

Clan MacKenzie Society in the Americas

Cabar Feidh

The Canadian Chapter Magazine



September 2006

ISSN 1207-7232

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SIR ALEXANDER MACKENZIE - DESCENDANTS

Over the years I have come across quite a number of people who claim descent from Sir Alexander Mackenzie, the great explorer of Canada. There are quite a few sizeable family trees around connecting various families to the great man. Recently I received an e-mail from a lady in London, England and I will let her e-mail tell the story and the subsequent response she got from another member from the same family (Judy Parry). These discoveries of other family members are the exciting things in genealogy. Here is the email from **Pia Goddard**:

Dear Alan

I came across your website completely by accident when I was trying to trace up a few Monros, and I am hoping that it will be a very happy accident indeed as I have a Mackenzie story you might be able to help me with.

I note that on the front page of your December 2005 magazine you have a letter from Judy Parry, to whom I am also forwarding this letter, as I believe we may in some small way be related.

Here, then, is my Mackenzie story.

I was born Pia Catherine Mary Goddard in 1960. My mother was Isobel Mary Monro, and her father was Hector John Monro. Hector's father was Hector



Pia Goddard

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

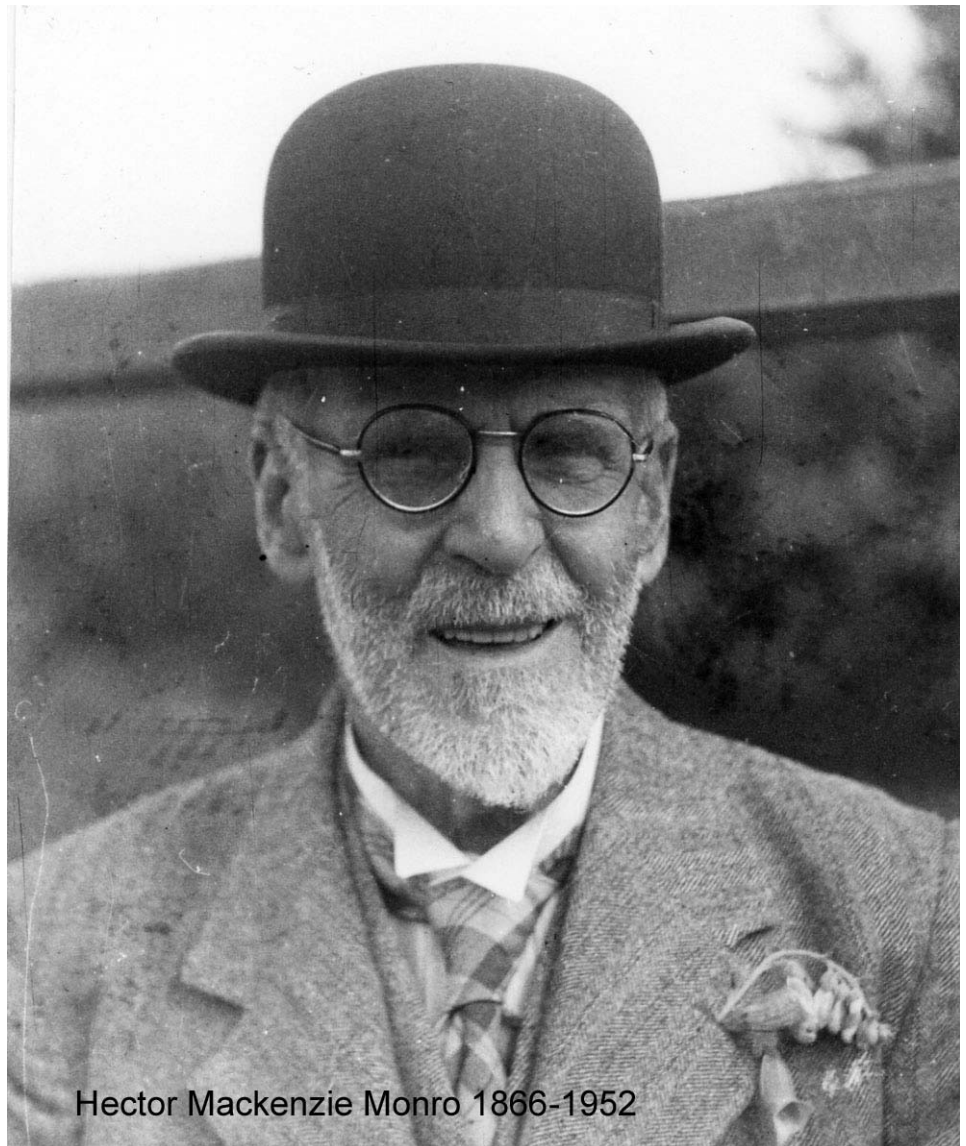


Isobel Monroe 1932-2005

Mackenzie Monroe (the first appearance of the name in my research). When I was growing up I heard many times from Hector John that we were all descended from Sir Alexander Mackenzie, but neither the proof, nor any more information than that was ever forthcoming.

My grandfather Hector died in 1975, and my mother inherited his paperwork, which went into a dusty box in a deep, dark cupboard, until about five years ago when I, recently animated by a new interest in family history, opened the box and found a very old and interesting telegram from Winnipeg, Canada, dated 1948, informing Hector John of the death of his uncle, Campbell Hamilton Monroe.

As I was completely unaware of this branch of the Monros, I did a lot more research and finally found Campbell, a missionary, a doctor, a member of the local church, and married with children, one named Mackenzie Monroe (there it is again!) After a bit of research I obtained a copy of Campbell's obituary which appeared in the Winnipeg Tribune, dated Monday Nov 22, 1948, and in amongst the information about Campbell's life



Hector Mackenzie Monroe 1866-1952

as a Dr and Missionary in the Q'Appelle Valley, I read the following:

"Dr Munro was a great grandson of Sir Alexander Mackenzie, who discovered the Mackenzie River, and a direct descendant of the House of the Clan Monroe."

At this point I figured that if such an eminent member of the community believed the story to be so, and if we both shared the same line of descent, then I most definitely should take the story seriously. So, I went back to the original family paperwork and put the family tree together back as far as one Robert Monroe/Munro, for whom

we had only a "dead by" date, and no more information than that.

I've written this out really roughly, without all the sibling information, and I'll send you paper copies in the post of all of this as the scans don't work so well as attachments.

Robert Monroe, dead by 1863

I

John James Monroe, b 1836, m 1863 to Margaret Elizabeth Nutting

I

Hector Mackenzie Monroe b 1866 and brother **Campbell Hamilton Monroe** b 1868 , plus several other siblings

I

Hector John Monro b 1895, plus siblings

I

Isobel Mary Monro b 1932 and **John Neil Monro**

I

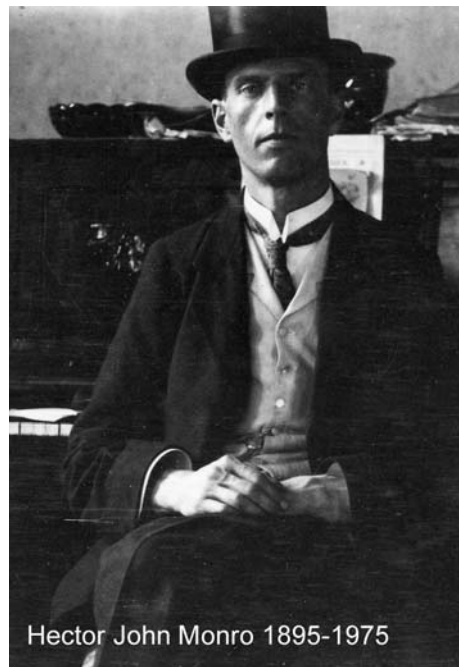
Pia Goddard (me)

Now the trail went cold as I could not connect Robert Monro to the Mackenzie line at all, as he would have had to marry, obviously, a Mackenzie girl and there were none spare on the Mackenzie side who weren't accounted for in all the literature I could find. Then I went to Scotsroots.com who sent me a copy of the pages of the *Journals and Letters of Alexander Mackenzie* and there in a footnote on page 46 I read the following information:

Footnote 2

Family papers record that Mackenzie had a natural daughter, Maria, born in Canada. She was brought up in Scotland by his sister Margaret (Mrs James Dowie). She married Robert Munro, a widower, whose first wife had been Margaret's own daughter, also named Margaret. Robert and Maria Monro had six children. Mackenzie also had a half-breed son in the West, Andrew McKenzie, who was evidently well liked, and who died at Fort Vermilion on 1 March 1809.

Not wishing to dine out on a story wobbling on only two legs, my dad and I then started looking at John James Monro and found his baptismal record in the parish of Clapham, London. Here it quite clearly states in the records that the parents of John James Monro were Robert and Maria Monro. We know that the John James is ours because of the dates and because we know that the family from that point on is directly linked to London from all



the records.

We did also find in our searches an entry for 1835 in the County of Middlesex for the marriage of one Robert Munro to a Mary Brown, but although the dates fit, the surname is slightly strange. Mary could be Maria, but we wondered why "Brown"?

Well, I did wonder until I met a man from northern Canada who lives amongst the inuit and researches their history as his life's work. He has written a wonderful book about an inuit called Menek, called "Bring me the body of my Father". I met Ken Harper in London when I was researching my husband's grandfather, who knew Menek closely as they were on an expedition together in 1913. Ken has researched a great deal of inuit history and not only forwarded me to the Hudson Bay Archivist, but told me the following, that if a white man had a relationship with an inuit/native american woman, then she was given the name "bit of brown". If Maria was the daughter of a native american/inuit mother, then there is a faint possibility that

she may have been given that surname.

I am intrigued that there are also Mackenzie inuit and Monro inuit tribes.

One further footnote to my story. The Hudson Bay archivist sent me an obituary (Winnipeg Free Press, Jan 15/1977) of a woman who died in 1977 in Canada. One Annie Agnes Cassie, aged 83 years, whose husband was John Cassie (died 1974). In her obituary it also states that she was the great granddaughter of Sir Alexander Mackenzie, and the daughter of Walter Aldous Farewell, and Agnes Catherine Georgina Hunt Mackenzie.

Do you know anything about her?

I have no idea how to further substantiate my story, or to prove the Mackenzie link, so I guess I'm sending you all this for help. If you know how I can get hold of documentation about Maria from family papers I guess I can add a third leg to my stool and have a really wonderful story to tell.

Meanwhile, I think I need to put a lot of paper in an envelope to both you and to Judy Parry (I need her address) you as the next step as I tried to scan things and they shrink and become illegible.

Pia Randall-Goddard

PS Campbell Hamilton had three sons, possibly all dead by now, but their names were Kenneth of Calgary, Mackenzie of The Pas, and Robert Morton. I have looked for all of them and can find nothing. I would be grateful for any suggestions as I have run out of steam here too.

[Ed: This is a fascinating story and the possible naming of Mackenzie's daughter as Brown is very interesting.]

Meanwhile Pia contacted our member, Judy Parry, who descends from Sir Alexander's family through his sister who married into the Dowie family.

Her reply to Pia is equally interesting.]:

From Judy Parry to Pia Goddard

From what I read in your interesting story, I think that indeed we may have a common ancestor in Sir Alexander Mackenzie. My own relationship with him stems from his sister, Margaret Mackenzie, who married Captain James Dowie, R.N. My great-grandmother was a Dowie, who married Henry Lockhart-Smith, Lord of the Manor of Ellingham Nevells, Ellingham in Norfolk. They had one son (my grandfather) who was named Horace Mackenzie Smith. My GGM was obviously keen to keep the Mackenzie link alive in this manner. My family's name, therefore, is Mackenzie-Smith (my maiden name). Sir Alexander had three children himself, George, who had no children, Margaret, also no children, and Alexander, who had three sons and two daughters . . . no issue from any of them! So there is no direct line from him. Consequently all his descendants come from his two sisters Sybilla (who married John Kirkland) and Margaret (my relative).

He also had one brother, Murdoch, who was a ship's surgeon, who never married and died at sea.

It's my understanding from the rather meagre research I've done myself, that Sir Alexander took a common-law wife, who was an Indian, while on his long, long voyages in Canada. This was very common among the European trappers and explorers.

He did have two children by her, Andrew, who became a clerk in the North West Company, and died in his early twenties. Also Maria (!) who was taken to Scotland and brought up by Margaret, Alexander's sister. Maria married Robert Munro, who apparently was himself the widower of Margaret's own daughter, and Maria and Robert had six children.

So Pia, I really don't know much about the Munro line, except that it evidently is part of the lineage from Sir Alexander. I'm actually trying to complete the gaps in the Dowie family but doing it all rather sporadically.

It would be really interesting to read everything that you've gathered in your very keen research, and to that

end, here is my mailing address:

Mrs. Judy Parry
(removed as confidential)
Toronto, Ontario

If you'll send me your address also we can swap information! I'd like to keep in touch definitely. Good luck, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,
Judy

Ed: My thanks to both Pia and Judy allowing us to copy this correspondence, which I find fascinating. I have seen other family trees from other members which show that Donald Mackenzie "King of the Northwest" was a brother to Sir Alexander. The family are quite convinced of this and we welcome comments on this family.

THE DIARY OF ALEXANDER MACKENZIE

In 1990 we ran a very long extract of the diary of one Alexander MacKenzie (no relation to Sir Alexander in the previous article). It gives a good indication of what life was like for ordinary people in the Highlands in the 19th century. We received a number of appreciative comments from members at that time, who found this diary of great interest. In view of the lapse of time and the very many new members who have joined the Society since 1990 it is appropriate to publish it again. Because of its length we shall publish it in two parts.

Part 1

The family of MacKenzies occupied the farm of Lochanully in the Parish of Duthil in Inverness-shire for several generations. When held by Kenneth Mackenzie, great-grandfather of the writer, the hill pasture lands were of considerable extent beyond the present limited area. He left the farm to his eldest son Donald, who was married to one of the daughters of Sir Ewen Cameron of Lochiel, by whom he had five sons and three daughters. The four eldest sons were forced into the army for the defence of the country and took part in several battles in Spain, Egypt, India, China and Waterloo.

After the death of Donald in 1806, the farm was left to his youngest son Peter, who, after discharging his father's obligations and paying the proportional shares to the rest of the family, had not much left but the land and the houses on it. Being now 18 years of age, through the influence of his mother and other Godly

friends, he came to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ as his own Saviour.

Two years later, being then aged about 20 years, he married Mary McDonald by whom he had six sons and six daughters. In consequence of coming under obligations to tenants, he had to dispose of his farm at Lochanully with all the stock and implements to pay off the bills, which he should not have signed and on which he always looked back with deep sorrow. He had, however, sufficient left to build a small house on part of the farm of Auchterblair, where he lived on a croft of about two acres and kept a cow for milk to his family; but at this time before the Corn Laws were repealed, it was a hard struggle, but four of the eldest of the family were able to get work and assist. It is most pleasant to remember the wonderful joy it gave parents and children when at each term Annie, Donald, Margaret and John came home for the winter loaded with their gifts with money, others with provisions, others with cloths.

About this time my beloved and beautiful mother died. It was a terrible blow to my dear father. They were so much bound in each other and their children. Being then about three years, I cannot remember much, only my sister Annie got married to Mr Francis Mackintosh, baker, Grantown and my sister Margaret married Mr D. Smith, gardener, and next day they both left us and went to the county of Gray, Canada, where they had a family of six sons and three daughters. My sister died when 12 years of age. Penuel married Mr John McIntosh, carpenter, Nairn, and had four daughters and four sons. My brothers were all men of character and ability considering all the hardship they had to come through.

My brother Donald spent about 20 years at farm work, a grieve in two or three farms, was married and had one son and one daughter. My brother John died in the smallpox when about 18 years. He was a fine promising young man. James also spent several years at farm work, Peter served his apprenticeship as a baker with McIntosh, Grantown, after which he went to London, then came home and commenced business at Kingussie, where James joined him, and they set up a general merchants' business, but Peter thought it too slow, but James got married to Miss McRae and got the Post Office, which his family still retain. Peter left Kingussie for Australia and was wrecked on the coast of Ireland and we never heard of him again.

David also served his apprenticeship with McIntosh, Grantown, then went to Aberdeen and London, then came to Nairn, got married to Miss Helen Macdonald, Grantown. They had no family. For many years they had to struggle as the business was never extensive but he was successful in his property speculations and both died leaving legacies to their relations and others of some £700. My sister Mary, who with her father and May, after Ivy Cottage was built, left the croft at Auchterblair, where she nursed her father with love till his death at the age of 87 years. My sister Mary, who was tall and strong when young, took paralysis on one side and was in bed for nearly 20 years, but died happily trusting in the great atoning sacrifices of the Lord Jesus.

The writer was born in Lochanully in 1834 and at about the age of 5 years was sent to Batten Gorm School where Gaelic and English were taught. The next session I was sent to Kinveachy School but as I did not make much progress I was sent to the Duthil Parish School which I liked as I made some more satisfactory progress. The winter session being done, I was then seven years of age and was engaged for six months at Auchterblair to herd the cattle and at the end of that time, my uncle, a McDonald, merchant, Nethy Bridge, after whom I was called Alexander, wished my father to let me go and live in his family that I might get the advantage of the school, which was very good and near hand. But I had the pony stable and the garden to attend to, besides taking home the peats from the moss at five in the morning, always two mornings each week. In the afternoon I had to take the sugar, soap, soda, treacle and all groceries from the cellar to the shop. For my uncle intended that I should be a merchant.

At about this time my brother Peter, having left London, commenced business as a baker in Kingussie and he wanted me to go there to help him. Accordingly by my father's instructions my uncle and aunt very reluctantly let me go. Though I generally kept them very lively, being a ring leader of all the play in the village, still they confessed in after years that my leaving them left a very empty void in the life of their village and their home.

So I started for Kingussie with my little parcel of luggage, full of bright hopes and high spirits. I had then no intention of being a baker but I always arose with my brother at two to three in the morning and helped

all I could with the work. So besides opening the shop and keeping it, in about a year I learned to do all the general baker's work. We then got a pony and I drove the bread and sold it to all the villages up to Lochlagan. My brother Peter, being a first rate workman, the village being so slow, he added the grocery business to the baking and then James carried it on with us and later took it all over when he got the post office. As my brother Peter, as I then thought, let me have no wages but what I got from the gentry in the shooting lodges and very little freedom for any enjoyment of which I was at that time so fond, I made up my mind to have my freedom. So without consulting anyone I took the mail coach, there being no trains to Inverness. Having saved about 30 shillings, which I got at the shooting lodges for carrying their parcels, I arrived at Inverness at four in the morning. Being a cold November morning, I walked about till daylight and shops commenced to open, when I started to look for work. However their busy season being over, no one of the bakers seemed to be needing a little fellow like me though they generally spoke kindly to me and asked me to call back, so I searched every bakers' shop to no purpose. So after three days I resolved to go to Nairn. My money was getting always less so I walked all the way arriving at three in the afternoon, but to my great disappointment none required my services, no, not even my brother David, so there was nothing for it but tramp another nine miles to Forres. It was dark by the time I reached there and my feet were sorely blistered. I tried several places to get a cheap enough place

to lodge in which at last I did, got some supper and went at once to bed, but could scarcely sleep with the weariness and pain in my feet. However, I slept soundly to nine o'clock and was quite ashamed that I had slept so long. I was much the better of the long rest and sleep, washed and had breakfast then started to look for work, but my luck was as bad as ever. I went to every baker in the town and to some of them twice by mistake, they either had no work or asked me to call back or, that I would have a much better chance in Elgin and that I was not big enough. So after getting a ½d worth of milk and 1d roll I started once more with my bakehouse cloth under my arm. It was cold and wet by the evening, I had walked 21 miles; I was too tired to look for work though the shops were all open.

So a nice baker lad found a place for me to get lodgings and food but the road seemed so long I thought I would never reach it. At eight in the morning I left the bundle with my working clothes in the first baker's shop I came to as they spoke nicely to me and hoped I would soon get a place. Encouraged by them I went over all the bakers, some 10 or 12 of them. Every shop in town had some plausible excuse but no work.

Sufficient to say that after three hours fruitless search my spirits were nearly crushed out and my money nearly done. I resolved to revisit as many of the bakers in Forres and Inverness that asked me to call back. I went to the shop where I left the parcel and they kindly gave me some biscuits to eat. With this provision I started and commenced my journey back to Forres, though my feet were almost useless for walking the 20

miles. However it had to be done but every milestone I passed after the first 8 or 10 I had to go very slow, but however sore my feet were my heart was much sorer. I reached Forres and stayed the night and after a very scanty breakfast I called on some of the bakers that asked me to call back, but unfortunately they could do nothing for me and there was nothing for it but to walk to Nairn, which I reached in about four hours. I went to my sister Penuel's house and enquired if she heard of anything or change about the bakers in town. But she was most kind and made me wash my feet, gave me dinner and tea and insisted I should be to bed as it was Saturday night. I was nice and fresh by Monday and David had a letter from Peter asking if he saw me and telling him to send me back. I told David on Monday that I was going to try Inverness once more and if I did not succeed I would be back by Wednesday and I would see if I would have to go back. So I started for Inverness and on reaching there I went over all the bakers once more, but there was no vacancy. Emigration to Australia was all the rage in the North at that time, so I went to the office to try if they would take me out as an emigrant, but I was under the age to be taken alone. So on my way returning to Nairn, I went by Cambelltown, Fort George on my way and called at the three bakers in that town who were all nice and friendly but none of them had any use for me. But in passing I saw a baker cutting sticks for a Mr. Grant to whom I had been speaking. I told him I was on my way to Nairn.

The lad that was cutting the wood cut himself badly and by the time I had nearly reached Nairn, Mr

Grant's horse and serving man overtook me and asked me if I was the lad who called on Mr. Grant for a job. I said I was, then he said, "You are to come back with me as he has work for you." Oh how thankful to God I felt! So I said to the man, "Drive to my brother's shop till I tell him," and as I was passing Penuel's also, I told her, and asked David to tell Peter that I had got work. Perhaps it would be better if I did not go back as he knew my reasons for leaving.

On reaching Cambelltown in the evening, Mr Grant said to me, "It was fortunate that my man caught you," I said, "Yes, I hope for both what terms you are to offer me", "About six shillings and your meat and bed till we see what you can do." I said anything was better than tramping.

So, after supper, Mrs Grant, who was a good practical woman, showed me to my little bedroom where, after thanking God for thus providentially getting this opening for me, I slept soundly till three in the morning when Mr. G. called that it was time to get up as the sponge was ready. I rose at once and though a little new to his work, he told his wife at breakfast time that I was a plucky little chap and would soon work well. Thus encouraged I was very happy and attended to the pony of which I was very fond. Mr. G. having the military contract at Fort George, I took the bread to the fort every day with the pony after the bakehouse work was done. In this way I worked away happily for 12 or 14 months, when one morning I was passing a store on my way to feed the pony, and looking in by the mere chance, I saw Mr. Grant kissing the servant girl who I did

not think nice, but Grant knew what I had seen and from that hour he was afraid I would tell Mrs. G., with whom I was a great favourite as I did everything to please her.

So having saved a little money and got some new clothes, I told Mr Grant that I intended to leave as I was going to Edinburgh. I think he was glad, but when he told Mrs G. she was very vexed and tried hard to get me to stay longer, but as I knew my master was afraid of me I resolved to go but I told Mrs. G. that she should not keep Kate as she was not a nice girl to be with the children, but I did not tell her what I saw.

However, I left and took the steamer from Nairn to Edinburgh. I reached Granton pier about eight in the morning, walked up the Granton Road to the city, found lodgings at 8, Shakespeare Square at 1/6 [one shilling and six pence] per week. Then the first thing I did was go up the Calton Hill to get a proper view of the city and on going up I saw Nelson's Monument and thought that would be the best place to get a view, so I paid my 3d and climbed the long stairs to the top. I was so charmed that I stayed up fully an hour and studied the main streets in the city and ever after the principle streets of the city were always familiar to me. It was about a week before I got work. I was commencing to feel anxious as my money was run down to 1/6. Mr. Reid, baker, London Street, wanted a lad so I applied and got the place though there were six or seven after it. It was a very heavy place as there were 60 to 79 loaves to carry on my head to a shop in Earl Grey Street, which necessitated three journeys

and my feet suffered very much, my boots not being very comfortable at the best. However, I persevered and got hardened and gradually got into suitable shoes and clothing and managed to send a little home, which gave me particular pleasure as dear father and Mary were the only ones that were writing me and often I felt lonely.

I went to a different church every Sunday but somehow my mind was bound under the law and though I read my Bible and enjoyed it often, I had not faith in Jesus Christ and did not see the merits of His Redemption.

I was just about a year with Mr Reid when the bakers went out on strike for 2/- more pay per week and I told my master, like the rest that unless I got 2/- more I would have to go, so he just said to us all, "You can just go and I do not intend to pay more." So out on strike we all went and on Monday morning instead of our master sending for us, our places were all filled with others doing our work for even less pay than we had. I waited for a day or two to see what would turn up but found the others were taking work where they could get it so I commenced to look into lots of shops but the first question they asked was, "Did you come out on strike?" and when I told them I did then they said, "We have no work for men who wish to harass and bother us for more pay." However, I managed to get in with Mrs. Miller, baker and confectioner, North St Andrew Street, where I had no bread to carry and was nice and comfortable. I was not there more than one month, when a letter reached me from David's wife in Nairn saying that David was very ill

and it was not known what was wrong with him. I wrote at once to say that I had only been in my good new place but a few days and that perhaps David would soon be alright, but before my letter reached I had another urgent letter to say that it was smallpox David had and unless I would come at once, she feared the shop would have to be closed. I at once put a man in my place and started by the first boat for Nairn. For six weeks I did all the baking at night and kept the shop mostly all day and helped to nurse poor David as well, as Helen was often completely done up and, most strange to say, not one knew nor heard that he had smallpox till he commenced to go about again and no one caught the trouble, so particular was poor Ellen to change her things when she had to relieve me in the shop. After six months work for them, for which I took nothing but the meat I consumed, as I then thought they had none to spare, and I liked them both and

was very anxious they should get on.

I went up to see my father, Mary and May, who were pleased to see me and on my way called at Grantown Mackintosh, and my dear sister Anne wished to keep me to work with them, but when I left Peter three years before I resolved not to work with relatives. So after two days visit I walked to Nairn and caught the boat just in time to return to Edinburgh where after being seasick I arrived late on Saturday night.

The concluding part of this diary will be in the next Newsletter.

INTERNATIONAL GATHERING OF THE CLANS - 2007

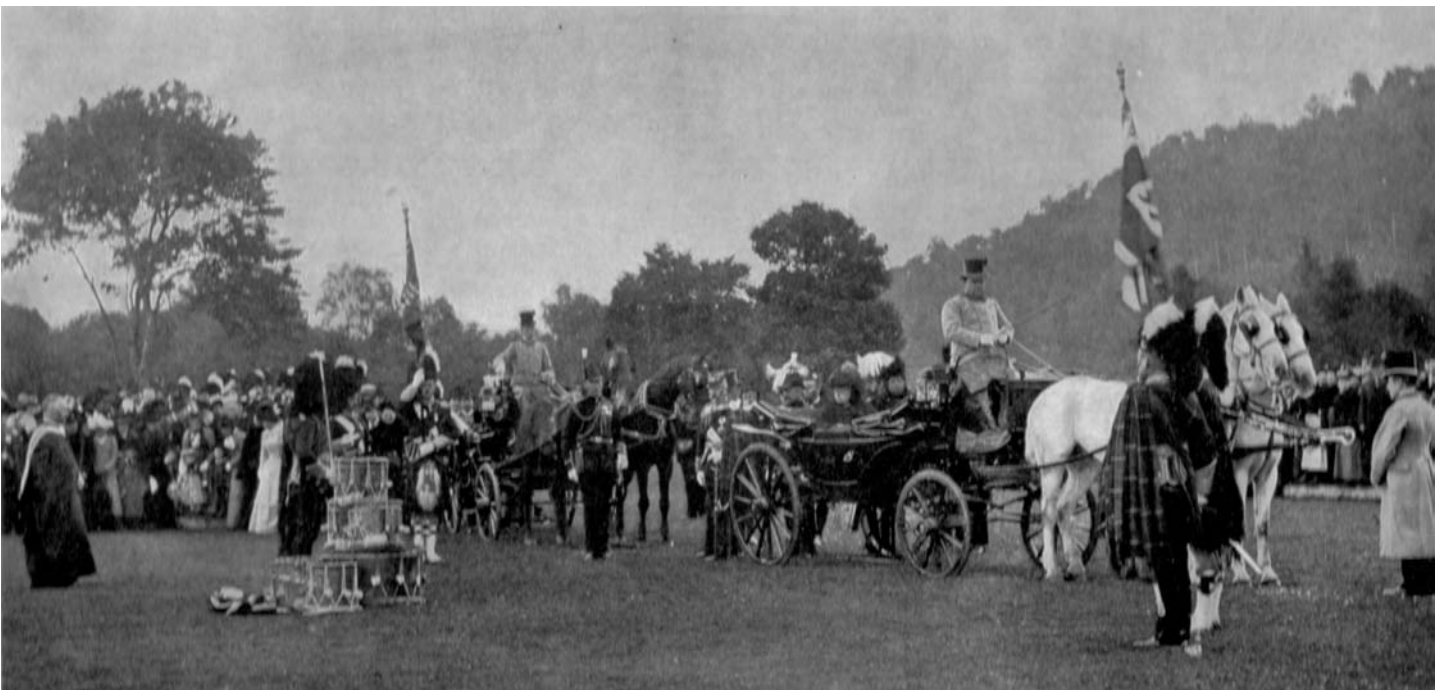
ANNOUNCEMENT

Attention all Scots: The International Gathering of the Clans will again be held in Nova Scotia, Canada, in 2007. Events

will run through the summer months.

The event will be hosted again by the Federation of Scottish Clans In Nova Scotia. We wish to invite all to come and enjoy the summer with us. Please refer to our Web Site at <http://scotsns/chebucto.org/>. As events become confirmed and locked into place they will be placed on the Web Site under International Gathering ...the Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo (Newly titled "Royal" by Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II) are hoping for the attendance of a member of the Royal family for the 2007 events. The Tattoo runs for the first week in July. Web Site: www.nstatattoo.ca which will close on the weekend of the Halifax Highland Games.

The following weekend the Tall Ships will visit Halifax and the Antigonish Highland Games will commence. Many events are being planned all summer until mid October. Clans will be gathering



This interesting photograph was taken on September 29, 1899 and shows Queen Victoria (in the carriage) presenting the 2nd Battalion of the Seaforth Highlanders with new colours at Balmoral. The Queen remarked to Colonel Hughes-Hallett: "I rejoice to be able once more to present new colours to this distinguished regiment, in which I take an especial interest from its being associated with my dear son the Duke of Albany."

and as each Clan confirms these will be found on the web site.

We extend an invitation to all to come and visit Nova Scotia (New Scotland) in 2007,

Jean MacKaracher-Watson,
President, Federation of Scottish
Clans in Nova Scotia, jean.watson2@ns.sympatico.ca

Tourism Nova Scotia 1-800-565-0000 Outside N. A. 1-902-425-5781

Ed: The International Gathering will be an important event in the 2007 calendar. If any members would be interested in participating in a coach trip from Toronto for this event let us know and we can make a decision to sponsor such a trip.

DNA FILM CLIP

See this film clip which shows Bennett Greenspan of Family Tree DNA talking about the subject of DNA.

<http://www.kotv.com/e-clips/?2655>

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I braved bad weather, complete with lots of Scottish Highland Mist, to attend the 46th Annual Bellingham Highland Games at Hovander Homestead Park in Ferndale, Washington State yesterday [June 4th]. The previous day the Games enjoyed good weather and welcomed an all-time one-day record of 15,000 attendees.

But, in yesterday's rain, American Clan Society Commissioner the Reverend Rod MacKenzie of Bellingham and I were the only two MacKenzies in the Parade of Clans. Rod carried our MacKenzie Banner looking particularly distinguished in his full MacKenzie regalia. As well, Rod

and his wife Ruth did a great job with our Clan Tent. It was informative, well organized and welcoming. And Rod has an engaging personality that makes him an exceptional ambassador for our Clan.

Four of the five bagpipe bands were connected to Simon Fraser University here in British Columbia. The newest was not created until 2002, and yet has already won the World Junior Bagpipe Championship FOUR TIMES! These fine pipers were a magnificent credit to Canada.

Best regards, Roddy
(Roddy MacKenzie in Vancouver is a past President of the Clan MacKenzie Society in the Americas.)

Alan, Many thanks for the info re this [DNA] in last issue of Cabar Feidh. Finally I can understand what this is about. Thanks for all your great work for the Mackenzies

Graham MacKenzie, Q.C.
MacKenzie Fujisawa LLP
1600 - 1095 West Pender Street
Vancouver, BC V6E 2M6

First let me thank you for the excellent article on DNA, very clear exposition of a complex technical subject.

I should also tell you that we have moved, and would greatly appreciate your updating the record for Cabar Feidh. We are now at 648 Transit Rd. Victoria BC V8S 4Z5. Its a nice place, in the older part of the city, but had a major problem - kitchen with one drawer and 4 feet of counter space. Getting trades around here is like finding diamonds, but our tilesetter is a McKenzie, and seems to feel the old clannish spirit. He has been amazingly obliging. I gave him a

bunch of bagpipe jokes from electricscotland, which he seem to really appreciate.

David Ford, Victoria, B.C..

NEW MEMBERS

The following members have joined since the publication of the previous Newsletter:

Christopher John Mackenzie
Barham,
1701 Kilborn Ave., Apt 412,
Ottawa, ON K1H 6M8

Twylla-Fay Tassie Goad,
P.O. Box 1144, RR#1,
Collingwood, ON L9Y 3Y9

Mrs Pia Randall-Goddard,
274 Upland Road,
E. Dulwich, SE22 ODN
London, England

Cheri Lynn (MacKenzie)
McGowan,
1604-925 Bay Street,
Toronto, ON M5S 3L4

Christopher Robert Fraser
MacKenzie,
887 Kenilworth,
Pontiac, MI 48340

David Mackenzie,
#17-5787 Binnacle Ave.,
Sechelt, BC V0N 3A0

Dr David Peter MacKenzie,
1477 Jasmine Crescent,
Oakville, ON L6H 3H2

Donald Edward McKenzie,
109 Dunlop Street,
Orillia, ON L3V 5P3

Heather McKenzie,
1384 Lassiter Tce.,
Gloucester, ON K1J 8N2

Lorne R. MacKenzie,
RR#2,
Wingham, ON N0G 2W0

Richard Kenneth McKenzie,
81 Winding Way,
Brantford, ON N3R 3S4

Ross Mackenzie,
106-6622 Baker Road,
Delta, BC V4E 2V1

William James Smart,
1288 Barlesan Road,
Peterborough, ON K9H 6W3

Linda & Ed Trinacty,
7 English Rd,
8633 English Line,
Chatham, ON N7M 4H6

OBITUARY

GORDON ALEXANDER MACKENZIE (1923-2006)

We are sad to report the death of long-time member Gordon MacKenzie, formerly of Burlington, Ontario, and a regular member of the local committee until he went into a nursing home following an accident. The photo below was taken at a Clan committee meeting in 1997, sitting next to Commissioner Alistair MacKenzie (who is on the left).

The following is from his son David and extracts from a newspaper obituary:

Thank you for your kind thoughts. We were with my father when he passed away on June 2nd.

Dad was born in Kapuskasing on



*Gordon
Alexander
MacKenzie*

July 14, 1923. His father was William Alexander MacKenzie, born in Tain, Scotland, on October 1st, 1886.

His grandparents were Murdoch (an Innkeeper) and Mary MacKenzie of Inverness, who were married January 14, 1880 in Edinburgh. During WW1 they lived on Lombard Street in Inverness.

Gordon leaves two sons, David and Ian and one daughter, Deborah. Gordon dedicated his life to caring for Hamilton seniors. He was the owner and administrator Rest Haven Private Hospital, Pine Lodge Nursing Home, MacKenzie Retreat, the Downtown Convalescent Centre, and the Brownstone Nursing Home. His innovations of long term care have been modelled across the province.

GEORGETOWN HIGHLAND GAMES JUNE 10, 2006

At the Georgetown Highland Games on June 10, the tent was manned by Norman, Sandy, Joyce and Alistair. Alan was on stage that day and could not be present.

The weather was excellent and the Clan Mackenzie tent looked especially resplendent with the new Mackenzie tartan table covers provided by Joyce Mackenzie Hirasawa.

Twelve Clans were represented in the Avenue of the Clans. This is down considerably on recent years.

Despite the good weather, the number of visitors was quite low, but we recorded good sales of Mackenzie items to those who did visit.

Two visitors of note to the tent were John Tory, Leader of the Opposition at Queens Park sporting Campbell tartan and Ted Chudleigh MPP for Halton North.

HAMILTON HIGHLAND GAMES SATURDAY JUNE 10, 2006

Alan McKenzie was at last "out" for the Games and was supported by Alex MacKenzie of Toronto (his first time helping at a clan tent) and Douglas Crichton

MacKenzie. Lyle McKenzie also looked by for a bit. Nevertheless Alan was not happy at missing two of the more exciting World Cup Games.

On the whole it was a very slow day with few visitors. There were ten clans present and they were similarly thinly attended. Sales were poor.

The clans did participate in a parade when two large groups of massed bands put on a strikingly impressive performance, marching in from opposite ends of the review stands to face each other. We had a real close up view of this performance but with a hot sun blazing down on us a few of us noticed that we had got something of a tan by the end of the day. Oh well, vitamin D versus skin cancer!



*Douglas Crichton MacKenzie, Alex Mackenzie
and Lyle McKenzie at the Hamilton Games.*



Alan, Doug and Alex at Hamilton



*A look at our splendid new tartan table
covers.*

The only thing remarkable after an exceedingly slow start was the appearance within a few minutes of each other of two attractive young ladies who we persuaded to sign the Visitors Book. They were both named Lauren MacKenzie which excited the second young lady to see her name next to the first - "same spelling and all" - she pointed out.

The only other unusual situation with these Games was that for the first time ever we did not win the "Best Tent" award despite our smashing new tartan table covers, a new clan map and other new display items. I guess that the organizers have adopted the Fergus approach - to switch it around each year. The awards went to:

- 1st Clan MacNeil
 - 2nd Clan McLennan
 - 3rd Clan Stewart.
- I will refrain from comment!



Kincardine - Left - waiting for the parade to start - David MacKenzie, his son-in-law, Blake McGowan, Mrs Judi MacKenzie, Mrs Joyce MacKenzie, Blinkie the town's mascot, and Barbara MacKenzie Hayden. Right photo shows Barbara MacKenzie Hayden and Lorne MacKenzie running the clan tent.

the tent as in previous years. Dave passed us a cheque for over \$500 and that included two new memberships. If that is what local members can do at Scottish events then perhaps we should try and get more family members to try their hand.



ORILLIA SCOTTISH FESTIVAL JULY 15, 2006

The Clan MacKenzie tent was set up with Commissioners Rad MacKenzie and Alan McKenzie in the huge park overlooking Lake Couchiching on an extremely warm and sunny day. A fair breeze made things quite pleasant and once again we enjoyed the parade past our tent of a large number of pipe bands.

All in all an enjoyable day with one new member joining (Don McKenzie from Orillia) and sales around \$200.

ELLERSLIE HIGHLAND GAMES IN GRANT MACEWAN PARK SOUTH OF EDMONTON.

The Highland Games were scheduled for Sunday, the 25th of June. We arrived a little late, as the detours (due to the ever-present road repair) to get to the site took a little longer than originally planned for. When we arrived we were shown to our location, alongside the usual Clans - the Campbells, the Camerons, the MacLeods and the Montgomerys. In previous years the Games supplied a table to the Clans, this year they chose not to. Not normally an issue for us, as we did bring our own table. But it limited us to one (small) table instead



Commissioners Rad and Alan at Orillia, Ontario

KINCARDINE SCOTTISH FESTIVAL JULY 1, 2006

Dave MacKenzie of Kincardine kindly volunteered to set up and run a clan tent for us at Kincardine, which he did with members of his family. And what a great success he had, despite the poor placement of the clan tents once again, made worse this year since the bands did not march past

See photos.

Dave also reported on his brother Donald's death in May 2005. Both Dave brothers Donald and Lorne had received the Lieutenant Governors Award for community service.

of two tables. On top of that I brought the wrong tent. My wife has a similar tent, although slightly smaller, that she uses for her business. Well I brought that tent instead. Not that it made any real difference, I still had the Banner, one table, and all the regular display items. But it added to my growing sense of frustration. But the Clan MacKenzie were up and running by 8:00. The sun was shining; it was eventually to get into the high 20s without a single cloud in the sky. It was a very beautiful day with just a nice refreshing breeze.

We had many people stop by all the Clan tents either just to visit or to ask questions. Fortunately they tended to ask about people and events that I knew something about. If I did not have the answer, the other Clans there usually did. Clan Campbell, disregarding that nasty business at Glencoe a few centuries ago, were extremely helpful, and between the two Clans we were able to answer just about every single inquiry. All in all it was a very productive day with several local Clan members stopping by, a few from the Calgary area, and fair number of new applicants from the Edmonton area. As a matter of fact one of them lives only about 30 km away from my place, and was actually related to the "other" MacKenzie in my town.

For the most part we had people asking us about the difference between Mac and Mc, Eilean Donan Castle, family history, more general Scottish history, and even some questions about the Celts. And of course the Diana Gabaldon "Outlander" series of books. Ongoing conversations about those books tended to attract people to our general area. It didn't hurt that

the medieval display people set-up across the walkway. We even had Edward I and Robert the Bruce visit us briefly looking for a hammer and extra pegs!

Alex MacKenzie
Co-Commissioner
Clan MacKenzie Society
Northern Alberta Branch

THE PROPHECIES OF THE BRAHAN SEER

I have always said I would not get into reproducing the Prophecies of the Brahan Seer as I could never summon up the interest to begin to believe that there are people with second sight. I am aware, however that there are quite a number of "believers" around and it just so happens that by agreeing to transcribe Alexander Mackenzie's 1899 volume on the "Prophecies of the Brahan Seer" for the electricscotland website, I was forced to actually read it. I was particularly interested in a chapter on the Mackenzies of Seaforth. Now, whether you believe in the Brahan Seer's ability to foretell the future, there is no harm in reading this extract from the book which is of historical interest. Here it is:

SKETCH OF THE FAMILY OF SEAFORTH

THE most popularly-received theory regarding the Mackenzies is that they are descended from an Irishman of the name of Colinas Fitzgerald, son of the Earl of Kildare or Desmond, who distinguished himself by his bravery at the battle of Largs, in 1263. It is said that his courage and valour were so singularly distinguished that King Alexander the Third took him under his special

protection, and granted him a charter of the lands of Kintail, in Wester Ross, bearing date from Kincardine, January the 9th, 1263.

According to the fragmentary "Record of Icolmkill," upon which the claim of the Irish origin of the clan is founded, a personage, described as "Peregrinus et Hibernus nobilis ex familia Geraldinorum" - that is "a noble stranger and Hibernian, of the family of the Geraldines" - being driven from Ireland with a considerable number of his followers was, about 1261, very graciously received by the King, and afterwards remained at his court. Having given powerful aid to the Scots at the Battle of Largs, two years afterwards he was rewarded by a grant of the lands of Kintail, which were erected into a free barony by royal charter, dated as above mentioned. Mr. Skene, however, says that no such document as this Icolmkill Fragment was ever known to exist, as nobody has ever seen it; and as for Alexander's charter, he declares (Highlanders, vol. ii., p. 235) that it "bears the most palpable marks of having been a forgery of a later date, and one by no means happy in the execution". Besides, the words "Colino Hiberno" contained in it do not prove this Colin to have been an Irishman, as Hiberni was at that period a common appellation for the Gael of Scotland. Burke, in the "Peerage" has adopted the Irish origin of the clan, and the chiefs themselves seem to have adopted this theory, without having made any particular inquiry as to whether it was well founded or not. The Mackenzie chiefs were thus not exempt from the almost universal, but most unpatriotic, fondness exhibited by many other Highland

chiefs for a foreign origin. In examining the traditions of our country, we are forcibly struck with this peculiarity of taste. Highlanders despising a Caledonian source trace their ancestors from Ireland, Norway, Sweden, or Normandy. The progenitors of the Mackenzies can be traced with greater certainty, and with no less claim to antiquity, from a native ancestor, Gillean (Cailean) Og, or Colin the Younger, a son of Cailean na h'Airde, ancestor of the Earls of Ross; and, from the MS. of 1450, their Gaelic descent may now be considered beyond dispute. [See Nos. XXVI. and XXVII. of the *Celtic Magazine*, Vol. III., in which this question is discussed at length.]

Until the forfeiture of the Lords of the Isles, the Mackenzies always held their lands from the Earls of Ross, and followed their banner in the field, but after the forfeiture of that great and powerful earldom, the Mackenzies rapidly rose on the ruins of the Macdonalds to the great power, extent of territorial possession, and almost regal magnificence for which they were afterwards distinguished among the other great clans of the north. They, in the reign of James the First, acquired a very powerful influence in the Highlands, and became independent of any superior but the Crown. Mackenzie and his followers were, in fact, about the most potent chief and clan in the whole Highlands.

Kenneth, son of Angus, is supposed to have commenced his rule in Kintail about 1278, and was succeeded by his son, John in 1304, who was in his turn succeeded by his son, Kenneth. John, Kenneth's son, was called Iain MacChoinnich, John MacKenneth, or John son of Kenneth, hence the family name Mackenny or Mackenzie. The name Kenneth in course of time became softened down to Kenny or Kenzie. It is well known that, not so very long ago, *z* in this and all other names continued to be of the same value as the letter *y*, just as we still find it in Menzies, MacFadzean, and, many others. There seems to be no doubt whatever that this is the real origin of the Mackenzies, and of their name.

Murchadh, or Murdo, son of Kenneth, it is said, received a charter of the lands of Kintail from David II.

In 1463, Alexander Mackenzie of Kintail obtained the lands of Strathgarve, and other possessions, from John, Earl of Ross. They afterwards strenuously and successfully opposed every attempt made by the Macdonalds to obtain possession of the forfeited earldom. Alexander was succeeded by his son, Kenneth,

who married Lady Margaret Macdonald, daughter of the forfeited Earl John, Lord of the Isles; but through some cause, [For full details of this act, which afterwards proved the cause of such strife and bloodshed, see Mackenzie's "History of the Clan Mackenzie".] Mackenzie divorced the lady, and sent her home in a most ignominious and degrading manner. She had only one eye, and Kintail sent her home riding a one-eyed steed, accompanied by a one-eyed servant, followed by a one-eyed dog. All these circumstances exasperated the lady's family to such an extent as to make them ever after the mortal and sworn enemies of the Mackenzies.

Kenneth Og, his son by the divorced wife, became chief in 1493. Two years afterwards, he and Farquhar Mackintosh were imprisoned by James V. in Edinburgh Castle. In 1497, however, they both made their escape, but were, on their way to the Highlands, seized, in a most treacherous manner, at Torwood, by the laird of Buchanan. Kenneth Og made a stout resistance, but he was ultimately slain, and Buchanan sent his head as a present to the King.

Leaving no issue, Kenneth was succeeded by his brother John, whose mother, Agnes Fraser, his father's second wife, was a daughter of Lovat. He had several other sons, from whom have sprung other branches of the Mackenzies. As John was very young, his uncle, Hector Roy (Eachainn Ruadh) Mackenzie, progenitor of the house of Gairloch, assumed command of the clan and the guardianship of the young chief. Gregory informs us, that "under his rule the Clan Kenzie became involved in feuds with the Munroes and other clans; and Hector Roy himself became obnoxious to the Government as a disturber of the public peace. His intentions towards the young chief of Kintail were considered very dubious, and the apprehensions of the latter and his friends having been roused, Hector was compelled by law to yield up the estate and the command of the tribe to the proper heir." [Highlands and Isles of Scotland, p.111.] John, the lawful heir, on obtaining possession, at the call of James IV., marched at the head of his clan to the fatal field of Flodden, where he was made prisoner by the English, but afterwards escaped. On King James the Fifth's expedition to the Western Isles in 1540, John joined him at Kintail, and accompanied him throughout his whole journey. He fought with his clan at the battle of Pinkie in 1547, and died in 1561, when he was succeeded by his son, Kenneth, who had two sons by a daughter of the Earl

of Athole - Colin and Roderick - the latter becoming ancestor of the Mackenzies of Redcastle, Kincaig, Rosend, and several other branches. This Colin, who was the eleventh chief, fought for Queen Mary at the battle of Langside. He was twice married. By his first wife, Barbara Grant of Grant - whose elopement with him will be found described in a poem in the *Highland Ceilidh*, Vol. I. pp. 215-220, of the *Celtic Magazine* - he had four sons and three daughters, namely - Kenneth, who became his successor; Sir Roderick Mackenzie of Tarbat, ancestor of the Earls of Cromartie; Colin, ancestor of the Mackenzies of Kennock and Pitlundie; and Alexander, ancestor of the Mackenzies of Kilcoy, and other families of the name. By Mary, eldest daughter of Roderick Mackenzie of Davochmaluag, he had a natural son, Alexander, from whom descended the Mackenzies of Applecross, Coul, Delvin, Assynt, and others of note in history.

Kenneth, the eldest son, soon after succeeding his father, was engaged in supporting Torquil Macleod of Lewis, surnamed the "Conanach," the disinherited son of the Macleod of Lewis, and who was closely related to himself. Torquil conveyed the barony of Lewis to the Chief of the Mackenzies by formal deed, the latter causing the usurper to the estate, and his followers, to be beheaded in 1597. He afterwards, in the following year, joined Macleod of Harris and Macdonald of Sleat, in opposing James the Sixth's project for the colonisation of the Lewis by the well-known adventurers from the "Kingdom of Fife".

In 1602, the old and long-standing feud between the Mackenzies and the Macdonalds of Glengarry, concerning their lands in Wester Ross, was renewed with infuriated violence. Ultimately, after great bloodshed and carnage on both sides, an arrangement was arrived at by which Glengarry renounced for ever, in favour of Mackenzie, the Castle of Strome and all his lands in Lochalsh, Lochcarron, and other places in the vicinity, so long the bone of contention between these powerful and ferocious chieftains. In 1607, a Crown charter for these lands was granted to Kenneth, thus materially adding to his previous possessions, power, and influence. "All the Highlands and Isles, from Adnamurchan to Strathnaver, were either the Mackenzies' property or under their vassalage, some few excepted," and all around them were bound to them "by very strict bonds of friendship". In this same year Kenneth received, through some influence at Court, a gift, under the Great

Seal, of the Island of Lewis, in virtue of, and thus confirming, the resignation of this valuable and extensive property previously made in his favour by Torquil Macleod. A complaint was, however, made to his Majesty by those of the colonists who survived, and Mackenzie was again forced to resign it. By patent, dated the 19th of November, 1609, he was created a peer of the realm, as Lord Mackenzie of Kintail. Soon after, the colonists gave up all hopes of being able to colonize the Lewis, and the remaining adventurers - Sir George Hay and Sir James Spens - were easily prevailed upon to sell their rights to Lord Mackenzie, who at the same time succeeded in securing a grant from the king of that part of the island forfeited by Lord Balmerino, another of the adventurers. He (Lord Mackenzie) now secured a commission of fire and sword against the islanders, soon arrived with a strong force, and speedily reduced them to obedience, with the exception of Neil Macleod and a few of his followers. The struggle between these two continued for a time, but ultimately Mackenzie managed to obtain possession of the whole island, and it remained in the possession of the family until it was sold by the "Last of the Seaforths".

This, the first, Lord Mackenzie of Kintail died in 1611. One of his sons, Simon Mackenzie of Lochslin, by his second wife, Isabella, daughter of Sir Alexander Ogilvie of Powrie, was the father of the celebrated Sir George Mackenzie, already referred to. His eldest son, Colin, who succeeded him as second Lord Mackenzie of Kintail, was created first Earl of Seaforth, by patent dated the 3rd December, 1623, to himself and his heirs male. Kenneth, Colin's grandson, and third Earl of Seaforth, distinguished himself by his loyalty to Charles the Second during the Commonwealth. He supported the cause of the Royalists so long as there was an opportunity of fighting for it in the field, and when forced to submit to the ruling powers, he was committed to prison, where, with much firmness of mind and nobility of soul, he endured a tedious captivity during many years, until he was ultimately released, after the Restoration, by authority of the king. He married a lady descended from a branch of his own family, Isabella Mackenzie, daughter of Sir John Mackenzie of Tarbat, and sister of the first Earl of Cromartie. To her cruel and violent conduct may undoubtedly be traced the remarkable doom which awaited the family of Seaforth, which was predicted in

such an extraordinary manner by Coinneach Odhar, fulfilled in its minutest details, and which we are, in the following pages, to place before the reader.

[The rest of this book will be found in due course on the electricscotland website.]

DNA

The numbers of Mac/McKenzies who have joined the DNA program grows slowly and we expect this to pick up once the Highland Games season gets under way. We have 114 signed on so far from all around the world. What is interesting is that a large proportion of the persons who took the 12-marker test have elected to expand their results to 37 markers in an attempt to narrow down the closer relationships revealed. This is indeed a very encouraging sign as it indicates a wide understanding of the system. The 37 markers are rather more expensive than the initial 12 markers usually applied for.

I shall be attending the DNA Conference in Houston in November to educate myself further. More particularly I will meet with a number of other members who are involved with other clans to see what we can derive from the work being done around the globe on understanding these results. I hope to come back from the conference with a detailed understanding of cladograms. These charts show the possible relationships of all the Mackenzies who have tested for 37 markers and particularly the genetic distance from each other. The findings are producing clusters of members who appear to be closely related, and it believed by some experts that these may well be the descendants of the original Mackenzie landowners. In a future issue I will address this subject in an article and attempt to explain the importance of cladograms.

It is not surprising, perhaps, that one group who take the DNA testing most seriously is the Jewish people. I picked up this interesting comment on the chat lines:

Dr. Skorecki, a Cohen of Eastern European descent (Ashkenazim), was attending synagogue one morning. During the service, a Cohen of Sephardic descent from North Africa was reading from the Hebrew bible. According to Jewish tradition, all Cohanim (plural of "Cohan" or "Cohen") are direct descendants of Aaron, the brother of Moses, and serve important priestly functions within the Jewish religion. The line of the Cohanim is patrilineal, allegedly being passed from

father to son without interruption from Aaron, for 3,300 years, or more than 100 generations. Dr. Skorecki wondered if this claim could actually be tested. Could he find scientific evidence to support the oral tradition of an ancient priestly lineage? Did he and the Sephardic Cohen possess a set of common genetic markers indicating they shared a common ancestor?

Dr. Skorecki, a nephrologist already involved in molecular genetic research, contacted Dr. Michael Hammer of the University of Arizona, a pioneer in Y chromosome research, and the Cohanim DNA study was born. Their findings clearly indicated that the Cohanim did indeed share a common ancestor. They discovered that a particular haplotype was found in 97 out of the 106 participants tested. This haplotype has come to be known as the "Cohen Modal Haplotype" or "CMH". According to the study, calculations for dating the CMH yielded a time frame of 106 generations from the ancestral founder of the lineage – approximately 3,300 years ago (Thomas et al. 1998).

Not only did the genetic researchers corroborate the oral history of an ancient Jewish priestly caste, but they also confirmed the genetic link between both Sephardic and Ashkenazi populations, indicating that before the two populations separated, those who shared the CMH also shared common Israelite ancestry. Today, the CMH is considered not only the standard genetic signature of the priestly Cohanim, but also the yardstick by which all Jewish DNA is compared for determination of Israelite genetic ancestry. Thus, if a haplogroup is not shared by both Sephardim and Ashkenazim at a similar frequency, then it is generally not considered to be of Israelite origin.

Skorecki and Hammer reported that the CMH occurred within Y chromosome haplogroup J (Skorecki et al. 1997). We now know significantly more about haplogroup J than when these studies were originally published. Haplogroup J consists of an ancestral form (J*) and two subgroups – J1 and J2. Although you can have the CMH in either J1 or J2, it is the genetic signature in J1 that is considered the Jewish priestly signature.

What is not widely reported is that only 48% of Ashkenazi Cohanim and 58% of Sephardic Cohanim have the J1 Cohen Modal Haplotype (Skorecki et al. 1997). So nearly half of the Ashkenazi Cohanim results are in haplogroups other than J1. Overall, J1 constitutes 14.6% of the Ashkenazim results and 11.9% of the Sephardic results (Semino et al. 2004). Nor is

Cohanim status dependent on a finding of haplogroup J1.

Additionally, many other haplogroups among the Ashkenazim, and among the Cohanim in particular, appear to be of Israelite/Middle Eastern origin. According to Behar(2003), the Cohanim possess an unusually high frequency of haplogroup J in general, reported to comprise nearly 87% of the total Cohanim results. Among the Sephardim, the frequency of 75% is also notably high (Behar 2003). Both groups have dramatically lower percentages of other haplogroups, including haplogroup E. Given the high frequency of haplogroup J among Ashkenazi Cohanim, it appears that J2 may be only slightly less common than J1, perhaps indicating multiple J lineages among the priestly Cohanim dating back to the ancient Israelite kingdom.

However, J1 is the only haplogroup that researchers consider "Semitic" in origin because it is restricted almost completely to Middle Eastern populations, with a very low frequency in Italy and Greece as well (Semino et al. 2004). The group's origins are thought to be in the southern Levant. Its presence among contemporary Sephardic and Ashkenazi populations indicates the preservation of Israelite Semitic ancestry, despite their long settlement in Europe and North Africa. Further, the CMH is considered the putative ancestral haplotype of haplogroup J1 (Di Giacomo et al.2004).

Needless to say this is a very technical subject, but one of great interest. The Mackenzies - over 80% of them share the haplogroup R1b1. Personally I find it a hard stretch to believe that one can go back over 3,000 years without finding numerous distortions to results because of "non-paternity events".

BEN MACKENZIE AWARDED NASA EXCEPTIONAL PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL

Our member Ben Mackenzie from Ohio has been in constant communication with a number of other members in Canada who have participated in the DNA Project. Ben is a direct male line descendant of Donald Mackenzie - King of the North West and has a huge family tree which connects him to many members in Canada. Donald Mackenzie is shown in that tree to be a cousin of Sir Alexander Mackenzie, the first man to cross Canada by land.

But Ben has many strings to his bow and he has recently been honoured by NASA. Here is a report on

his award.

Retired Director from Saint-Gobain Flight Structures receives one of NASA's highest honors.

NASALangley Research Center, Hampton, Va. – S. Ben Mackenzie, retired Director, Technology & Engineering, Saint-Gobain Flight Structures, was recently awarded an Exceptional Public Service Medal from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The medal was presented by NASA Langley Research Center Director Lesa B. Roe.

The NASA Exceptional Public Service Medal is one of the highest-level awards available to non-NASA employees, and is granted for exceptional contributions to NASA's mission. This award honors Ben Mackenzie for significant contributions and dedicated lifetime service to the avionics industry, military, and NASA aviation safety research.

Dr. Charles E. Harris, Director of NASA's Research & Technology Directorate, presented Mackenzie with a congratulatory letter from Rockwell Collins, Chairman, President and CEO Clay Jones. "The prestigious NASA Exceptional Public Service Medal you received today is a well deserved testament to your many achievements which encompass all segments of civil aviation and our national security as well", said Jones in his letter. "Through your diligent work toward the highest quality standards and radome products, you have made a substantial contribution to the safety of our aviation industry, our nation, and the traveling public. Rockwell Collins is recognized as a leader in the design, production, and support of communication and aviation electronics worldwide.

Mackenzie joined Saint-Gobain Flight Structures formerly Norton Company's Composites Operations, in 1973 as chief engineer. Saint-Gobain is well known for the industry leading radome technology, from VLF to well into the mm wave region. It designs, manufactures and repairs aircraft radomes for aircraft manufacturers, airlines, systems companies and governmental agencies throughout the world. He also served as an FAA Designated Engineering Representative in the area of radomes and composite structures, and lightning protection of those structures.

"The radome facility's success is due to the work of a great team of people," said Mackenzie. "I am especially appreciative of my mentors, most notably my high school physics teacher, Howard Lorson, who had a ham radio club at the school and encouraged my experimentation."



Ben Mackenzie receiving his award

Mackenzie's high school term paper was "Radio Wave Propagation," as he had experimented with most of the methods then known. He also built a working 10 GHz microwave transceiver. Amateur radio continued to be a lifelong hobby and provided a solid foundation for his career in radome design.

In 2003 Mackenzie was selected from a field of over 5000 scientists and engineers worldwide to receive the AAI Pioneer Award at the Airlines Electronic Engineers Committee's General Session, only the eighth time this award was presented. In 1993 RTCA (formerly Radio Technical Commission for Aeronautics) presented Mackenzie with a Citation for chairing the subcommittee that set the first internationally accepted standards for radomes for civil aircraft.

Our congratulations go to Ben Mackenzie, who just happens to be a very enthusiastic Mackenzie genealogist. Radome, by the way, is generally the radar dome . . . the nose of the aircraft . . . which is tuned to the radar's frequency or wavelength to be transparent to the radar beam . . . It is made with composite materials . . . lightweight and strong.

GLENGARRY HIGHLAND GAMES, MAXVILLE AUGUST 5, 2006

Once again the 26 clans that made the trip to Maxville, about an hour's drive from Ottawa, crowded into the two large barns, which have become the traditional home of the clans. Huge crowds attended the tattoo on the Friday evening and I was accompanied by Alex MacKenzie, of Toronto and we thoroughly enjoyed the massed bands and the splendid masses of well-drilled highland dancers.



Maxville - Gary and Alex MacKenzie and one of our allies from Clan MacLennan.

This year we had the great pleasure of having a volunteer from Ottawa to help us run the clan tent. It was Gary MacKenzie and his enthusiastic participation with Alex and me was great relief. Gary has also since volunteered to take on the vacant role of Commissioner for Eastern Ontario, which includes Ottawa itself, where we have many members.

We often wonder whether the long trip to Maxville from Toronto is worthwhile. Glengarry county was the area where masses of Macdonells of Glengarry and other Macdonalds and MacMillans arrived in large numbers and settled the region. Mackenzies are rarer there. Nevertheless we had an interesting and enjoyable day. The weather was just about as near perfect as it could be. The scorching heat which had been with us for far too long in July and August finally gave way to warm pleasant weather for the Games and we avoided the thunderstorms and heavy rain which sometimes occur here at this time of year.

We signed on two new members, which was a relief. Sales were merely moderate, takings being close to \$300. We had many interesting conversations at the tent with visitors. One of the more famous being the Hon. Flora Macdonald, who helps support the Maxville Games. It was her 80th birthday and the crowds sung "Happy Birthday" at the Tattoo the night before. A wonderful lady, much respected by the Scots in Canada.



B.C. HIGHLAND GAMES, COQUITLAM

JUNE 24, 2006

A very lovely day greeted the MacKenzies as we gathered to celebrate our Scottish heritage at the Coquitlam Highland Games. During the Clan Parade, we had the greatest number of members and families that the MacKenzies have seen in a few years. Marlene and Kenneth introduced their grandson, Brandon, to the activities of the table and other events. Rob and Corinne are expecting a baby this year which will increase the grandchild count for Kenneth and Marlene. Ian and Lynn's son Charles brought a friend and Ian's mother, Jill, came and enjoyed the celebrations of the day. William, Ian and I greeted the many visitors who came by the table to ask questions, enjoy a chat or browse the articles on the table. Two new members signed up and we look forward to seeing them at the fall dinner and, by the way, **if any readers know of some MacKenzies, in the Vancouver area, who would like to join us for a dinner, email:**

jo.mac@telus.net. We'll have a good time.

Also, the MacKenzies have a connection with the Clan Hay and this year, their key person, Libby Hay died, so we shared a tent at the Highland Games with the Hay Commissioners. Libby Hay was an outstanding representative for her Clan and she will be missed.

By Joan MacKenzie



Coquitlam: Heather Bennett, Christopher Green, Commissioner Joan, Marlene and Commissioners William and Ian.

FERGUS HIGHLAND GAMES AND SCOTTISH FESTIVAL

AUGUST 12, 2006

This is our busiest Games of the year and 2006 was no exception. We were without a number of our regulars because of family matters and sickness so did not have Commissioners Alistair, or Ken nor Bob and

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Coquitlam: Corinne, Bob, Marlene, Kenneth, Brandon, Commissioners William and Ian, a Mackenzie lady, and Commissioner Joan

Olga. However Alan McKenzie and Norman MacKenzie were the commissioners present with able support from Alex MacKenzie and Shawn MacKenzie. We also had help with the tent from Alan's brother-in-law, Michael Leach and his wife Judith and daughter Amy. At times the pace was frantic with queues lining up to get into the tent. Sales exceeded \$700 and we added four new members and scores took the member-



Shawn MacKenzie (left) with a couple of Mackenzie visitors to the tent at Fergus

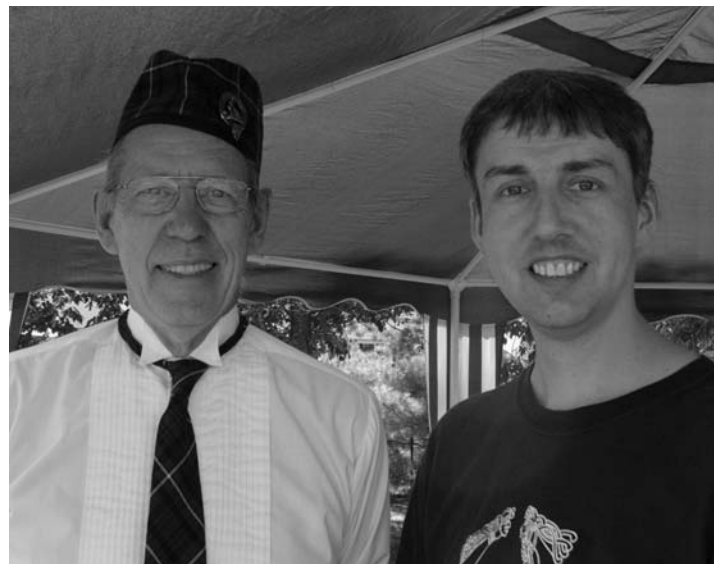


Fergus - Commissioners Alan and Norman at the ready for the rush!

Below Alan and Alex parading the clan banner at Fergus



*Alan MacKenzie and Alex MacKenzie at Fergus
- getting ready for the parade*



Fergus - Alex MacKenzie with Dr Graeme Morton, the Chair of Scottish Studies at the University of Guelph. The Scottish Studies Foundation had a tent behind the Clan MacKenzie tent.

ship forms so we fully expect to see others join later.

REMINDERS

1. Membership Dues are payable from October 1st.
2. The Clan AGM and Picnic will be held at Black Creek Pioneer Village, Toronto on Sunday Sept 10th from around 11 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Contact us if you will be attending (see page 1 for address, etc.). Lunch will be provided for members and spouses. Entertainment will include Highland dancing and piping.

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