



Clan Maclean Heritage Trust

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Céad míle fáilte

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Welcome to the Spring 2021 issue of the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust's newsletter.

This year marks two important milestones

for Clan Maclean. The Heritage Trust celebrates its first 25 years, and the Clan Maclean Association launches its first Virtual Clan Gathering.

We very much hope that you will 'tune in' to the Gathering, to which the Heritage Trust is making significant historical and heritage contributions

Clan Maclean Heritage Trust - The First 25 years

The Clan Maclean Heritage Trust was established by the Clan Maclean Association in 1996 to recognise and cherish the heritage of the Clan Maclean around the world, as well as in Scotland, and to educate the wider public about it. Its Trustees include ex-officio, the Chief and the President of the Association, along with others nominated by the Chief and the Association.

The Association in its



The cairn at Drimnin pier, erected in 1996, commemorating Charles Maclean of Drimnin

early days had attempted this task, including erecting a tombstone at Soroby, Tiree, to the Maclean bard, and pub-

lishing historical pamphlets on clan history, including a History of the Rankins.

Later, the Association had begun again to undertake projects, including the designing and placing of an armorial stone above the main entrance to Duart Castle in 1986, and by restoring the ancient Maclean burial aisle at Lochaline in 1992.

When a cairn was erected in 1996 at Drimnin pier to com-

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“commemorating
and educating the
public”



The Mull Museum,
which houses the
Heritage Trust
archives.

Grants

As with many other organisations, 2020 was not a good year for progressing our work promoting and advancing the education of the public in the history, traditions and music of the Clan Maclean.

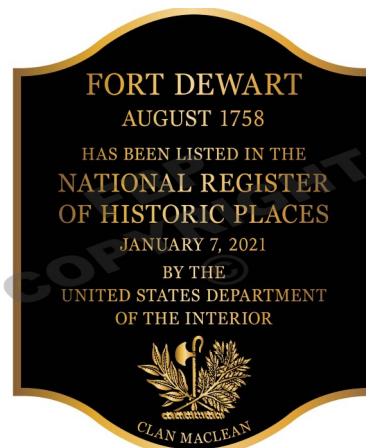
Through the Lady Mary Fund, the Trust has continued to support the Mull and Ardnamurchan Mòds (Festivals of Scottish Gaelic song, arts and culture) encouraging young Gaelic singers in choirs in both places. We have been rewarded with a lovely compilation of song by *Còisir Òg Mhuile* which will feature in the Virtual Clan Gathering.

Also featuring in the Virtual Gathering will be a short film about the Mull Museum, and the Maclean artefacts held there. The Heritage Trust has continued with the annual grant to the Museum, which has had especial significance during the closure in 2020.

The Trust made a grant to the project at Fort Dewart, a fortification constructed on Allegheny Mountain in Pennsylvania in 1758 by Captain Sir Allan Maclean, 22nd Chief of Clan Maclean, which it previously funded in 2013. This time, we have assisted with the recognition of the project by National Register of Historic Places.

Plans for grant making in 2021 are tenuous!

The Trust has a number of projects ‘on hold’ til the pandemic has eased. Just getting the slate on which to carve a plaque has proved nigh impossible. Perhaps our motto should be ‘We shall persevere!’ ?



Macleane History in 100 Objects

No 1. The Maclean bicycle

I am not sure that I would choose the Maclean lightweight bicycle as my first object, but the title for a proposed book intrigues me, and because I have been unable to find anything about the man behind them.

Don Maclean formed his namesake company during the 1920's and employed several builders. Apparently, they built frames and bikes for about 40 years, until they were bought up by the Holdsworth company.

There was a custom frame builder called McLean in the US in the 70's or so, nothing to do with the English marque, and spelled differently.

So, it looks like an opportunity for an author - and for someone to tell us more about Maclean and McLean, bicycle builders. W.H.S.D.



Charitable purposes

Our purposes, as recorded in our Deed of Trust, are the promoting and advancing the education of the public in the history, traditions and music of the Clan Maclean.

In furtherance of these purposes the Trust undertakes the following activities:

- (a) it commemorates famous events in the history of the Clan by erecting cairns on relevant sites;
- (b) it records and publicises the significant contributions of Macleans in various fields by installing memorial plaques on buildings associated with them;
- (c) it contributes to the restoration of important buildings associated with the Clan;
- (d) it acquires, restores and preserves books and

manuscripts about distinguished members of the Clan and its history, and makes them available to the public;

(e) it produces publications, and maintains a website, that educate the public in the history and traditions of the Clan Maclean, as well as promoting other educational activities relating to the history and culture of the Clan;

(f) it funds a piping bursary for young Macleans at the College of Piping in Glasgow; and

(g) it sponsors competitions in the playing and composition of pipe music and in Gaelic choral singing.

The Trust pays particular attention to activities aimed at younger members of the Clan and children generally.

The baton was handed to the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust.

The Trust is producing a record of those achievements

The First 25 Years

(Continued from page 1)

memorate Charles Maclean of Drimnin who was killed leading the Macleans at Culloden in the '45 the baton was handed to the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust, and it is their name on the monument.

In 1993, The Clan Maclean Association had established a Special Projects Fund – The Clan Maclean Heritage Fund - and began work towards gaining charitable status with the Fund managed by Trustees to concentrate on this important field of clan activity.

The Clan Maclean Heritage Trust started its work in 1996, under the chairmanship of Major Nicholas Maclean Bristol of Breacachadh Castle for its first five years, by contributing to the memorial cairn at Ticonderoga in the USA, and to the Hector Maclean cairn at Killeen in Australia. It built a cairn at Traigh Ghruinneart on Islay to remember the death of Sir Lachlan Maclean of Duart in 1598, and produced an associated poster and display board. Numerous projects followed at home and abroad. The 'Archives' were transferred to the Heritage Trust and additional material and artefacts have been added, housed in the Mull Museum in Tobermory, Isle of Mull.

The Heritage Trust, in its early years, erected a memorial plaque at Maffra, Victoria, to the Hon Allan McLean (1839-1911), the 19th century Premier, and Federation Father of Australia, and contributed towards the historical pamphlet on a distinguished local Maclean family at Cradley in England.

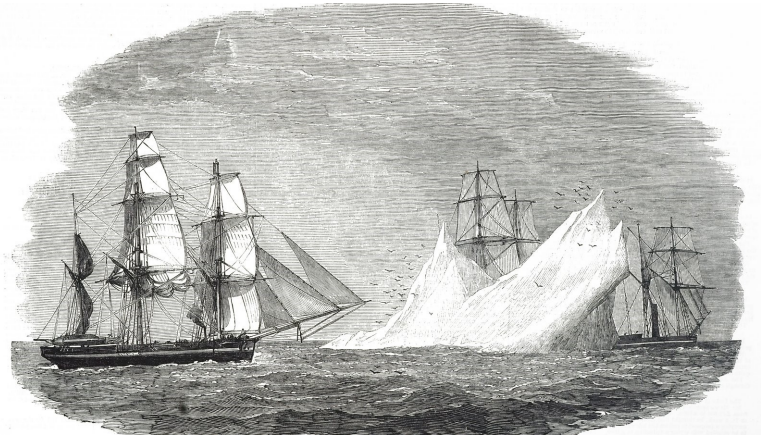
This year marks the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust, and a number of events and activities were being planned to commemorate the achievements of the Trust, which sadly have been overcome by events.

However, the Trust is producing a record of those achievements which, in itself, will be a mini-history of Clan Maclean. Friends will be kept informed of publication details. The Trust is also producing, as part of the Clan Maclean Virtual Gathering, a video presentation of some of the projects and activities that we have fulfilled to recognise and cherish the heritage of the Clan Maclean around the world.

HMS Terror

'The Terror' is an American horror drama anthology television series and is a fictionalised account of Captain Sir John Franklin's lost expedition to the Arctic in 1845–1848. But it sent me scurrying to my reference library to find the connection I was sure was there with Clan Maclean.

It turns out, as seems obvious now, that I was a century out. The ship I was thinking of was the HMS Terror, a 14-gun bomb vessel launched in 1741 and sold in 1754.



In March 1746, whilst under command of a Capt John Fergusone, Terror landed troops from Mingary Castle, which was being used as a barracks, who carried out raids on Morvern, known as the 'burning of Morvern'. It was a terror campaign designed to punish Jacobites and to dissuade others from supporting them. HMS Terror was certainly well named.

If the man of the house was found at home then the settlement was left alone, but if it was just his family then it was assumed he was a rebel. His home, livestock and crops were destroyed. His boat - an important resource to those living on the coast - was also smashed and any woodland was destroyed to prevent him building another. But we know Macleans from Morvern still made it to Culloden, in April 1746. Perhaps they were already on their way.

Terror was involved in the May 1746 naval battle in Loch nan Uamh during the Jacobite rising, where she was disabled by a volley from the French privateer Bellone.

W.H.S.D.

Culloden

It is well known that the Clan Maclean was very largely a Jacobite clan, and that although, as in the case of other clans, support for the Stuarts, from a strong support in 1688 and 1715, had begun to wane by 1745, yet our Chief, Sir Hector Maclean of Duart, came over to this country to rally the clan, and but he was promptly imprisoned by the Government, in Edinburgh Castle, before he could get to Mull.

In his absence the Clan Maclean, which made up a battalion along with the Maclachlans, was lead by his kinsman, Charles Maclean of Drimnin, who was killed along with his eldest son at the Battle of Culloden on 16th April 1746.

This battle eclipsed the Jacobite hopes for ever, and lead to a time of harsh treatment by the Government of the Jacobite clans in particular, and also of the Highlands in general.

The cairn at Drimnin (see image on the cover) commemorates Charles Maclean, but is a remembrance of all Macleans who lost their lives in the battle.

Clan Maclean Virtual Gathering

CLAN MACLEAN ASSOCIATION



When it became clear that we would be unable to hold an International Clan Gathering on Mull in 2022, the committee began investigating the possibility of filling the void in some way.

Bringing the clan together through the internet seemed to be a solution, and so the concept of the Clan Maclean Virtual Gathering was born.

Gatherings and International Gatherings

An object of the Association is 'the cultivation of social intercourse among the Members' and from the beginning the main life of the Association has been the annual Gatherings in Glasgow in the autumn of each year. The form of these gatherings has been remarkably consistent, with an evening of refreshment (or dinner), entertainment (in 1897 Harry Lauder 'versatile Scottish comedian' was one of the artistes; 4th name listed out of 4), and dancing, which usually went on until 2.00 am, although it now stops soon after 12 midnight.

The numbers attending have usually been about 100. The venues have ranged from the Waterloo Rooms in 1897, the Charing Cross Halls, to HMS Carrick, the Royal Automobile Club, the Piping Centre and more recently hotels in Renfrew. It is interesting that they generally have always been on the knife-edge of financial viability.

It must be recorded that the Chief and his family have supported these annual Gatherings consistently over 125 years, being attended by old Sir Fitzroy even in his older age, supported or represented later by his sons Hector yr of Duart and Captain

in 1897 Harry Lauder 'versatile Scottish comedian' was one of the artistes



Sir Fitzroy's 100th birthday in 1935

Charles, when he was too old to attend himself. Each year there has been a special speech about the clan and the chief's family. Our present chief has attended 25 of the last 27 events

The Clan has been represented at each of the International Gathering of the Clans, including memorably that of 1951, which included the march of 1000 pipers down Princes Street in Edinburgh. The most successful, including those of 1977 and 2009, have been centred in Edinburgh, but others have been in Glasgow and Inverness, with the Macleans always represented.

A special feature of the Association has been arranging gatherings at Duart, or expeditions to visit the chief there. These included one for Sir Fitzroy, the 26th Chief's hundredth birthday in 1935. While an organised tour of the clan lands was arranged in 1973 and again in 1977, it was the gatherings at Duart and Mull that have consistently been highlights of the Associations activities.

In 1986, to mark Lord Maclean's 50th anniversary as chief, a Gathering was called by Sir Fitzroy for two nights, based at Craignure. This developed,



Duart, 2017

with the enthusiastic support of Sir Lachlan, into much larger week-long Gatherings centred on Tobermory, and with expeditions ranging over the

(Continued on page 10)



When the Macleans gathered at Lichd Lee, on the Isle of Mull, in 2012, it was a social gathering where clansfolk from around the world could enjoy the company of their extended worldwide family.

But Lichd Lee, a defensible position on Ben More, was the site where Clan Maclean sharpened their swords on a rocky outcrop before heading into battle against the Macdonalds in about 1485, the start of a violent bloody feud which lasted 100 years.

Covid-19 restrictions dictate that we conduct ourselves differently in 2021, and so Clan Maclean will be gathering online for a week-long programme of events to celebrate the Clan's history and heritage, music and traditions with our international community.

The Crowberry



Clan MacLean's Badge

In fancy I tune, like some minstrel of your,
My harp upon Mull's rocky storm beaten shore,
And mingle my song on the badge of the brave.
With the cry of the gull and the sound of the wave.

Where the stream ever singing its lullaby flows,
In the depths of the corry the crowberry grows,
The eyes that behold it, the feet that come near
Are few, save the hunters in quest of the deer.

The Chief of
Clan Maclean
is a Trustee
ex officio

Heritage Trust Governance

The manner of appointment of trustees is detailed in our Deed of Trust. The Chief of Clan Maclean is a Trustee ex officio, as is the President of the Clan Maclean Association.

The Chief appoints one Trustee. The Clan Maclean Association nominates two trustees.

Other trustees are co-opted by the Trust as and when it is thought that extra skills are needed. Trustees, apart from the ex-

officio trustees, normally serve for a five-year term.

Trust Representatives are appointed by the Associations of the Clan who do not have a Trustee from their Association.

The role of a Trust Representative is to assist the Trust in the achievement of its objectives by:

(a) Recruiting new Friends, encouraging donations and legacies, and promoting the sale

of Trust books, maps and other merchandise, thus generating revenue for the Trust enabling new projects to be undertaken.

(b) Identifying suitable projects in which the Trust could become involved, including watching for endangered Maclean heritage where protective action may be required.

Names of Trustees and Trust Representatives can be found on the back page.

The Crowberry (Continued)

Yet round it is clustered in story and song,
The deeds of the daring, the feats of the strong,
The flap of the sail, and the stroke of the oar,
The gleam of the axe, and the flash of the claymore.

Ere the pen of the writer recorded the fray,
Or history's twilight gave place unto day,
It loomed through the lzy treadditions of old
Adorning the brows of the lead and the bold.

When chieftain or monarch the standard appeared,
In battle's grim forefront it always appeared -
In the wars of Prince Charles, Dundee and Montrose
Mongst the badges that clustered around the "White Rose."

On fateful Glenlivet's historic dark day,
Stout, brave were its wearers, unmatched in the fray,
Though foes were triumphant and allies were gone,
Maintaining the hopeles grim struggle alone.

Those clansmen who followed, those chieftains who led,
Have still mongst their offspring a voice, though dead,
And Gillean's brave children, as of old,
The fame of their race, and their island uphold.

- The stubborn stand made by the MacLeans at the Battle of Glenlivet, when other clans who followed Argyle were beaten and driven off the field, is a remarkable instance of the valour of the doubty sons of Gillean.

Angus MacKintosh, Hatfield; 1898

- The badge used by the Virtual Gathering also uses the crowberry, together with the laurel.

The earliest record of the crowberry being included in a Maclean badge is Skene's 'Highlanders of Scotland' of 1836 which states under Clan Gilleeon: Badge – Blackberry Heath. This is copied in 1875 by Keltie, the 'History of the Highland Clans' which states: Badge – Blackberry Heath.

'Blackberry heath' is the same as 'Crowberry Heath'.

The Battle of Glenlivet of 1594 is considered a religious conflict between the Catholic and Protestant forces.

Attempting to unify Scotland, James VI of Scotland issued a decree of 12th November 1593, ordering Catholics to resign their faith or depart the country. The Catholic forces of the George Gordon, 2nd Marquess of Huntly and the Earl of Errol defeated the Protestant forces of the Earl of Argyll. Sir Lachlan Mor Maclean, 14th Chief lead the Macleans fighting for King James.

Clan Maclean Virtual Gathering (Continued)



The Chief on the battlements of Duart Castle in a scene from a new film 'The Ghost Walk' which will be available exclusively in the Virtual Clan Gathering

(Continued from page 7)

clan lands from trips to Coll, Morvern, and Ardgour, to Iona, Carnaburg and Inch Kenneth, but always with a Gathering at Duart. These have been held over the next 25 years, every 5 years from 1992, when the Association celebrated its 100th anniversary.

In 2012, over 1000 people attended for the Great Gathering, the Centenary of the first Gathering in 1912. The 2017 Gathering commemorated 125 years of the Clan Maclean Association with Macleans from around the world again coming together on the Isle of Mull

In 2021, led by the clan chief, Sir Lachlan Maclean of Duart, clansmen and women

from around the world will enjoy a programme of musical performances, interviews, story-telling, virtual tours of Duart Castle with behind the scenes exclusive films, and more.



The event is free to attend, and registration opens on Tuesday 8th June

over 1000
people
attended
the Great
Gathering

Caledonia songwriter to record for clan gathering

Dougie Maclean, famous for writing the Scottish folk ballad Caledonia, is to record a new music video for the Maclean Clan Gathering event in June.



Dougie Maclean performing at the
2012 International Gathering

The event will take place online between 22 and 26 June and will feature a wealth of talent, including the famous Maclean Brothers who broke three world records in 2019 rowing the Atlantic.

A varied and interesting programme of events will provide entertainment for the hundreds planning to attend, including behind-the-scenes tours of Duart Castle, a virtual ceilidh, and talks from renowned whisky experts Charlie and Hector Maclean. Event-goers will also enjoy a selection of song and dance with wonderful support from Mull musicians and other contributions from around the world.

Our Clan Chief, Sir Lachlan Maclean of Duart, said “We are delighted that Dougie Maclean is recording a new music video for our event. His famous Caledonia was written when he was homesick for Scotland. Our Clan Gathering is more important than ever in these difficult times, to come together to reinforce our common bond of family and fellowship. We have a superb line up of events celebrating the Clan’s history and heritage, music and traditions.

“Previous gatherings have attracted almost 1,000 people from around the globe. This year’s virtual event is set to be even bigger as many more clan family members will be able to attend from every corner of the world and we look forward to welcoming everyone.”



Clan Maclean Heritage Trust

Trustees

Very Rev Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch (Chairman)
Hon. Sir Lachlan Maclean of Duart and Morvern (Past Chairman)
Mrs Fiona Maclean of Ardgour
Mr Hector McLean
Mrs Vera MacLean
Mrs Anne Maclean of Dochgarroch
Brigadier John Macfarlane
Mr William Douglas
Mr Ian MacLean (Canada)
Mr Alan McLean (France)
Mr Mark Myers (California)
Mr Peter Maclean Docherty

Trust Representatives

Peter MacLean (Western Australia),
Marcus MacLean (New South Wales),
Pat McClean (Pacific North-West),
Gordon McLean (Clan Maclean Association in Australia)

Secretary and Treasurer

William Douglas has continued as Secretary of the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust.

The work of Treasurer is being undertaken by William Douglas.

Principal address

The Gables, Station Road, Balfron, Glasgow G63 0SX

The Clan Maclean Heritage Trust is a Scottish Charity, Registered No: SC024481