blanche, Isabel and Catherine. Their parents were James McKenzie and Mary McShane. Apparently they lived between Eastport, Maine, and San Francisco, California.

I am currently studying a Ph.D. in Religion and Culture

at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. At the end of the year I will be moving to St Catharines, Ontario. In any event, it would be very important to find my relatives in North America, since I will be living here.

I have extensively research the archives in Peru (Passenger Lists, Non Resident Records, etc.) and the United States (Birth Certificate, Baptism Certificate, US Census, etc.) I have been able to confirm in the US National Archives he was part of the US Merchant Navy, and also served in UD Navy vessels as non-military personnel, between 1915-1916. His date and place of birth is consistent with what I found, as well as his parent's names. Beyond that, it is very little what I have confirmed. The names of his siblings are part of our family traditions.

This is why I am writing you. Would you give me some advice regarding (a) getting more information about my grandfather, and (b) being able to get in touch with my relatives in North America? I have read about the DNA Program, as well as some genealogical sources, but I do not know where would it be wise to start.

Thank you very much for the attention you may give to this e-mail.

Yours,

Germán McKenzie

P.S. For further communications I provide my current contact information, just in case:

Germán McKenzie 11500 Bucknell Dr., Apt. 3-A Wheaton, MD 20902

Phone: 301 3000187

E-mail: mckenzie@usermail.com

If any member sees a connection with their own family please get in touch with Germán McKenzie

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Tam a member of Clan Mackenzie, Melbourne, Australia. My late husband's mother was Margaret Mackenzie from Kilmorack - no relation to Peter

(below). I would like you to include the following enquiry re my Aunt & Uncle in your newsletter.

Peter Mackenzie, proprietor of Craggie Inn, Strathnairn, Inverness-shire, also a farmer, married my aunt Mary Margaret Fraser. Mary's father was James Fraser and her mother was Mary Maclennan. They farmed near Winnipeg and had a daughter, Yvonne, and a son Peter, a widower with three daughters. Peter Mackenzie married Mary M. Fraser and went to live in Canada, I do not know when. no dates or any information re Peter. I listed Mary's siblings as her children may have heard of them. My mother (Mary's sister Johan) knew that they had two of a family so must have had correspondence with her sister.

I have my mother's Fraser family tree. She married a James Forbes and I, Joan (Forbes), married a Fraser (no relation). Very complicated.

Mary M. Fraser b. 24.2.1887 at Mains of Culduthel, Inverness-shire, Scotland

Mary Fraser's Siblings were

William b. 4. 8. 1881 at Balloch of Culloden, Inverness-shire

Johan b. 11.2.1884 (my mother m. to James Forbes, 6 South Clunes, Kirkhill.)

Kenneth b. 19.4.1889 b. at Mains of Culduthel Ellen b. 7.5.1892

James b. 7.4.1894 (killed in France 1918)

Hoping to get some input into above and thanking

Joan I. Fraser, 2/27 Prospect Street, Glenroy, 3046, Melbourne, Australia

jifra@tadaust.org.au

ED: Once again, if any member has information to help this lady please contact her.

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Dear Alan,

As ever, thank you for the immense amount of work you put into Cabar Feidh.

Slainte Mhor, Hugh (Dr Hugh Niven Mackenzie, Powell River, BC.

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Dear Editor:

It is with sadness that I report that my mother - Margaret Elizabeth Mackenzie, a member for many years, passed away in August.

Although not born a Mackenzie, she was very interested in the family history and always shared her issues of Cabar Feidh with me. In fact, my mom treated herself and her family of six to a tour of Britain in 2000 that included a visit to the Clan Gathering in Strathpeffer, which we all enjoyed.

I most definitely would like to continue to enjoy the magazine, so wish to subscribe in my own name and have enclosed my details.

Thank you very much, Terri Mackenzie Coquitlam, BC

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# CLAN MACKENZIE GATHERING, STRATHPEFFER, AUGUST 2010

Attention is drawn to pages 16, 17 and 18 where full details of the proposed Clan Gathering are given.

In particular it should be noted that if you plan to go to the Gathering there are substantial saving available if you book before March 31st, 2010.

The organizers of the Gathering have been asking us how many people plan to go to the Gathering from Canada. While we know that in the past we have had around 30 or more attendees from Canada the

increased costs of the Gathering and the likely increase in air travel may well limit the numbers going next year.

It would therefore be of great help if members would send me an e-mail if they are intending to make the trip in 2010.

This does not commit you in any way but it does help the Scottish organizers in planning the finer details of the events being organized.

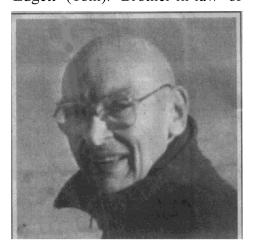
Please send me an e-mail with your estimate of the numbers planning to go from your family and send it to me at: alan@mkz.com

Thank you, Alan McKenzie

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### DR JAMES ROBERTSON MACKENZIE 1930-2009 OBITUARY

A t Bluewater Health-Mitton Site on Thursday, November 19, 2009, at the age of 79. Beloved husband of 52 years to Alda. (nee Narfason). Dear father of Liz (Jerry), Rob (Lisa), Edith (Pat), and Peggy (Jeff) and a second father to Maria Stanborough. Loving grandfather to Terilyn, Cathleen, Nathan, Alexander, Nicholas, Amelia, Olivia, Robert, Joey, Denise, lan and Julia. Loving brother to Jill Edgett (Tom). Brother-in-law of



Garry (Jim), Emma, Oli (Marj), Dilla, Olan (Paul). Also survived by many nieces, nephews, and cousins by the dozens., Brilliant, funny, passionate, opinionated, and loving, Jim lived life large (with fewer regrets than perhaps he should have, so he said). His near-zealous tenacity for defending the disadvantaged is legendary. A general surgeon who specialized in trauma, he helped to revolutionize emergency care in Ontario and across North America. He was a committed researcher and his efforts led to seatbelt legislation in Ontario and Michigan. Born in Medicine Hat, Alberta in 1930, he moved to Hamilton with his family in 1946. He graduated from medical school at McGill University and worked at many academic teaching hospitals: University of Vermont, McMaster University, and the University. of Michigan. In 1968 Jim was part of a group that travelled to Vietnam for four months to volunteer in civilian hospitals. In his retirement vears, Jim worked with the Navajo delivering health care in Kayenta, AZ, and worked up until a month before his death at the Occupational Health Clinic of Ontario Workers (Sarnia) fighting for the rights of persons with asbestos-related illnesses. An activist, Jim was a founding member of the Sarnia Community Foundation, a board member of the Sarnia General Hospital, a member of the Liberal Party, keeper of the Alexander Mackenzie (1st Liberal Prime Minister of Canada) legacy, and a tireless supporter of the Huron House Boys Home. He was also an avid hunter and outdoorsman. Visitation at the McKENZIE & BLUNDY FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION CENTRE, 431 N.

Christina Street, Sarnia, on Friday, November 27th from 7-9 p.m. The funeral service will be held on Saturday, November 28th at 1 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, officiated by the Rev. Raymond Hodgson. Interment in Lakeview Cemetery at a later date. In lieu of flowers, please send memorial donations to the Huron House Boys Home, P.O. Box 26, Bright's Grove, NON 1CO. Messages of condolence and memories mav be 1eft www.mckenzieblundv.com

A tree will be planted in memory of Dr. James Mackenzie in the McKenzie & Blundy Memorial Forest. Dedication service Sunday, September 19, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. at the Wawanosh Wetlands Conservation Area.

Ed: Dr James Mackenzie was well known to me as a Clan MacKenzie member and he was an early contributor to the DNA Project. This confirmed his close relationship to Alexander Mackenzie, the first Liberal Prime Minister of Canada. A very fine man who will be missed by the Clan Mackenzie.

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### **New Members**

We welcome the following new members who have joined since the issue of the last Newsletter:

Isobel Cawthorne, 4533, 42nd Ave., Drayton Valley, AB T7A 1G6

Richard LaRose,

148 Moore Crescent, Ancaster, ON L9G 4Z8

Terri Mackenzie, #7 - 3100 Ozada Avenue, Coquitlam, BC V3B 2T5

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Thank you for the newsletter - it gets more interesting each time and although it must take a lot of work, very much appreciated.

I look forward to visiting Scotland next Summer and especially Castle Leod, taking the MacKenzie Reunion.

Where can we get more information on this whole event please? Is our group going to be involved in a Group Tour?

Twyla Fay Tassie Goad.

ED: We have more details in this newsletter about the Clan Mackenzie Gathering in August 2010. It may be that Angus Mackenzie has plans to organize a separate tour before of after the event itself and we shall hear more about this later.

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The following interesting article has been sent to us by our Clan Chief, Cabarfeidh. Photographs accompanying the article can be seen on pages 1 and 9.

# RUNNING A CASTLE BY JOHN MACKENZIE, EARL OF CROMARTIE

To someone who doesn't live in a Castle (i.e. the majority), the concept of actually living, working

and endeavouring to run such an establishment is about as familiar as the Martian topography or the interior of a Yurt. Unlike normal houses that have been built with a degree of ergonomics in mind, castles are truly 'blasts from the past' when the economic and human factors were utterly different. Rather than the castle suiting the individual, the individual has to fit in with the castle and all its (many) foibles. This fitting in normally takes up the entire lifespan of the owner and creates an aura of slight incredulity with normal folk but an immediate rapport with other castle owners who can enthuse about the machinations of dry rot, the Inland Revenue (usually in the same breath and with the same depth of feeling as the two are not dissimilar) and crumbling masonry. The buildings are invariably hedged about with lawyers, architects and experts of one sort or another, all of whom charge fees in direct proportion to the size of the building and the preconception of what the owner might be worth. Even the term 'owner' is misleading as most castles are run by Trusts and the owner is restricted in terms of what they can do, or sell and further compounded by terms and conditions imposed by both Inland Revenue and (in Scotland) Historic Scotland, a Government body allied to the Inland Revenue. Thus every castle of note is surrounded by a shadowy army, whom one hopes are symbiotic rather than parasitic.

Castle Leod is no exception. The money earned by the estate, (sadly shrunk since the 1950's) now just about covers the expenditure provided professional fees are restrict-

ed. This year however we are running at a substantial loss which has proved unavoidable. Just to clarify the message, I personally take no money from the estate as it cannot afford wages to myself but live off a small income that most would find inadequate. Money earned directly from the estate goes to pay a handyman's full-time wage, a part-time secretary and overall running costs that if we keep on top of, just about get covered but are prone to price fluctuations in fuel and electricity. It is all rather 'seat of the pants' flying and precarious. However, having inherited a massive debt which has taken 15 years to clear I feel cautiously optimistic about the future given a modest life style and no expensive holidays.

The main trusts which affect the running of the castle and estate are the IV or Inter-Vivos Trust and the Maintenance Fund. The latter is perhaps more important in that it concerns what happens to the fabric of the building and the immediate policies or grounds. The castle, the grounds and some of the buildings associated with it are all 'Listed'. The listing is a Government control in order to preserve the integrity and historic value of a building or grounds. The castle itself is Grade A, the top priority and nothing can be done to the interior or exterior of the building or its immediate policies without express permission from Historic Scotland. The castle is considered of national importance and the most valuable building (in terms of history and construction) in the North of Scotland.

The other trust is the Clan Mackenzie Charitable Trust, set up in the early 1990's in order to find

grant aid to replace the 1616 roof on the Old Wing or original tower of the castle. This is essentially a buildings trust, approved by the Charities Commission of Scotland with the remit of providing educational and historic value. The trust is run by several Trustees, comof Historic prised Scotland approved people, including an acclaimed historic buildings architect, a lawyer and myself. Each year the Charities Commission and Historic Scotland receive a report and of course appropriate accounts.

The roof was replaced in the nick of time, quite literally a delay of even a few months would have spelt disaster for the building. A 40% grant from Historic Scotland was generously given and by giving the historically valuable Family Papers to Register House in Edinburgh, which I had insisted on remaining in Scotland, I managed to raise the bulk of the remainder bar a little over £20,000 which was raised by generous donations from abroad and Mrs Goldston-Morris in particular. I put nearly £70,000 of my own money toward the roof, a sum I could ill afford but what owner would not give the shirt off his back to save a building which had been in Mackenzie family hands for 500 years? This sum I gave as a long-term loan but in truth cannot foresee a time when it might be retrieved.

With the roof replaced both to time and to budget no building work was possible for several years due to lack of capital. However a steady trickle of funds came in over the years in particular from the Clan Mackenzie Society of Canada due to their successful handling by Alan

McKenzie of the Lottery. When this ended, the majority of the funding dried up but to a large extent the steady growth of Private Tours has injected considerable capital into the Charitable Trust, though still relatively small beer in terms of what is needed. To date roughly £33,000 has been used to restore the upper reaches of the Tower, in particular the decayed stonework on the battlements and chimney heads. One of the long-term goals of the Charitable Trust is to find ways to fund the restoration and complete refurbishment of the upper three stories of the Tower. This amounts to little less than three million pounds but if successful would enable the resulting apartments to be let out profitably, a use in full accord with Historic Scotland and Inland Revenue. Very recently some ongoing and early talks with a notable Scottish company may help to bring about at least an aspect of this goal but at the moment this is all confidential. In the early 1990's two major Feasibility Studies were done, both with the intention to see if full-time commercial opening of the castle to the public was possible. The clear answer was no and it is clear that any future business involving the castle has to be in the direction of small, exclusive and high class usage.

One of the conditions imposed by Inland Revenue on a death of the incumbent is to levy Inheritance Tax or IHT. This currently runs at 40% of the entire value of the estate and castle and would mean an immediate sale of both. To avoid such a capital tax, known as capital



 $We st\ Battlements\ before\ repairs.$ 



 $Chimney\ Head\ before\ repairs$ 



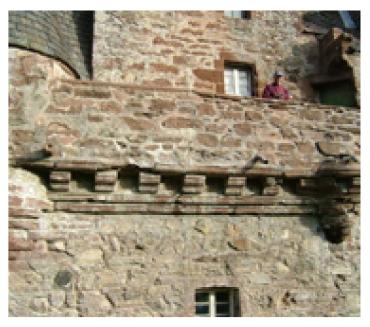
Repairs have been carried out on this chimney head.



All Terrain Access Vehicles are required to be rented to reach the castle walls and roof.



A tree is shown growing on the east chimney head.



This photo shows the repaired west battlement.

tax exemption, it was necessary to sign a binding agreement both for myself and any future owners after my Father died. The conditions include opening for 25 days to the public, not selling any property of historical importance (i.e. all the goods and chattels within the castle) and seeking Historic Scotland permission to alter, repair or otherwise do building work, including any plans to repaint the interiors of the main rooms. The conditions also ask for an ongoing plan of repairs and restoration. Quite a list as I'm sure you'll agree! The reason behind such measures is partially political and largely social in that numerous important building were allowed by their owners to fall into decay and thus robbing the U.K of the built heritage. If a sale were to be allowed of something valuable and Historic Scotland and the I.R considered it not jeopardising the overall integrity of the property then on top of a 40% IHT, there would be a further tax of Capital Gains whereby the value of an item (as valued by an auctioneer) at the time of death or some other pre-determined time by the I.R would be imposed and this would amount to the difference in value between the original valuation and the point of sale and that amount taxed at 40%. Thus to lose an initial 40% plus a further x percentage based on the (likely) increase in value makes the concept of selling an item fairly pointless.

Today, the generous grants from Historic Scotland are a thing of the past and listed buildings struggle to fulfill their obligations, not helped by the imposition of Value Added Tax or V.A.T on repairs. Fortunately one of the advantages of the old Tower being Charitable is that V.A.T can be reclaimed but the same cannot be said of the rest of the castle which has to pay this tax when repair work need to be carried out. Like many large house owners, I belong to an organisation called the Historic House Association which does a huge amount of positive work on behalf of owners. It helps point out that such houses provide much needed tourism as well as local employment and has the ear of government as far as is possible.

This, I hope, gives a fair flavour of what being an 'owner' of a castle is like and might dispel a few myths. Very few estate/castle owners are rich, those that are, are still beset with responsibilities and cares. To live in an historic building is an undoubted privilege on one hand and a huge burden on the other. In many ways the true definition of an aristocrat (in the true historical

sense) is one who carries the responsibility of the house and estate forever on his back; he is never free and his future, unless he decides to discard inheritance and history, has to be forever in thrall to both. On a lighter note some wag noted that in order to make a small fortune out of a Highland estate you would have to start with a large one but my all-time favourite saying, needless to say by a wonderful Irish peer, was that running a large house was like 'breastfeeding a dinosaur'. Needless to say I love Castle Leod with a passion, it is my home, my work and I feel an overarching sense of history and one-ness with the land. For me being absentee is not an option though I fully realise that future generations may not be so lucky. Despite all the problems, the lack of money, the taxes and the sheer bloody mindedness of it all, there is nowhere else I would care to live. I count myself lucky to be in the Spiritual Home of the clan, the resident guardian, until I can pass on the baton to the next generation.

ED: Our thanks to Cabarfeidh for this enlightening view on what it means to own a castle in Scotland!

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Alan,

I must extend my personal thanks to you for the steadfast efforts that you make on behalf of the clan. We are very fortunate to have someone with your dedication on side.

I thought that you might be interested in knowing about the launch of a new website sponsored by our branch of the clan. I have included a copy of the opening page of the website www.killiecrankie.org The site is dedicated to our Canadian Mackenzie ancestor, William Innes Mackenzie and his spouse Euphemia Marshall Grieve Mackenzie. William Innes Mackenzie was featured in an article I wrote for the March 1998 issue of Cabar Feidh. William Innes Mackenzie was born in County Ross, Scotland, in 1824. His parents were Captain James Mackenzie (1777-1844) of the Clan-Alpine Fencibles Regiment later, Captain and Adjutant of the Eastern Regiment of Ross and Cromarty Local Militia and Grace Innes (1790-1836). Their family consisted of fourteen children, William being the fourth in line.

The site may be of interest to Mackenzie researchers who are interested in William's father,

Thomas Mackenzie and mother Mary Macdonald of Resolis Parish, Black Isle. The recent discovery of these ancestors has resolved the mystery of which branch of the clan we belong to.

In time, the site will feature online archives containing original documents, letters, and a downloadable version of the family history: Chronicles of the Ardchronie Children, published in 1893, which records the life and times of our Mackenzie ancestors in the Parish of Kincardine, Ross-shire, on the Dornoch Firth, Scotland. The saga also deals in depth with the experi-



ences of William and his brothers when they immigrated to pre-confederation Canada in the 1840s.

This website is named after the summer home and family colony established in the 1880s by the Mackenzies on the shores of Lake Joseph, north of Toronto in the District of Muskoka in the province of Ontario. The name Killiecrankie comes from the Pass of Killiecrankie, which has long been a favoured spot for hiking and sightseeing in Scotland. Mackenzies, who were from Scotland, no doubt found that the beauty of Muskoka reminded them of their home, and it was therefore a fitting name for their summer retreat. The story of how the Mackenzies grew to love their bit of paradise is told in the family history written for the hundredth anniversary of the Killiecrankie Colony, as well as in various articles to be found on this website. As the Mackenzie family grew, so did the colony with several cottages built over the years, housing many generations of a robust extended family that shared a love of summers in Muskoka.

The website is augmented with a quarterly enewsletter "Notes From Killiecrankie Cottage," which will feature announcements about the latest additions to the site as well as family news and views. My hope is that this website will inspire other branches of the clan to do likewise and keep their family history alive and encourage further research. As well, we are finding that the website is a great catalyst for connecting and reconnecting our far-flung clan throughout the world.

Sincerely, Greg Bell Perth Road Village, Ontario

ED: Thanks again to Greg Bell for this interesting piece of Mackenzie clan history. Since I happen to be the Vice President of the Halton Peel Burns Club I can tell you that I once gave a presentation to the club on a Robert Burns poem, "Braes of Killiecrankie." Here is the poem:

Whare hae ye been sae braw, lad? Whare hae ye been sae brankie, O? Whare hae ye been sae braw, lad? Cam ye by Killiecrankie, O?

#### Chorus

An ye had been whare I hae been, Ye wad na been sae brankie, O? An ye had seen what I hae seen, On th' braes of Killiecrankie, O.

I faught at land, I faught at sea; At hame I faught my Auntie, O; But I met the Devil and Dundee, On th' braes o' Killiecrankie, O. An ye had been, etc

The bauld Pitcur fell in a furr, An' Clavers gat a clankie, O; Or I had fed an Athole gled, On th' braes o' Killiecrankie, O. An ye had been, etc.

The Battle of Killiecrankie was the very first large battle in the Jacobite wars. "Dundee" and "Clavers" in the poem refer to John Graham of Claverhouse, 1st Viscount Dundee, sometimes referred to as "Bonnie Dundee" to some but "Bluidy Dundee" to others. Dundee won the battle against the troops of King William but was killed during the battle. As a consequence King William acknowledged he had lost the

battle but withe the loss of the mighty Dundee, he had won the war and put an end to the first Jacobite Uprising..

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

### ERIN MACKENZIE GRANT

Erin, a long time member of the Clan Mackenzie Society, has been nominated by her father, James MacKenzie Grant and Alan McKenzie, to be an FSA Scot. (Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, Scotland). As well as being well known in the Toronto area as a grade one piper who is frequently invited by the University of Guelph to pipe at important gatherings at the university, we learn that she has now received her MA in History in June this year from the UOG, specialising in Scottish Studies. She had received acceptances for the Ph.D programs in Edinburgh and St Andrews as well as Dunedin in New Zealand. She is deciding which offer to accept! Congratulations to Erin.

## DNA - A REMARKABLE SEARCH FOR A FAMILY

Then I was putting this Newsletter together I found a fascinating article about a man named Richard Hill, who was an adoptee. He decided to try and find his natural father's family and he succeeded. I found the article so interesting I put it in the Newsletter. Unfortunately, as I was putting this Newsletter to bed ready for printing my computer played up and deleted eight pages of articles including this one on Richard Hill. In trying to find the original article on the website I got it from I was unsuccessful but I did find a video in which Mr Hill describes the procedures he went through using DNA through Family Tree DNA. The video is just as interesting as the original article so if you have a computer or can borrow one go to the following website and click the PLAY button on the screen to see his fascinating talk!

http://www.familytreedna.com/landing/richard-hill.aspx



Another look at the enthusiastic crowds as the Massed bands from Canada, led by Drum Major Norman MacKenzie, the Clan Society's president, leads the way with the clans marching behind.



This photo shows Shin Ka Hyun (originally from South Korea) with Pipe Major Mike Bain and Pipe Sgt. Vern Kennedy of the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada. The young lady is to be married to former president Roddy MacKenzie in December 2009. The photo was taken on November 8th.

Our congratulations go to Roddy and Shin Ka Hyun. Both will attend the Clan MacKenzie Society Dinner at the Seaforth Armoury on December 11th.

### **EXCITING NEW INVENTORY JUST IN**

On the right and on the next page you will see photos of the latest new inventory just arrived from Scotland.

These were found by President Norman MacKenzie at Collins Crystal in Perthshire and he took the opportunity while in Scotland to place an order for this beautiful line of goods. Just in time for Christmas perhaps?

If you would like to place an order quickly contact Alan McKenzie at alan@mkz.com or phone 905-842-2106 and he will give the price to include postage.



A Handsome Heavily Embossed Clan Mackenzie Crest One only - price \$50



Heavily Embossed Seaforth Highlanders Crest One Only - Price \$50



Splendid Crystal Glass Tumbler Suitable for whisky or any any soft drink Price: \$12



This wee Deoch & Doris makes a gorgeous present. The base is the size of a Twoonie. Price \$8



This attractive metal-onleather key chain makes a fine addition to our inventory. The metal centre is slightly larger than a twoonie.

Price is \$6



This is the best Clan Mackenzie mug we have ever stocked.

Price \$13





These Cloots (Tea Towels) make a nice present, Scottish Towel on the left and Clan MacKenzie on the right. Price each \$12



This very splendid tankard is half-pint size and has a very heavy thick base. A fine piece of Scottish Crystal. Price \$35



A rather different and fine crystal dram glass with the Mackenzie stag's head crest etched into it. Note the thick base. Price \$20

# CLAN MACKENZIE GATHERING, STRATHPEFFER, SCOTLAND AUGUST 2 - 8, 2010

#### BOOKING BEN WYVIS HOTEL

For those wishing to stay at The Ben Wyvis Hotel, Strathpeffer, I have been able to arrange favourable terms with the manager, Mr Stuart Nobbs. However these are not available by booking *on-line* or through the Crerar hotels *central booking system in Edinburgh*.

By booking direct, The 2010 Gathering is offered 6 nights b&b at £45 per night per:

### PROCEDURE

A Telephone Ben Wyvis direct [00 44] 01997 421 582

**B** Tell them you wish to make a booking under 'MACKENZIE TWENTY-TEN' (That is our 'code-word!)

C Confirm that the offer is for six nights at £45 per person b&b Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>. Please note that the hotel is booked out on the night of Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> by a large wedding.

NB (i) They will ask for a credit card details – although nothing is deducted until your arrival (or a last minute cancellation I suppose)

(ii) If you are answered by a receptionist ignorant of 'Mackenzie Twenty Ten', ask to speak to Mr Nobbs.

There were vacancies when I arranged this (second half July) but because there will be coach firms seeking accommodation a year ahead, it behoves us to book as soon as possible. I have already done so.

Tulach Ard

Ian

Notice from The Clan MacKenzie Society in Scotland and the UK

International Gathering for the Clan MacKenzie Strathpeffer, Scotland

Planning for the Clan MacKenzie's International Gathering at Strathpeffer for August 2-8, 2010 is proceeding. There will be the usual mix of talks, tours, ceilidhs, and genealogical seminars. It is expected that the new archive centre in Inverness will be open and should be of great benefit to those interested in researching their family history. The week of the gathering will culminate in the Highland Games held on the grounds of the chief's home, Castle Leod.

If you think you might wish to participate it would be a great help in calculating numbers to be catered for if you could notify us of how many there might be in your party, and what sort of events you would be particularly interested in attending. Though this notification would not commit you in any way to attendance, it would put you on the mailing list for early receipt of booking forms as soon as they are available: so do please get in touch.

Hamish Mackenzie President treleath@yahoo.co.uk







### Programme for Strathpeffer 2<sup>nd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> August

This is the provisional programme for the Strathpeffer Gathering in 2010. In this difficult economic climate it is very difficult to ascertain numbers in advance but hopefully we have planned an event which you will find great fun with some elements of drama and excitement thrown in. We do reserve the right to amend this plan as and when we are more certain of final attendance.

 ♣ Monday Registration in Strathpeffer Community Centre

Evening - Collect at Castle from where Cabarfeidh will be led by a torchlight

procession to the Barbecue and Bonfire

Tuesday Morning – Clan Photos at the Castle

Afternoon - Coach Trip to Culloden Moor

 ★ Wednesday Day trip to Gairloch where there will be the opportunity of a range of boat.

trips and local bus trips to a variety of points of interest. The day will finish with tea in Gairloch Community Centre with the opportunity to meet and talk with

some residents of the area.

♣ Thursday Strathpeffer Home Day, This will include Gaelic classes, Scottish Country

Dancing, Lectures and Demonstrations. There will also be trips around the Castle

in the afternoon.

Friday There will be trips to Fort George, Ruthven and the Highland Folk Museum at

Newtonmore, Possibly Helicopter trip to Prince's Cave. In the evening there will

be the Clan Dinner at the Pavilion for those that wish to attend.

♣ Saturday A trip to the Drovers Exhibition at Dingwall in the morning with

Strathpeffer Games in the afternoon. March of the Clan at the Games.

Ceilidth in the Community Centre 8.00pm

Sunday Drumhead Service in the Marquee in the Castle grounds. Cabarfeidh piped

to Castle. Lunch to be taken individually followed by departure.

The cost of the week will be £245 with a 10% discount for those that book and pay by March 31<sup>st</sup> 2010. This includes most events at the Castle, use of the Community Centre and attendance at the Gathering, coach travel but not admission to the various attractions, nor bus and boat trips at Gairloch, admission to Strathpeffer Games or the official Dinner(c.£30). Those in possession of National Trust for Scotland or Historic Scotland membership get free admission to the relevant venues and those of concession age get greatly reduced admission fees to all venues. In many cases these prices are much better than any group concession that we could get.

We are also willing to arrange a post gathering trip to Skye, Harris and Lewis if enough people are interested.

### INFORMATION SHEET 1

### The Gathering Fee covers:

Cost of all 'home' venues (eg Community Hall, School, Marquee, limited use of Pavilion (which we had for the whole week last time); fees & expenses, for lecturers, demonstrators, instructors; Ceilidh, musicians, minibus for 'taxi' purposes around Strathpeffer; public liability insurance; stationary, printing etc.

Coaches - New Culloden Centre (Tuesday) Gairloch (Wednesday) Newtonmore/Glen Moriston/Prince Charlie's Cave(Friday)

All demonstrations/lectures/dancing etc in the Community Centre & School, Gathering Café, Castle grounds etc. All evening events including bbq (Monday) & Ceilidh (Saturday) except the Dinner (Friday).

Cost per day £40
Whole week £245
Booking whole week (*PiA*) by March 31<sup>st</sup>
£210

PiA.

What you Pay for in Advancea, in addition to the Gathering fee, at time of booking (PiA): The Dinner, (£30); The Princes Cave (£50); Farewell Lunch (£15) and (£6) if you choose one of the mini-coach tours from Gairloch.

What you pay for at venues (P@V) Entrance to Culloden\*; Inverewe Gardens\*, Gairloch Museum, Newtonmore Folk Museum, Strathpeffer Games (Varying £10.00-£3.00 and there are concessions for pensioners, children etc) Also p@v for photograph if you want a copy..

\* Entrance free to members of NTS who produce their card.

Gairloch: pay at venue (P@V):

Golf (with club and trolley hire) £27; Shiant Islands by 'rib' app 3 hr max 12 (protective clothing supplied)£45 Whale watching, sea fishing (depending on length of voyage you choose £12-£40

(Boat trips have limited capacity and are <u>allocated on the first come basis</u> so please indicate interest on booking form.

Example: Somebody booking PiA by March 31<sup>st</sup>
+ Dinner + Princes' Cave + Mini-tour + Farewell Lunch)
£210+£101

Total £311

Places reserved (eg Dinner) on 'first come' basis.

Please book as soon as possible so that we can match venue capacity with demand.

It is important that you also book accommodation in Strathpeffer: as slon as possible; some have already done so.

### **Accommodation for Strathpeffer**

Clan Mackenzie does not arrange accommodation but has provided a list of places that you can access information. Inclusion in this list is not a recommendation but simply notification of those local establishments that we are aware of. It is not an inclusive list either and further names can be accessed through Visit Scotland

Bed and Breakfast/Guesthouses

General Enquiries http://www.scotland-info.co.uk/blackisle.htm (Recommended)

Strathpeffer http://www.bedandbreakfast-directory.co.uk/results.asp?town=Strathpeffer&county=Highland

Scatwell House www.scatwellhouse.co.uk Old Mackenzie House- Need own transport

White Lodge/White Cottage www.the-white-lodge.co.uk (Very Central)

Hotels

Achilty Hotel http://www.achiltyhotel.co.uk/ (Need own transport -c.5 miles)

Coul House http://www.coulhousehotel.com/ (Need own transport-local)

Ben Wyvis Hotel <u>www.crerarhotels.com</u> (Very Central)

Highland Hotel <a href="http://www.shearings.com/was-hotels/hotels/BHIGST.aspx">http://www.shearings.com/was-hotels/hotels/BHIGST.aspx</a> Part of Shearings Coach Holidays. Does take individual bookings. Be aware that Shearings Tours cater for the more "mature traveller". Not everyone's cup of tea but very competitively priced. Very Central)

Lovat Arms, Beauly <u>www.lovatarms.com</u> (Need own transport.c.10 miles)

Priory Hotel, Beauly <u>www.priory-hotel.com</u> (Need own transport. C.10 miles)

The Strathpeffer Hotel and Spa <a href="http://strathpefferhotel.co.uk/">http://strathpefferhotel.co.uk/</a> (Very Central)

The Richmond Hotel <a href="http://www.richmondhighlandhotel.co.uk/">http://www.richmondhighlandhotel.co.uk/</a> (Very Central)

The Tulloch Castle Hotel, Dingwall. http://www.tullochcastle.co.uk/ approx 5 miles

**Local Community Web Sites** 

Strathpeffer <a href="http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/areastra/index.html">http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/areastra/index.html</a>

Strathglass <a href="http://www.glenaffric.org/accommodation.html">http://www.glenaffric.org/accommodation.html</a> (Need own transport)

**Organised Travel** 

Scottish Highland Trails <u>www.highlandtrails.com</u> will arrange independant transport arrangements and hotels.

Visit Scotland Scotland Wide Tourist Authority web site http://www.visitscotland.com/

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT APPROVED AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 31, 2009 SEE ALSO PAGE 20

## Clan MacKenzie Society in the Americas - Canadian Chapter Balance Sheet as at December 31, 2008

Assets	\$	\$	Liabilities	\$	\$
Cash at Bank			Capital Account 1/1/2008	92,985.76	
CIBC - Nevada Account	403.05		Net Surplus (Deficit) Income for 2008	<u>(11,605.01)</u>	
CIBC - General Account	138.96		Total Capital	<u>81,380.75</u>	81,380.75
ING Bank Account at Interest	<u>30,675.81</u>		Donation Reserve for DNA Project		0.00
Total Cash at Bank	<u>31,217.82</u>	31,217.82			
Other Investments (at current value)		27,659.85	Castle Leod Project a/c		0.00
Inventory at cost		11,697.34	Suspense Account		0.00
Nevada fees in advance		401.40			
GST Receivable		336.44			
Other receivables		0.00			
Inventory of 1894 Books		1,810.98			
Inventory of W.L.Mackenzie books		1,368.87			
Payments in Advance		0.00			
Inventory of Donald Mackenzie books		124.60			
Clan Van at cost less depreciation		6,763.45			

\$81,380.75

\$81,380.75

### Notes to the Financial Statements

Note #1 - During the year officers claimed for expenses amounting to \$1021.56 and this claim was offset by a donations of \$1021.56 from the officers.

Note #2 - The total of funds sent to the Clan Mackenzie Charitable Trust for the Castle Leod Project came to £55,606.21 for the period up to Dec 31, 2007. The \$944.97 sent in 2008 converted to £530.38, thereby increasing the funds remitted from the Society and its members to £56,136.59.

I hereby certify that these accounts are a true and accurate reflection of the financial activities of the Clan MacKenzie Society in the Americas - Canadian Chapter for the Year ended 31 December, 2008

Alan McKenzie, ACIB, FICB, F.Inst.D., FSA Scot, Treasurer

Alan MIKengre

### Clan MacKenzie Society in the Americas - Canadian Chapter

Financial Statements for the year ending December 31, 2008 Income and Expenditure Account						
Expenditure	\$	\$	Income	\$	\$	
Members Donations to Castle Leod ac	count	874.97	Nevada net income		3,827.00	
Other Donations		150.00	Donations (tax receipt)		4,001.53	
DNA Project subsidies		1,301.51	Donations (no Tax receipt)		-	
Catering & Rentals		279.39	Officers donations (Note #1)	1,021.56		
Postages		2,043.50	less expenses claimed	1,021.56	-	
Printing & Publishing		2,798.02	Membership dues		5,840.57	
Stationery & Office Supplies		365.73	Interest & Investment Income		(9,821.68)	
New Tent, flagpoles & Supplies		1,997.69				
Telephone		3.87				
Van Insurance, Licencing, Gas, Expen	ises	1,544.53	Profit from sales		1,099.93	
Van depreciation (30%)		2,898.62	GST Recovered		336.44	
Sundry Expenses (inc exs offset by do	nations #Note 1	2,222.11	Other Income		-	
Bank Charges		105.60				
Clan Dinner 2008	_	303.26				
Sub-total		16,888.80				
Net Income/(deficit)		(11,605.01)				
		5,283.79			5,283.79	
Castle Leod Project - Accour	<u>ıts</u>					
Expenses		<u>\$</u>	Income		<u>\$</u>	
Paid to Castle Leod Project 2008 (see	Note #2)	944.97	Balance in hand at January 1, 2008		70.00	
			Per Personal Donations		874.97	
Balance in Hand - December 31, 2008	3	0.00	Clan Society Donation		0.00	
		<u>\$944.97</u>			<u>\$944.97</u>	

### Note:

The net deficit for 2008 was primarily caused by the decline in the value of investments following the stock market collapse which took place from June 2008. At the Annual General Meeting the Treasurer presented interim financial figures for the year to October 31st, 2009 and in those financial statements the value of investments showed a recovery over the figures as at December 31, 2008 in the amount of \$6,785. The portfolio is primarily in oil and gas related investments.