

Clan Maclean Heritage Trust

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Céad míle fáilte

A hundred thousand welcomes to the second issue of the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust's newsletter, incorporating elements of the Chairman's annual report.

With 2016 barely underway, we are already looking forward to the International Clan Gathering being held in June

2017, on the Isle of Mull.

An exciting programme includes a very special visit to Duart Castle, exclusive to Friends of the Heritage Trust, hosted by the Chief, who will talk to us about the building and restoration of the castle.

Various displays will be laid on and there will be time for tea with the Chief.

Tercentenary Commemoration of the Battle of Sheriffmuir, 13th November 2015

We had been warned by Society Secretary, Anne Maclean of Dochgarroch, that the going was likely to be heavy underfoot and that we should come suitably shod and clad. How right she was!

The event began with lunch at the Sheriffmuir Inn, which was substantial and sustaining. Soon after we clambered into the minibuses, kindly laid on by the Association, and travelled over the Muir to reach the roadside site of the Macrae memorial cairn, to which Macraes make annual pilgrimage.

After a welcome and suitable introduction from Jim MacRae, white wreaths and

We are grateful to
Lois MacDonell of Glengarry
for this contribution



**The 1745 Association
memorial at Sheriffmuir**

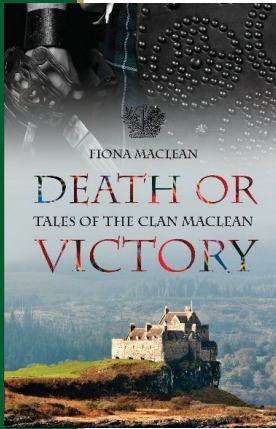
many individual white roses were laid in tribute and Piper Jimi McCrae bravely played a lament, despite the rain and the cold.

Just nearby is a small cairn

which was erected by the 1745 Association to commemorate all who fell that day. Gathering there, we were given service sheets by Association representative Glen MacDonald and were led in prayer by Canon Bob Harley, Rector of St Mary's Kirriemuir, before singing the 23rd Psalm and hearing a rendering of 'Allan Waters', both read and written by James King. Further prayers were followed by the laying of wreaths by Mike Niven, for The 1745 Association, and John Nicols, for The 15 Northumbrian Jacobite Society. A moment's silence was followed by playing of 'Lament for the Children'.

(Continued on Page 4)

Death or Victory



Sales of *Death or Victory*, a light-hearted re-telling of twenty-one of the Clan's stories, have continued to contribute to the Trust's income.

The book was commissioned by the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust in memory of Sir Lachlan's first wife Mary, who died in 2007. Proceeds from the sale of the book go to support further projects that reflect her keen interest in children.

Death or Victory can be ordered through the Maclean.org website.

Charitable purposes

"it commemorates famous events in the history of the Clan by erecting cairns on relevant sites"

The Drimnin cairn, erected in 1996.



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;

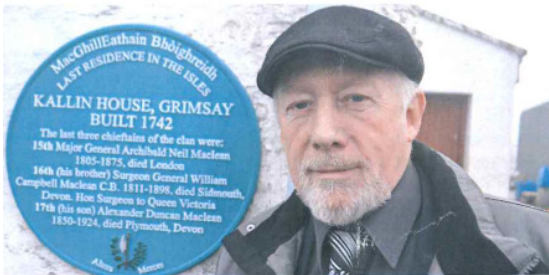
(e) it produces publications, and maintains a website, that educate the public in the history and traditions of the Clan Maclean, as well as promoting other educational activities relating to the history and culture of the Clan;

(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.

Macleans of Boreray Plaque



A plaque has been erected by Peter Maclean Docherty on Kallin House on the island of Grimsay to commemorate the links with the Macleans of Boreray.

Peter Maclean Docherty has family connections with the Macleans of Boreray and the Macleans of Ardnatraban. He said: "The Macleans have a 400 year his-

tory in Uist and were one of the biggest employers. I wanted to record this before it gets lost."

The plaque commemorates the last three heads of the Macleans of Boreray, Major General Archibald Neil Maclean, his brother Surgeon General William Campbell Maclean CB and his son Alexander Duncan Maclean, a tea planter in Ceylon.

The project was supported by Trustee Fiona Maclean of Ardgour

This article first appeared on the Trust's Facebook page.

Financial Report

The income for the Trust for the year ending 31st March 2015 was £8,257. The Friends' subscriptions rose from £1,042 in the year to March 2014 to £1,423 in the current year, although with donations reducing the total donations were £21 lower at £2,160. The trading income increased to £2,154 with increased sales of the book *Death or Victory*.

The most significant change for the current year was the redemption of the War Loan Stock in which the Fitzroy Maclean Fund was invested. Under the 'receipts and payments' basis of accounting that we use, this generated an increase in receipts of £3,775. This increased the total receipts to £8,257, compared to £4,321 in the previous year. The former total is however artificial, as the stock was previously in our balance sheet at its market value of £3,147. Our real gain was therefore £628, making our net total receipts £5,110.

Reserves

The result for the year ending 31st March 2015 was a surplus of £4,716, or £2,569 after adjusting for the stock as above, which was a significant increase on the previous year's £950. It is the Trustees intention to use some of our reserves in 2017 when the next Clan Gathering takes place on Mull. The trustees are confident that the Trust is in a sound financial state for the future projects.



Commemorating Sheriffmuir (continued)

The Chief with his fellow Trustees, Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch, Hector McLean and Brig John MacFarlane at the Gathering Stone



"Brigadier John Macfarlane read Là Sliabh an t-Siorraim"

It was not until we left the road and the weather conditions worsened to sleet that the group began to realize what it had let itself in for, as the path petered out and the land became seriously boggy. The realization of how it might have been three hundred years earlier inevitably came to mind quite starkly.

It probably took about a quarter of an hour to reach the 'Gathering Stone', which is a low horizontal boulder covered by a somewhat fear-some-looking

metal cage. Everyone gathered round in a circle and The Very Rev. Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch, standing in for the AHCS Chairman, Graeme Mackenzie, welcomed everyone and explained that the stone was probably a fallen over Standing Stone which long pre-dated the Battle. Nonetheless, it

created a very particular place in which to honour those who had fallen all those years ago. There certainly was a very special atmosphere in that remote moorland location.

Brigadier John Macfarlane read, in both Gaelic and English, Là Sliabh an t-Siorraim, A Song to the Battle of Sheriffmuir, and The Rev Colin Renwick, Minister at Dunblane Cathedral, led the company in prayer. The Earl of Mar and Kellie was the first to lay a wreath, followed by wreaths from Clans Campbell, Chattan, Donald, Maclean, Macpherson, Stewart and Urquhart and from the AHCS, and a pine branch laid by MacAulay. A lament 'The Battle of Sheriffmuir' was played by Kyle Orr, who had learned this less well known tune specially for the occasion.

Following the ceremony, Sir Lachlan Maclean of Duart and Morven asked everyone to look for his lost sgian dubh, which had belonged to his great-grandfather. Amazingly it was found! Afternoon tea back at the Inn was extremely welcome, helping us to warm up cold fingers, dry out and share with others the enjoyment of a memorable and worthwhile day.

The Battle of Sheriffmuir

On the 10th November 1715, the Earl of Mar took his full army south to march on Stirling Castle. The Duke of Argyll was soon informed of this development and he marched his forces to meet with his opponent.

The Jacobite army outnumbered Argyll's forces by three-to-one numbering around 4000 men and was camped to the north of Dunblane at Kinbuck, while the Government troops, numbering 1000, were in the town of Dunblane. Both armies sent scouts to the high ground on Sheriffmuir on the morning of 13th November and spotted each other.

There then followed a series of hasty marches: the Government troops up the hill from Newton past Dykedale and the Jacobites from the North. Both armies lined up on roughly the location of the modern-day road to The Sheriffmuir Inn, which at the time was surrounded by boggy ground.

Continues on the next page

They were fighting once again for their existence as clans

Grants

In November 2014, the Trust made a donation of £500 to replace railings at Hector Maclean's monument on Islay.

Hector MacLean of Ballymartin was a schoolmaster who taught John Francis Campbell and helped him to assemble his famous collection of *The Popular Tales of the West Highlands*, published between 1860 and 1862, which saved an important part of Gaelic's oral tradition for posterity. His memorial monument at Ballygrant on Islay has been cleaned and the railings replaced.



A grant was also made to the Mull Museum, which maintains the Trust Library and Archives. Friends of the Heritage Trust may access the Archives on request.

In the financial year to 31st March 2014, there was one payment from the Lady Maclean Fund to Broadford Primary School, Isle of Skye to help them compete at the Mull Mòd

The Trustees are grateful to those who have contributed to the Lady Maclean Fund during the course of the year

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

Continued from previous page

In Sir Fitzroy Maclean of Dunconnel's book entitled *Scotland: A Concise History* it states: “*The Macleans and MacDonalds were on the right of the Jacobite line. They were fighting once again for their existence as clans against their hereditary enemies, the all-pervading Campbells. ‘Gentlemen’ said Maclean of Duart, a veteran of Killiecrankie, placing himself at the head of his Clan and looking across to where Argyll had drawn up his troops over against them, ‘This is a day we have long wished to see. Yonder stands Mac Chailein Mor for King George. Here stands Maclean for King James. God bless Maclean and King James. Gentlemen, charge.’*”

The Jacobites' left flank was mired in the bog and was chased by the Government's right flank back to Kinbuck, while the Jacobites' right flank chased the Government's left flank down to the Wharry Burn. Despite the Jacobite forces overwhelming numbers, the battle was inconclusive, with both sides claiming victory. However, in strategic terms, Argyll had halted the Jacobite advance. On the same day as the Battle of Sheriffmuir, Inverness surrendered to Hanoverian forces, and a smaller Jacobite force led by Mackintosh of Borlum was defeated at Preston. The military expression of the Jacobite cause was to wait for 30 years for another chance to claim the Scottish throne.

Brigadier John MacFarlane

Brigadier John MacFarlane was born and brought up in Tobermory, Isle of Mull, where his first language was - and still is - Gaelic.



Brigadier John
at Lichlee, 2012

After an education in Tobermory School, Oban High School and the University of Glasgow, where he graduated in Modern Languages, he served for over thirty years in the British Army and retired as Ministry of Defence Director of Education and Training Services (Army).

During his career, he was primarily a linguistic specialist and spent much of his time in language and intelligence related posts both in the United Kingdom and on active service overseas.

He spent nine years with the Brigade of Gurkhas, serving with soldiers from Nepal who enlist in their own units of the British Army and are probably the best infantry in the world.

After leaving the Army in 1994, Brigadier MacFarlane held posts in the Arab world but has now returned to live in Argyll.

At his home in Taynuilt, he lives with his artist wife, Valerie and with any members of his grownup family who happen to be visiting.

He enjoys a part-time third career in national Gaelic broadcasting, both TV and radio, where he finds his Argyll Gaelic and knowledge of local folklore to be an asset.

An amateur local historian with a particular interest in local place names, he is a devoted hill-walker and very occasional trout fisherman.

He plays a leading role in many local organisations and sings bass in the Taynuilt Gaelic Choir and in the choir of St Johns Episcopal Cathedral Oban where he is an enthusiastic member of the congregation.

Brigadier John joined the Board of Trustees in March 2015.

Sir Harry Aubrey de Vere Maclean - The Kaid

The Clan Maclean Heritage Trust has two main categories for the projects that we are developing as part of our programme to protect and preserve the clan's heritage. There are many that we are considering, and those that are in hand. In addition to current projects in Canada, the USA and Scotland, there is one in Morocco.

General Sir Harry Aubrey de Vere Maclean (Kaïd) KCMG (1848–1920) was a Scottish soldier, and instructor to the Moroccan Army.

Alan McLean, a resident of France and a Trustee, has been working for some time to ensure that The Kaid's history is preserved.

Various heirlooms of the Kaïd Sir Harry Maclean, including his ceremonial sword, pistol and Matriculation of Arms are now housed for the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust at the Isle of Mull Museum (Below). But there are matters to be dealt with in Morocco.

Alan is working with the local parties in Tangier, Morocco to:

- (a) organise the cleaning, restoration and ongoing protection of the portrait of the Kaïd in the Caid's Piano Bar in the El-Minzah Hotel, Tangier
- (b) persuade the Moroccan authorities to restore and maintain the Kaïd's former residence, Palais Maclean, also in Tangier and
- (c) prepare a leaflet to be provided in the Church

of St Andrew, in Tangier, explaining the Kaid's impressive tomb.

The Kaid began his military career in the 69th (South Lincolnshire) Regiment of Foot in 1869. He was dispatched overseas to fight the Fenians in Canada. In 1877, Maclean went to Morocco and began his career as an army instructor for the Sultan Mulai Hassan. He gained the trust of the Sultan of Morocco and his successor Moulay Abdelaziz through his service and fought against opposing tribes throughout Morocco. During his career, he was kidnapped and held for ransom after a failed first attempt. He visited the forbidden city of Tafilalt, and eventually became commander of the Sultan of Morocco's Army, and his confidant.

Although he was loyal to his employer to a fault, he was regarded as an unofficial British agent in the United Kingdom. He was in June 1901 appointed a Knight Commander of the Order of St Michael and St George (KCMG) by King Edward VII when he was attached to a Special diplomatic mission from Morocco to the United Kingdom.



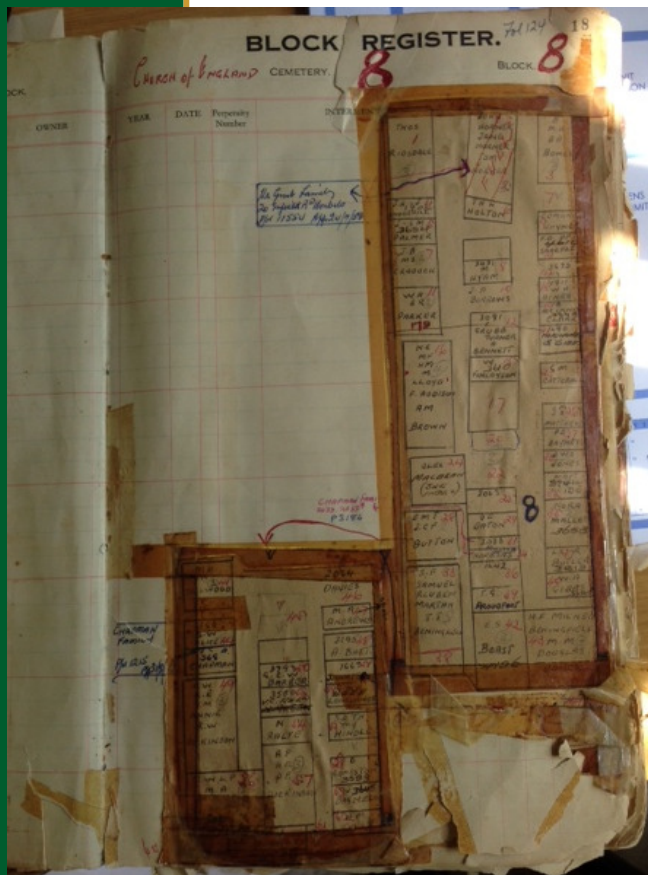
The Kaid's sword and pistol, coat of arms, bookplate and other heirlooms can be viewed in the Mull Museum

The Lost Grave of Alexander Maclean of Coll

In South Africa as the guest of Douglas friends, it seemed a good opportunity to follow up a story I had heard about the lost grave of Alexander Maclean of Coll. We set aside a day for Maclean heritage, and in the heat of the mid-day sun, set out to locate the reportedly unmarked grave.

Time, they say, spent in reconnaissance is seldom wasted and if I had known

then what I know now, my investigation might have been more successful.



Alexander Maclean, eldest son of Hugh of Coll, succeeded his father as representative of the descendants of John Garbh. He was 'tall and athletic, modest, and full of kindness'. He emigrated to South Africa in 1849. He died at Umgeni, near Durban, on Sunday afternoon, July 11th, 1875 and was buried in St Pauls Cemetery.

Hugh, who had fallen seriously into debt after buying estates on Mull, sent many of his tenantry to the United States and contemplated sending more to Natal, in Africa, in 1849. His sons, Alexander and William were sent there to buy land. A sugar plantation was acquired and a few tenants emigrated. Subsequently, in 1856, Hugh had to sell off his estates, and consequently he was the last Laird of Coll - a

claim that seems to have been made for more than one Laird. Indeed, John Patterson Maclean's A History of the Clan MacLean states of Alexander: 'He was never married. In him the family of Coll, in the direct line, became extinct'.

The obituary in the Natal Colonist records that he was 'a considerable traveller, having visited South America and British Columbia. He was also one of the earliest visitors to the Diamond Fields, but he invariably returned to Natal after these more or less protracted absences'.

Alexander and William were sent to buy land

Alexander's Grave (continued)

Nicholas Maclean Bristol, in From Clan to Regiment, write that: 'Alexander had emigrated and found himself north of Durban where he bartered beads for ngunis (black cattle) with the Zulu tribes. His father had always intended him to become a merchant but the older Coll would never have envisaged it in the Kingdom of the Zulus.

I knew that "Exor to the late Alexander McLean Esq" (by payment for Mr Thos. Drew Undertaker) the sum of Six Pounds six shillings for the purchase of a plot of ground in the St Paul's Church Cemetery'. However, the original St Paul's was destroyed by a fire. However, I had discovered that St Paul's Church Cemetery was now incorporated into the West Street Cemetery and so it was there we searched for the grave.

KwaZulu Natal's Durban street names now bear names to honour heroes of the liberation struggle, the likes of North Coast Road and Old Main Road are a thing of the past. And West Street is now Dr Pixley Kaseme Street. With old names on my map and new names on

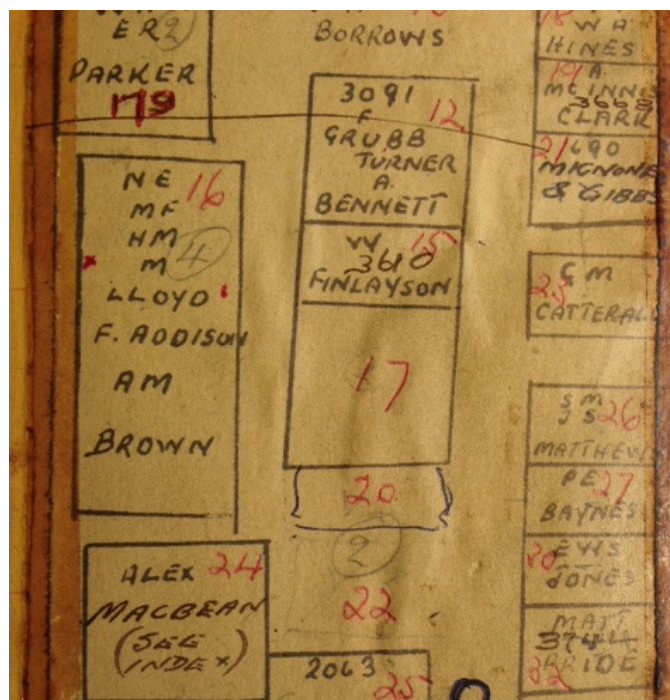
the street signs, we overcame the one-way system and eventually found a way into the Church of England section of the cemetery through the Muslim section, helped by a Muslim cleric.

The helpful Superintendent opened some dusty record books and we soon found the entries in the register. Listed as Alex MacBean, Alexander Maclean's grave was apparently in Block 8 lair 24. Off we set, clutching the register, to locate first Block 8 and then the grave. However, search as we did, we were unable to locate the site. Flagging from the heat, we gave up the search.

Subsequently, we received a text message from the Superintendent to say that he had located the grave. But by then we were in Cape Town.

Colin G. Garvie, a descendant of the Macleans of Coll, resides in Durban. He has located the grave which lies between the Benningfield and Lloyd plots (see image). Had I studied his report from his investigations, I might have got closer to finding the spot.

William Douglas
Secretary CMHT



A extract from the West St Cemetery register

Commemorating “John Ross”



Henry and Beverley McLean laid a wreath to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Charles Rawden Maclean at the John Ross statue in Durban, South Africa in October 2015. Also known as "John Ross", Charles Rawden Maclean, as a lad of 15 years of age (to quote the plaque in Durban) in 1827 braving the perils of an unexplored land inhabited by an unknown people and abounding in wild animals walked with great courage from Part Natal to Delagoa Bay and back (a distance of 600 miles) in order to obtain sorely needed medicines for pioneers at the Bay of Natal.

Charles Rawden Maclean, the son of Francis Maclean and Charlotte Walker, was born in Fraserburgh on 17th August 1815.

The Trustees are grateful to Beverley who has donated two copies of 'The Natal Papers of John Ross' to the Archives, held in Mull Museum.

Colonel Sir Fitzroy Donald Maclean, 10th Baronet of Duart and Morvern, KCB, 6th Lord Maclean and 26th Chief of the Clan Maclean

Fitzroy Maclean Fund

The Sir Fitzroy Donald Maclean Bursary Fund, referred to in the financial report, was endowed on 22 July 1930 with a donation from Sir Fitzroy, the 26th Chief of Clan Maclean. It was originally established to allow young people to continue with their higher education at school, when family finances would otherwise have meant that they had to go out to work. By the 1980s and 1990s these objectives, which had been slightly amended, could no longer be fulfilled, and in any case the advertising was costing almost as much as the income.



When the Clan Maclean Association set up the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust, it did so with funds it already possessed termed the Special Projects or Heritage Fund. To these were added the Sir Fitzroy Donald Maclean Bursary Fund with a changed purpose which means that the fund is neither restricted nor designated.

The capital is held as an 'expendable endowment'. The War Loan Stock in which the Fitzroy Maclean Fund was invested has been wound up by the government.

New media

The Clan Maclean Heritage Trust has had a presence on the internet for some time, with our own section on the clan website:

www.macleandotorg.

To reach the Trust's section, it is just a matter of clicking on the link on the menu to the left of the page.

Here, prospective members can join the trust and existing members

can re-new their subscriptions.

But the website is also a medium for us to share our achievements, review events and purchase from our bookshop - and much more.

New in 2014 is our Facebook group. Designed with the young in mind, the page seems to be attracting interest from 'silver haired surfers' as well.

Still developing, and learning as we go, we recognise that there is a need for help with genealogy, for which those involved with site do not have the expertise. The Trustees will be giving consideration to how to address this.

Join the group at:
www.facebook.com/ClanMacleanHeritageTrust



*“there is a
need for help
with
genealogy”*

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.



Clan Maclean Heritage Trust

Trustees

Sir Lachlan Maclean of Duart and Morvern (Chairman)

Mr Nigel Alington

The Very Rev Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch

Mrs Fiona Maclean of Ardgour

Mr Hector McLean

Mrs Vera MacLean

Mr Ian MacLean (Canada)

Mr Alan McLean (France)

Judge Sandra L. McLean (USA)

Mr Noel Robinson (New Zealand)

Brigadier John MacFarlane

Trust Representatives

Peter MacLean (Western Australia)

Marcus MacLean (New South Wales)

Pat McClean (Pacific North-West)

Gordon McLean (Clan Maclean Association in Australia Inc.)

Dr Leslie H. McLean (Clan Gillean USA).

Secretary and Treasurer

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

The work of Treasurer is still being undertaken by Nigel Alington .

However, a new Treasurer is required from April 2016

Principal address

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

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