



Clan Maclean Heritage Trust

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 1

FEBRUARY 2017

Céad míle fáilte

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Welcome to our special piping edition of the Friends of Clan Maclean newsletter. Our main article was first shared with

Friends in 2003. We have chosen to re-issue the article as the Trust will be investing in the promotion of piping, particularly amongst

the young, this year. This edition also contains elements of the Chairman's annual report. A full copy is available upon request.

The Piping Tradition of Clan Maclean

The Clan Maclean [Ciann Gill Eoin] came to prominence in the 14th century due to the patronage of the Lords of the Isles. Following the forfeiture of the Lords in 1493, the Maclean chiefs established their own households and courts, and the clan became the dominant family in Mull, Morvern, Ardgour, Coll and Tiree and various adjacent lands and islands. Some of the family settled further afield, but for Macleans everywhere, Mull and around, is home.

The years of expansion, were followed by dol sios Chlionn Ghill-



Pipe Major William Maclean was the Chief's piper between 1913 and 1932. He had played at the 1912 gathering at Duart

Eathain, the years of decline, as the clan, and particularly the chiefs, were caught between the claims and power of the Campbells and the

Macdonalds. The clan's support for the Stuarts was to seal its ultimate downfall. Through all these difficulties, the clan produced a series of well-known poets and gifted musicians.

The Chief of the name is Maclean of Duart and Morvern, and lives at Duart Castle on the Island of Mull, and MacLaine of Lochbuie lived at Moy Castle. Other chieftains and major families are the Macleans of Ardgour, Coll, Dochgarroch, Drimnin, Kingairloch, Pennycross and Torloisk. Among the various families associated

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In 2007, during the International Gathering on Mull, a cairn was unveiled at Kilninian, on the Torloisk Estate



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.

Friends of the Heritage Trust

The number of friends in the year to the 31st March 2016 was 27. This number is split between 11 individual members and 16 family members.

The membership has remained steady over the past year with ear-

ly indications showing an increase in the current year due to the Gathering at Duart in June 2017.

Note: Many new members have since joined the Trust — Editor.

Tobermory High School Pipe Band



The band will be playing at the Gathering in June 2017

The Trustees are keen to promote piping in schools, and are pleased to be able to support the Tobermory High School Pipe Band.

Tobermory High School Pipe Band has been developing since the 2014-15 school year and made their debut at the Scottish Schools Pipe Band Championships in March 2016. They came third out of ten schools in their category. This is an excellent achievement for a band that have only been together for a short time.

A grant of £500 has been made towards the cost of band uniforms. 17 kilts have been purchased in the Hunting Maclean tartan.

Friends Reception

Friends of the Trust are invited to a reception every five years. In 2017, the event will be held at Duart, and is already proving very popular.

The event, on Friday 23rd June, includes an illustrated talk by the conservation architect; private guided Tour of the Castle; craftsmanship displays and tea with the Chief. The event is exclusive to Friends.



If you are an existing Friend, i.e. you did not sign up as part of the Gathering registration process, please inform the Secretary if you plan to attend the Reception. Email: cmht@maclean.org

Piping Tradition (continued)



James MacLean was the Chief's piper from 2003 until recently. He was first involved with the Clan Maclean Association in 2001 when he played at the unveiling of the Battle of Inverkeithing cairn

Of Sir Lachlan Maclean, in
'S ann Di-Ciadaín an La,
by Eachann Bacach Maclean
(floruit c. 1650)

(Continued from page 1)

with the Clan Maclean are Beaton, MacCormick, MacFadyen and MacGilvra, as well as the Rankins, who are believed to be descended from the same stock as the Macleans.

The Rankins were the hereditary pipers to the Macleans of Duart. Tradition states that the first

Rankin to pipe for his chief Cu-duiligh MacRiang, was trained in Ireland. He founded what is thought to be the first piping college in Scotland, at Kilbrennan, on Mull, and the school was maintained by these hereditary pipers until about 1760. The Rankins and the MacCrimmons of Skye were on good terms, at one point intermarrying, and the Rankins used to go to Skye to complete their own musical education, while the MacCrimmons reciprocated by completing theirs at Kilbrennan. With the fall in fortunes of the chief, the Rankins became pipers to the

Macleans of Coll. The last of the hereditary pipers, Neil Rankin, played for Dr. Johnson on Coll in 1773.

The first recorded prize winning Maclean piper was Neil MacLean who won first prize at the Falkirk competition of 1783. He was later appointed piper to the Highland Society of London. In modern times the rich tradition of Maclean pipe music and of outstanding pipers, has continued not just from amongst Macleans themselves but also from the septs of the clan such as the Beatons and the MacFadyens.

The Clan Maclean Heritage Trust was founded in part to maintain and enhance the Maclean

piping tradition. In association with the Trust, Mrs Beatrice MacLean has sponsored the Clan Maclean part of the main Piping Hall at the College of Piping, Glasgow, in memory of her father-in-law Pipe Major Hector MacLean, from Oban and Mull, who was piper to the Chief and the Clan Maclean 1932-1968, her husband, Professor Hector MacLean and her daughter, Mrs Lynn Lambie, who were both very active on the Clan Mac-

*Nuair a spreagagh sibh pìob
'S fuaime bhur creach ga cur sìos
Gum, biodh criih air an fìr an tachradh sibh*

*When you would start up the pipe,
With the sound of your forays drowning it out,
The land where you happened to be would tremble.*

Grants

The Lady Maclean Fund was established, within the Heritage Trust, in order to direct donations made in memory of the Chief's first wife, Mary, to certain specific causes, especially those relating to children.

In 2016, the annual grant to help a local choir to go to the Mull and Iona Mòd was made to



Comunn Gaidhealach Mhuile, the Mod club run by Riona White who lives in Salen. The Trustees have decided to continue the annual grant programme at £100pa.

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.

Recent additions to the archives include:

- Ruari McLean: True to type – A typographical autobiography
- R.W. Munro & Alan MacQuarrie: Clan MacQuarrie – A history
- Nigel Alington: Macleans of Sweden - portraits, coats of arms and other items

The Trustees are enormously grateful to Jean Whittaker, the Museum Archivist, who has been very helpful to the Trust over many years, but has now handed over her responsibilities.

The Trusts only other expenditure during FY 2015/2016 was providing wreaths for Charles Rawden Maclean and to remember those who have fought and died at the Battle of Sheriffmuir.

Former Trustee, Brian McLean

Brian McLean 2 January 1929 to 29 December, 2016.

A large group of mourners attended the funeral of Brian McLean on Wednesday, January, 2017 at the Baptist Church in Riverton, Western Australia.

Brian was a former Trustee of the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust and a life member of the Association in Western Australia.

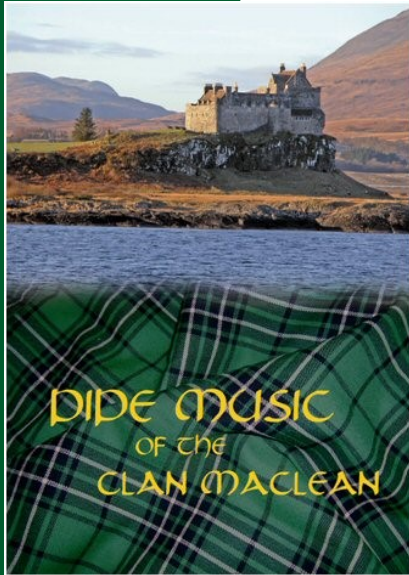
Caitlin McLean played the piano as people arrived and then the three other granddaughters Lauren (flute), Elise (cello) & Grace (clarinet) joined her in playing beautifully a medley of Scottish tunes well-known to Brian.

Peter led the casket into the church with pallbearers Douglas McLean (brother), Murray & Don McLean (sons) Neil Hendry (son-in-law), Michael McLean and James Hendry (grandsons). Kathryn McLean (granddaughter) was the banner bearer.

Elder son Murray McLean read from the Psalms and younger son Donald did the eulogy, followed by Peter speaking on behalf of Clan Maclean (WA & world-wide).



The Pipe Music of Clan Maclean



*"The book
includes
comprehensive
"Notes on the
tune"*

The bursary is awarded every five years and helps to pay for tuition and accommodation.

In addition to including a selection of music from the previous publication, David Glen's 1900 collection "The Music of Clan Maclean", this book collects together for the first time a selection of Maclean pipe music composed since then. Some of this more recent music has been composed by Macleans or by members of the septs of the Clan, such as the Beaton, MacFadyens and Rankins. Other tunes are about individual Macleans or about

Maclean lands, such as Mull, Coll, Tiree, Morvern, Ardgour, Muck and Glen Urquhart. The book demonstrates clearly the continuing strength of the Maclean piping tradition.

From an original list of over 230 tunes, 76 were chosen for this book. The selection of the tunes caters for all levels of player, from the novice to the piobair-eachd player and the MSR (Marches, Strathspeys and Reels) competitor. They include some interesting and rarely heard piobaireachds.

The book, unusually, includes comprehensive "Notes on the tune", covering the background to the music and the composers. It also draws attention to the Army's piping influence, which runs through the titles of many of the tunes.

A chapter on the "Piping Tradition of the Clan Maclean" traces the pipers to the Chief of the Clan from 1900 onwards and highlights the well-known Clan medal

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clan maclean heritage trust piping Bursary 3 - 7 april 2017

The Clan Maclean Heritage Trust will award a worldwide Piping Bursary in 2017 to a promising MacLean (or Sept of the Clan MacLean) piper.

The bursary will consist of one week tuition at the College of Piping, Otago Street, Glasgow, Scotland with accommodation provided.

Candidates will be competent pipers who can demonstrate a commitment to improving their piping skills and whom the Selection Panel consider will best benefit from the bursary. The candidate should be between the age 16 and 25.

Application forms can be downloaded at:

<http://www.collegeofpiping.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/PIPING-BURSARY-APPLICATION-FORM-.pdf>

or by contacting John MacFarlane at:

john.m.macfarlane@btinternet.com

The closing date for entries is 24 February 2017



(Continued from page 6)

winners of the 20th Century.

Finally, there is an important historical review of the Rankins, who were the traditional pipers to the Clan Maclean and ran a College of Piping at Kilbrennan on Mull until the late 18th Century. In their day, the Rankins were significant in piping circles and had strong connections with the MacCrimmons and their College on Skye. In modern times they have not received the wider public recognition that other piping families have received, such as the Cummings, Mackays, MacCrimmons, MacArthurs and the MacIntyres. It is hoped that this book will help to restore the Rankins to their rightful place in the history of piping.

Even for non-pipers, this book appeals to anyone with an interest in the history, culture and traditions of the Clan Maclean and its septs. For pipers, both in the Clan Maclean and among the wider piping community, this book is an essential addition to their music collections.

What the reviews said

Piping Times, magazine of The College of Piping

'This book ... will be a required purchase for all those pipers who are members of the clan or affiliated to it.'

– Dugald MacNeill

'But I would also suggest that anyone interested in pipe music and the history of pipers will gain much from adding ... this excellent and attractive book ... to their collection.'

– Lt-Gen. Sir Peter Graham

Piping Today, magazine of The National Piping Centre

'Pipe Music of the Clan Maclean is a valuable addition to the library of any piper looking for repertoire or historical context.'

– Dr. Josh Dickson, Head of Scottish Music at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

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Heritage Trust Piping Bursary

Part of the Trust's policy of taking the Clan's heritage into the future has been the founding of a Piping Bursary for a young Maclean at the College of Piping in Glasgow. The bursary is awarded every five years and helps to pay for tuition and accommodation.

In 2007, the Maclean Piping Bursary was awarded to Nicholas McLean from Kilmartin in Argyll. The third bursary was awarded in 2012 to Jamie MacLean from Hillend in Midlothian, seen right playing at the Maclean Gathering in Paisley.

This project involves funding the tuition, and accommodation, for a young piper at Glasgow's College of Piping and is witness to the trustees' belief that Heritage is not just about the past, but about making it real in the present.



Pipe Music of Clan Maclean (continued))

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About the contributors

The book was compiled and edited by the late Lieutenant-Colonel Donald MacLean, assisted by James Beaton, the Librarian at the National Piping Centre in Glasgow. Donald and James are both former Trustees of the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust.

The original list of 230 tunes was chosen with the help of the College of Piping in Glasgow. The final selection was made by three distinguished pipers who had been personal Pipers to the Chief of the Clan Maclean, being Ian MacFadyen, Kenneth MacLean and James MacLean.

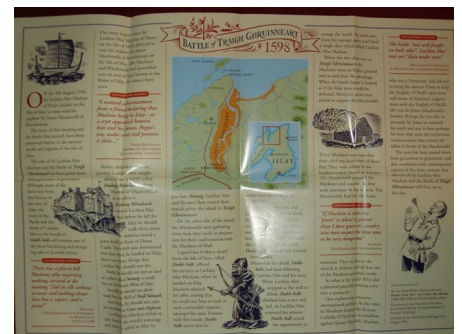
Iain MacInnes, who wrote the chapter on the piping traditions of the Rankins, is a Music Producer at BBC Scotland.

The Pipe Music of Clan Maclean can be ordered through our website bookshop:
<http://www.maclean.org/heritage-trust/bookshop.php>

Lament for Sir Lachlan Maclean

'Cumba Lachlainn Mhor' is a lament for Sir Lachlan MacLean, 14th of Duart, who along with hundreds of others was killed in the battle of Gruinart Strand on Islay in 1598.

The battle was between Clan Donald and Clan Maclean. According to legend, Lachlan was killed by an arrow fired by a dwarf known as Dubh Sith (Black Fairy). The tune is amongst 76 whose music and stories are contained in the book, 'Pipe Music of Clan Maclean'.



In 1998, the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust provided a storyboard for the site of the battle.

2017 International Gathering of the Clan

The Clan Maclean Association is organising the International Gathering on Mull from Tuesday 20th to Sunday 25th June 2017

The outline programme for the Gathering is as follows:-

Tuesday 20th June

- Lecture and items from MacDougall Collection, Oban

Wednesday 21st June

- Visit to Iona
- Visit to Drimnin
- Visit to Glengorm Castle
- Whisky Tasting in Aros Hall – 9.00 p.m. – 10.30 p.m.

Thursday 22nd June

- Visit to Iona
- Visit to Tiree
- Visit to Glengorm Castle
- Whisky Tasting in Aros Hall – 9.00 p.m. – 10.30 p.m.

Friday 23rd June

- Clan Congress, Maclean Marquee, Tobermory.
- Duart Castle, for Friends of the Heritage Trust (by invitation).
- Chief's Grand Ceilidh Concert, Maclean Marquee, Tobermory.

Saturday 24th June

- Main Clan Gathering, Duart Castle
- Grand Dance, Maclean Marquee, Tobermory.

Sunday 25th June

- 'Kirkin o' the Tartan' in Tobermory Parish Church

Further free day and evening activities will be available during the week.



The 1912 Gathering



The 2007 Gathering

Erratum

In our article in the autumn 2016 edition, we stated that Charles Maclean of Drimnin was a survivor from the Battle of Flodden. He was, of course, a survivor of Culloden, in 1746.

Apologies! - Editor

Private George McLean, Hero of Vimy Ridge

Private George McLean fought in World War I with the Canadian 54th Battalion at the critical battle of Vimy Ridge. He was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal for his bravery. The Official London Gazette citation said "Single-handed, he captured 19 prisoners, and later, when attacked by five more prisoners, who attempted to reach a machine gun, he was able, although wounded, to dispose of them unaided, thus saving a large number of casualties."

The Clan Maclean Heritage Trust, Clan Maclean Atlantic Canada, the Clan Maclean Association,



Pacific North West Branch, George's family, and the Upper Nicola Indian Band are working together to sponsor an event at which two storyboards, will be unveiled.

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Financial Report

Income



The income for the Trust for the year ending 31st March 2016 is £10,485 compared to income of £8256 in the year to the 31st March 2015. This increase included a very generous donation of £5000 made in memory of Doctor James McLean who for many years was the treasurer of the Trust.

The income from trading receipts was reduced as the sales of Death or Victory, Tales of the Clan Maclean and the clan maps have fallen.

Reserves

The result for the year ending 31st March 2016 was a surplus of £9161 compared with a surplus of £5716 for the year ending 31st March 2015. The Trustees are confident that the Trust is in a sound financial state for the funding of future projects.

A copy of the accounts is available upon request.

Trust Representatives

Trust Representatives are appointed to represent the Trust in those Associations in which the Trust is not represented by a Trustee.

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.

The Representatives are as follows:

Peter MacLean (Western Australia),
 Marcus MacLean (New South Wales),
 Pat McClean (Pacific North-West),
 Gordon McLean (Clan Maclean Association in Australia)
 Dr. Leslie H. McLean (Clan Maclean Association in the United States.)

Private George

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George, although known as a mild man, came from a stormy background. His ancestors came from two cultures, Clan Maclean, and the Okanagan Nation, both which honoured warriors. His father, Allen McLean, had been the leader of the infamous Wild McLean gang,

hanged with two of his brothers for the murders of a sheep herder and Constable John Ussher. George's mother Angele was the daughter of Chief Chillihetzia of the Douglas Lake Band, and the Grandniece of Nicola, Grand Chief of the Okanagan people. To add to his notable lineage, his grandfather, Donald McLean, was a former Hudson's Bay Chief Trader who was killed in an ambush while on an expedition against a group of Chilcotin Indians who had killed several members of a road-building party.

The official unveiling will be on Sunday, April 9 (the 100th anniversary of the battle of Vimy Ridge), with a reception the afternoon of April 8. Both events will be held at 1675 Tutill Court, Merritt, British Columbia. Friends of the Heritage Trust are invited to



Clan Maclean Heritage Trust

Trustees

Current 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

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 and William Douglas until a new Treasurer is appointed. This extra work undertaken by them has been very much appreciated by all the Trustees.

Principal address

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

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