



BattleAxe

Clan Maclean International Association

1912 ~ 2012

The
**Centenary
Gathering**
of the
Clan Maclean
at **Duart Castle**

Editorial

Marcus MacLean

For several years the face of a significant Maclean has embellished the cover of the BattleAxe, but this year's star is Duart Castle itself, the spiritual home of the Macleans.

2012 has arrived and, if you have not already done so, it's not too late to make your plans for the Centenary Gathering in June. The pages from last year's BattleAxe concerning the history of the 1912 Duart Gathering, and information on this year's Gathering have been repeated for your convenience.

In addition to the Association reports, there is an interesting item from Nicolas Maclean of Pennycross on the visit to Waterloo. Charlie MacLean has given us a piece on his appointment as 'Master of the Quaich'. Elizabeth Mclean Jenner has sent us a small item on a budding Maclean chef. Donald H Maclean has provided the announcement which set up the Clan Maclean International Association. Many will have forgotten the days of the International Branches, which preceded the change into Associations and the formation of CMIA .

The large number of photos has meant that there is not enough space to insert many captions. Several photo spreads are included. Sadly the graphics have suffered a bit in producing the low resolution version for the website. Please contact me or the source if you need access to any higher quality.

Our thanks to all our contributors for the articles, and the variety and quantity of the photos. Donald and I do hope you enjoy this year's BattleAxe.

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Centenary Gathering 2012

An Invitation to a significant Centenary

In 1912 the Chief of Clan Maclean, Sir Fitzroy Maclean, invited the clan to join him at Duart to celebrate with him the return of the castle to Maclean ownership. Invitations went out to Macleans both on Mull and around the world and nearly 700 clanspeople accepted his call and came to Duart. It was the first great clan gathering of any clan in modern times. As the central part of the occasion, the Chieftain of Ardgour hammered on the door of the ruined castle, saying:

Fhir Dhubhairt tha clann Illeathain a feitheamh a mach gu cur failte cirbh aim an luchairt ur Sionnsaireachd.

Chief of Duart! The Clan Maclean is waiting to give you welcome in the castle of your ancestors.



Sir Fitzroy then appeared and welcomed the clan, before proceeding to raise the Maclean flag from the battlements, for the first time in 221 years.

The castle had been taken over by the Campbells, used as government barracks, and for long been a ruin. The 1912 Gathering was a significant event in the history of the restoration of the castle as a home for the chief, and a shelter and rallying place for the clan.

Sir Fitzroy was an old man of 77 years in 1912, but he lived for a further 24 years to enjoy his family's return to Duart. The events and ceremonies of the weekend in 1912, included a ceilidh; a dance; a clan march headed by the marshals and chieftains of the clan, along with pipers; a welcome from the chief; the raising of the flag; a religious service; personal introductions to the chief and his family; solo piping; speeches in honour of the clan history; Gaelic recitations; activities round the castle; a lunch of several relays in a marquee; and a group photograph; but ultimately it was a Gathering of the Clan.

In 2012 all these items, and many new ones, will be included in the Centenary Gathering at Duart; along with a week of clan events based at Tobermory.

Sir Fitzroy greeted his clan with the ancient Highland welcome, 'Ceud mile failte' – a hundred thousand welcomes; and in June 2012 the clan will be welcomed with the same sentiment and happiness.





The Clan Maclean Association in Scotland is organising the Centenary Gathering on Mull from Monday 18th to Sunday 24th June 2012



The Reception Centre at the Aros Hall, Tobermory will be open throughout the Gathering. Co-located there will be the Clan Association Shop; the Heritage Trust Stand; the CMIA Desk; a Genealogy Unit; Coffee Shop and other Stalls.

Along with the detailed programme for the Gathering shown on the offline booking form and on the programme page, please also note the following:-

Evening Talks. There will be evening talks in the Aros Hall on the Tuesday and Wednesday and on Thursday, a walk through of Scottish Reels for the Grand Dance.

Coll Trips. The arrangements on the Island and hospitality there are thanks to Nicholas and Lavinia Maclean-Bristol and their family. Numbers, unfortunately, have to be limited. Note that this involves a two hour boat trip each way.

Clan Congress. The theme will be “Looking at the future of the Clan”.

Dress at the Centenary Gathering. This is largely a matter of choice, but the Dress at previous Gatherings has varied enormously from full kilt to very casual. The advice is as follows – The Dress during the Clan land Visits and the Evening Talks should be casual and warm. However, it would be nice if at least some tartan was worn at the Ceilidh, Dance and the Main Gathering at Duart. This could be a Maclean tie or scarf, but the important thing is that you all attend and are comfortable.

Booking of Accommodation. It is anticipated that there will be a heavy demand for accommodation on Mull during the Gathering. It is up to those attending to make their own arrangements and this can be done by contacting:

Craignure Tourist Information Centre - Isle of Mull, Argyll PA65 6AX, UK

Tel: 01680 812377

Fax: 01680 812497 Email: mull@visitscotland.com

VisitScotland – www.visitscotland.com and Holiday Mull – www.holidaymull.co.uk

Registration and Booking for the Gathering. The details of the Gathering week are shown on the offline booking form and on the programme page.

Offline Booking

To be used if you do not wish to pay online.

Online Booking

Use our online booking and payment system for speed and convenience.

Email Addresses. For those mailing the Form, please remember to include your email address so that we can keep you up to date with extra events and any changes to the arrangements. The email addresses of those booking online are received automatically.



From Duart

Sir Lachlan Maclean of Duart and Morvern, Bt., CVO, DL. Twenty-eighth chief of Clan Gillean

Dear Members of the Clan

Well 2012 is upon us, and the Centenary Gathering being held in June is only three months away as I write this note to you for the BattleAxe. The preparation and planning that is being undertaken by Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch, the President of CMA and Col Donald and his wife Vera Maclean will I'm sure see that we will have a really marvelous time in June. There will be more information in the Battleaxe about the events taking place at Duart. The ceilidh at Duart on the Friday night will be very spectacular and there are many very interesting events taking place at the Gathering on the Saturday morning. I would encourage you to come, as none of us will see the 200th Centenary of Sir Fitzroy's invitation to the Clan to come to Duart in 1912 unless medicine makes fantastic progress over the next 100 years.

My family are all in good heart, and those of you who are coming to the Gathering will, I hope be able to meet, or renew your acquaintances with them. 2012 has provided me with my 10th Grandchild. Alexandra, my youngest daughter and Colin had a beautiful baby girl called Clova who was born in January. My mother and Malcolm have both been able to attend many of the England and Wales Associations parties in London. Rosie and I attended the CMA Annual Gathering in

Glasgow which was a lovely evening, with many young people at the party. Rosie and I were also invited by Bob McLean, the President of Clan Gillean to be a Chief at the Rural Hills Games, North Carolina but sadly it was a fleeting visit because we had to get back to

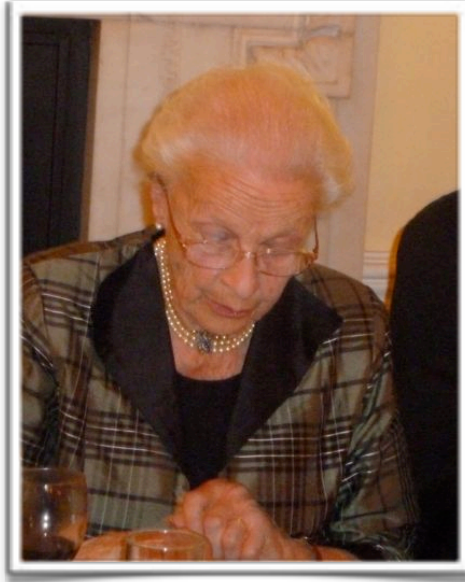
Scotland to prepare Duart for it's opening. It was a particularly interesting visit to North Carolina because it was tornado time and although the Games ground wasn't hit by a tornado, one passed about 20 miles to the North. The wind and rain was very reminiscent of Mull. Luckily there was not much damage except a large number of very wet Highlanders. Clan Gillean looked after us very well and we much enjoyed our short visit to the United States.

I expect that many of you think that I am completely besotted with weather but it does affect my life at Duart as the Castle is in such an exposed position. Last summer we had a severe gale which blew away the hut at the edge of the Castle where we sell tickets. Luckily I had managed to get out our Guide June, and the till before it was blown away down the drive. We then had a frantic telephone call from our shop where Mhairi was working who said that she had just seen the hut blowing past her window and she hoped that there was no-one in it.

In the last year, gales and rain have been a real problem at the Castle. I had a wind monitor put up as I thought we might put up a wind turbine. This was blown down just before Christmas when it was recording wind speeds of 145 mph. Water hitting the Castle under this sort of pressure causes us all sorts of problems and it's very damp there at the moment. Since the 1st September until the end of February we had over 90 inches of rain which is double what we normally have in that period.

I have to conclude with another mention of the Gathering. One of the great pleasures at the Gathering is renewing acquaintances and meeting new members of the Clan. I know that time is always short at Duart on the Gathering Day but I hope there will be plenty of other opportunities when we will be able to meet and renew friendships in the Gathering week. We both very much look forward to seeing you all, and having a week of celebration to Sir Fitzroy who had the foresight to buy back Duart and invite the Clan to celebrate the event in 1912.

*Lachlan Maclean
of Duart & Morvern.*



Above: Lady Elizabeth Maclean
Below: Malcolm Maclean at the
England and Wales dinner



Clan Maclean Heritage Trust

Sir Lachlan Maclean of Duart and Morvern, Bt., CVO, DL. Twenty-eighth chief of Clan Gillean

As Chairman of the Heritage Trust I am delighted to report on the activities of the Trust in the last year. In 2011 there were two major events that took place. The first was the 600th Anniversary of the Battle of Harlaw.

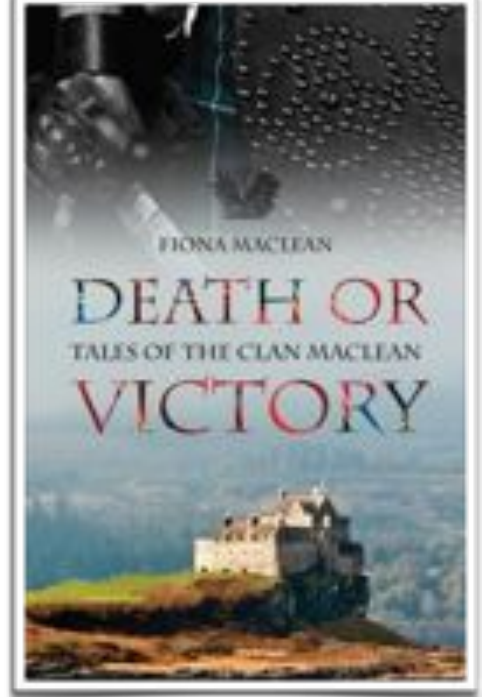


Above: Maclean of Duart Coat of Arms

Below: David Irvine of Drum and Sir Lachlan exchange swords.

'After 600 years we can now have a laugh about it all!'

On a bleak, cold day in July the ceremony took place at the Battle of Harlaw Memorial to remember those who fell at the Battle and to unveil the Coats of Arms of some of the main families who had fought at the Battle. My family's Coat of Arms was one of those fixed to the Memorial. Red Hector Maclean of Duart, the Chief at that time commanded the right wing of The Lord of the Isles army. He was slain at the Battle having fought an individual duel with Irvine of Drum who also died on the Battlefield. For many years after the Battle swords were exchanged between the Maclean and the Irvine families. At the unveiling an exchange of swords took place again between the two families.



The second major event was the launch in the autumn of 2011 of the book 'Death or Victory' which has been written by Fiona Maclean of Ardgour. Fiona has very kindly agreed to oversee the funds that were given by Associations and individuals in memory of Mary, my late wife. This book of children's stories is an exciting read and has proved to be a great success and very popular with members of the Clan.

Many of the projects planned for the Gathering in June this year are now completed, or nearly



completed. The book of Pipe Tunes has been completed which is very exciting and it is on course to be launched at the Gathering in 2012. This book will not only be of great interest to Macleans around the world, but will also be well received in piping circles as it is a very thorough record of the best of the Maclean tunes. Col Donald Maclean, and James Beaton (both Trustees of the Trust) have done an enormous amount of work on this project which is now nearly completed.

The Heritage Trust funded a competition for a new pipe tune to be written in commemoration of the Gathering. Dr Simon McKerrell won this competition, which attracted over 25 composers of pipe music. The tune will be played at the Gathering and the Heritage Trust is very grateful to Robin Maclean who's family Trust sponsored this competition.

In the year of each Gathering the Trust also sponsors a young Maclean Piper to have tuition for two weeks at the College of Piping. Although at the moment, there have been no applicants the Trust is confident that by the time of the Gathering a young Maclean piper will get the opportunity of two weeks excellent tuition from the staff at the College of Piping.

During the Gathering week the Heritage Trust will have displays in the Aros Hall, and at the Gathering at Duart on the Saturday 23rd June. There is, as well, the unveiling of the Cairn at Lickle, which takes place on Thursday 21st June. This is open to all Maclean's coming to the Gathering and is followed by a Tea Party at Gruline House for the Friend's of the Heritage Trust. Gruline House is very close to the house that Lachlan Macquarie built and lived in when he came back from Australia. It is also only about 100yds from the Lachlan Macquarie Mausoleum so there are other places of interest close to where the Tea is being held. We owe Mr & Mrs Harmer our thanks for allowing us to have the Tea Party in the grounds of Gruline.

As we look ahead to 2013 the Trustee's are excited to see that our first initiative in the United States, at Fort Dewart

will be completed next year. The Trustees are always looking for new projects as recognition of important Macleans and it is very much up to you, the members of the Clan to come forward with ideas if you feel there is something that the Trust should be doing.

I can't finish my report this year without mentioning Dr James Maclean who has been the Treasurer of the Heritage Trust since it was founded. He retired in the Autumn of



Above: *Dr James Maclean*
Right: *Alan McLean*



2011 and we all owe him a great debt of gratitude for all that he did for the Trust. We welcome Alan McLean from France as a new Trustee. I would like to thank all my fellow Trustees for their hard work that they have done during the course of the year.

If you are interested in the history of the Clan, or some of the new initiatives that it is taking, then membership of the 'Friends of the Heritage Trust' should be something that you could consider in the coming year.



For further information or to contact the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust go to <http://www.maclean.org/heritage-trust/maclean-heritage-1.php> Death or victory is available from the publishers at www.whiteandmaclean.eu and also through Amazon and selected bookshops.)

Clan Maclean International Association

Ian MacLean ~ President

At the last Gathering in 2007, Duncan Maclean of California was elected President of CMIA, and I was elected VP, - a new office for CMIA. Unfortunately, because of Duncan's battle with cancer, he and Elizabeth decided that he had to step down, at least temporarily, as President. Thus I became acting President in the summer of 2008, which due to Duncan's continuing battle, "morphed" into the Presidency. Duncan, after a courageous fight with his cancer, died on May 4, 2011.

When Duncan decided that he was not going to be able to resume an active role in CMIA, we needed a new VP. Peter MacLean of Australia stepped up and was elected Vice President, also in 2008. As some of you will know Peter, in turn, was unable to continue in this role, as he too had health issues. I am pleased to say that Peter is now doing very well.

Nigel Alington, a former President of the Clan Maclean Association of England and Wales, was then elected as VP. He has been a vital and active participant in CMIA. Further, he was very instrumental in the revision of our constitution. He continues to be an active member of the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust. Thus he is a dedicated, committed, and involved Maclean. Nigel has agreed to let his name stand as President, and this election will take place at the Gathering. I felt that although the President can stay on in this role for five years, that it made more sense to have the new President elected at the Gathering. I consulted with the Chief, and he agreed. Therefore I will be stepping down at the Gathering.

I have very much enjoyed being able to serve the Clan in this role. CMIA is an important vehicle for ongoing communication between the various worldwide associations, and other Maclean organizations. I am sure that Nigel will provide vital leadership in the years to come.

Two items that have not been resolved are the idea of an annual glossy Clan magazine, and the Project Management Board that was formed to deal with the ideas and recommendations arising from the Alasdair White paper, and the resulting recommendations from CMIA to the Chief.

I am currently trying to arrange a meeting at the Gatherings, where Presidents, or their representatives, can have a face-to-face discussion as to if, or how, such a magazine could be "actualized". There are both supporters of this idea, and those who have very real concerns as to how, or if it can be done.

The Project Management Board has unfortunately come to naught. It does not seem to me to be useful to try and lay blame. Perhaps it was because there were too many representatives on the Board, and all did not participate. Perhaps it was because in depth discussions are difficult on line. For whatever reasons, results were not forthcoming. The original concern as expressed by the Chief, were for the future, and ideas that might help us as a Clan look forward, and attract younger members. The future of the Clan is still of vital importance to all of us. Therefore, I would encourage you all to attend the Clan Congress at the Gathering when a panel will address the future of the Clan. This panel will include

Sir Lachlan Maclean, our Chief, Nigel Alington, the incoming President of CMIA, Alasdair White, the President of MacleanNet, and the primary author of *Clan MacLean Associations: Where Next*, and Bob McLean, nominee for Vice President of CMIA, and current President of Clan Gillean (U.S.A.).

Despite the many changes that have happened since the first "modern" day Clan Maclean Gathering in 1912, the pull of the clan, our heritage, and our interest in our "family", remains very strong. I believe that the major developments in communication, and travel, will only help our Clan to evolve and grow to suit new members and new times. See you at the Gathering!

Sl'ainte, Ian MacLean, Tidnish, Nova Scotia



Birth of the Clan Maclean International Association

AGREEMENT

It is jointly proposed by Donald Hugh MacLean (Chorleywood) and Lt Col Donald Maclean (Seamill) that, as sole candidates in the current election to succeed Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch ygr on 7 November 1998 in the office of President CMA, that the office be held by them in equal partnership, for an experimental period of one year, in the manner following, and that this arrangement be reviewed at the end of that period.

President of the Clan Maclean Association (CMA), and Chairman of CMA Council: Lt Col Donald Maclean. CMA Council to be responsible for the Direct Membership, and the organisation of Gatherings and all central services in Scotland. President CMIA to be ex-officio a member of CMA Council.

President of the Clan MacLean International Association (CMIA), and Chairman of CMIA Council: Donald Hugh MacLean. CMIA Council to be responsible for the development of Clan Maclean associations worldwide and for their mutual co-operation. President CMA to be ex-officio a member of CMIA Council.

Signed 11.15 11 SEP 1998.

Submitted to and approved by the Chief.

Adopted by Annual General Meeting of CMA, 7 NOV 1998.

See the tribute to Vince Gillon on page 44



Duart in 1973 ~ Photos taken from a RAF Canberra reconnaissance aircraft by Marcus Maclean



Notes from Scotland

Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch ~ President CMA

The Clan Maclean Association is looking forward to welcoming everyone to Mull in June for the Clan Gathering. The events and activities will be more focused at Duart than in the past since this is the anniversary of the Gathering in 1912 when the then Chief, Sir Fitzroy Donald Maclean, invited Macleans from round the world to come to Duart and witness his flag being raised to the top of the flagstaff. This was recognition that the Macleans had taken formal re-possession of the castle of their ancestors. As always, arranging a clan gathering involves a great deal of preparation work, and Col Donald and Vera are the key players in this.



In May there was a Clan Maclean Association drinks party in Edinburgh, which this time was held at my own house. The numbers were slightly up on those who in the past attended the grander surroundings of the New Club on Princes Street. The views were not



so good, but the volume of noise far higher. Photographs of the evening were featured in 'Scots Heritage Magazine'.



Clockwise from above:

Ardgour with Jo Currie

Beatrice and Alex

Wendy, Helen and Fiona

Anne and Rosie

Hector and Anne

Hilary Wilson, Col Donald and the Chief

Capt Eoghainn, John and Col Donald





In July, as usual we had our tent at the Tobermory Games, preceded the night before with a party in the Western Isles Hotel. The weather was perfect, and the tent was a hive of activity, not least due to Alex and Anne McLean who once again acted as 'hosts'. We were delighted that the Heritage Trust launched it's new book, 'Life and Death', in the tent. Fiona Maclean of Ardgour made an excellent speech, as did the Chief, and then she signed copies of the book.



Tobermory Games:

Top left: Hector, Brooke and the Chief

Top right: Vera and Anne

Centre: The book launch, Fiona, Lochie and the Chief

Right: Marcus and Ardgour

Below left: Debbie receives a present at the Harlaw reception

Below right: Seneachaidh Macfarlane

See CMHT report page 6



Just three days later the Heritage Trust arranged a commemoration for the 600th anniversary of the battle of Harlaw, which is near Aberdeen, on the other side of the country. Despite a very blustery day, the flag poles were put up, speeches made, laments played and swords exchanged. Afterwards there was an excellent party at Littlewood Park, near Alford, thanks to the invitation of our member Mrs Debbie McLean.



Our annual Autumn Gathering at the Glynhill Hotel, near Paisley, came up to expectations, after we had such a good time the year before. We were delighted that the Chief and Rosie were with us again for an excellent dinner and ceilidh/dance. Over the years this has developed into a very happy family occasion, with young people contributing singing and music to supplement Charlie Kilpatrick and his band [who will be playing for us on Mull], and of course our piper, James MacLean. Fiona was busy signing books, and once again photographs of the event were featured in a double page of 'Scots Heritage Magazine'.



Top left: Vera MacLean and Helen Blackburn

Top right: The Chief and Lady Maclean

Centre left: Col Donald MacLean

Centre right: President Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch

Below left: Lochie Maclean, Cameron Gilchrist and Lachlan MacLean

Below right: Eoghainn and his father, Capt Eoghainn MacLean



England and Wales ~ The London Letter

Nicolas Maclean of Pennycross ~ President

2011-2012 has been another active year for the Association. Our last Letter in Battleaxe described our evening at the Special Forces Club in London on Friday 11th March, celebrating the Centenary of Sir Fitzroy Maclean and with the help of his son Jamie and with our Patron Elizabeth, Lady Maclean, remembering the huge contribution he and his wife Veronica made over so many years to the Clan, to our Association, and to the nation as a whole.

From Friday 17th to Sunday 19th June last year, the Clan Maclean Association of England and Wales implemented another part of our President's agenda, agreed at his inaugural AGM, namely to take members to visit a number of important sites abroad with Maclean links. The first of these was a visit to Belgium on the anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo. A fuller account of the visit has been provided to this year's Battleaxe, but in brief the visit took in the battlefield of Quatre Bras, which preceded Waterloo, and all the commemorations and re-enactments at Waterloo itself, followed by a visit to the main military museums and monuments in Waterloo and Brussels, the main church in Waterloo with memorials to the fallen, and a visit to the cemetery in Brussels which holds the major British memorial.

All who took part were very grateful to Alasdair and Fiona White, who made the arrangements and welcomed us to their home near the battlefields. Moreover, as a very experienced Waterloo Battlefield Guide and a Fellow of the International Napoleonic Society, Alasdair brought everything to life and made the complex historic events vivid and understandable. He is also a specialist on the aspects of topography and vegetation that are so crucial for visualising the course and outcome of the Battle of Waterloo.

Our appreciation of the strategic and tactical issues was also enhanced by the active participation of Nick and Lavinia Maclean-Bristol. As a respected and much published historian, Nick put his finger again and again on many of the key dilemmas facing the commanders of the three main armies, the British, French and Prussian, while Lavinia told us of her great-great-grandfather, who was present at the Duchess of Richmond's ball in Brussels attended by Wellington and his officers on the eve of battle, albeit as an unborn baby!

A Maclean of Pennycross by descent, Alasdair not only shared the general excitement, drama, heroism and tragedy of the campaign but made it more personal to us by focusing in detail on the story of three Macleans, who fought at Quatre Bras and Waterloo, two of them Maclean

of Pennycross brothers, Alan Thomas, who commanded the 13th Light Dragoons at Waterloo, and his elder brother Charles, who carried the colours at Quatre Bras and Waterloo for the Cameron Highlanders, (the famous 79th Regiment of Foot). The brothers survived the battles, with Alan Thomas going on to become a Lieutenant-General and a mentor of Sir Fitzroy Maclean of Duart and Morvern, the restorer of Duart, while Charles died in 1837 in Calcutta.

Alasdair had kept a last Maclean/Maclaine link as a surprise for us until the final day of the visit. When we visited the huge British memorial in Brussels (at Evere) with its bronze weeping lions and discarded military paraphernalia, he led us down steps into a vault under the memorial. Twelve officers killed at Waterloo were commemorated with individual tomb-stones. One was Major Maclaine of Scallastle, (a branch of Lochbuie), killed by a cannon ball.

This first Clan Maclean Association trip overseas was deemed a success by all who took part, but took quite a lot of organizing. Other Associations were invited to join us, and Alan Maclean of France was reassured by the CMAE&W President that the visit would not be "triumphalist". In fact, Nicholas Maclean-Bristol's "From Clan to Regiment" mentions that some expatriate Macleans of Coll fought on the losing side, while others served with the British army. Sadly, no members of CMA France nor CMA Scotland were able to join us.

At the most recent CMAE&W AGM, on Friday 7th October 2011, at the Caledonian Club, it was agreed to arrange a second CMAE&W trip overseas in 2013 and if possible another in 2014. The front-runner at present is a weekend near Gothenburg in Sweden, tracing the story of a great expatriate Maclean who is considered to be the father of modern Swedish agriculture and whose castle we would visit. Another option under consideration is a trip to Tangier in Morocco in the footsteps of the Kaid, Sir Harry de Vere Maclean, Military Adviser to the Sultan and once kidnapped in the Rif Mountains by the famous Al-Raisouli, (hero of "The Lion and the Wind"). Another option is a visit to Belgrade and/or Korcula linked to Sir Fitzroy Maclean of Dunconnell's heritage, and another a trip to the site of the exiled Jacobite Court at Aubigny, as suggested by the Stewart Society. For that we would naturally consult and cooperate with CMA France.

After the October AGM we were addressed in the presence of our Patron by the Very Reverend Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch, who gave us a fascinating and detailed account of the repossession of Duart Castle and

the 1912 Gathering, paying particular tribute to the role played as Master of Ceremonies by our Vice-President Nigel Alington's forbear, the Maclean of Ardgour. Allan then went on to describe all his plans for making the 2012 Gathering a worthy celebration of 1912 and urged us all to book accommodation early. He took a series of questions on the Gathering, but as one of the Clan's leading genealogists also offered to answer questions relating to ancestry. Allan flew in especially from Edinburgh and our President from Beijing.

On Friday 3rd February CMAE&W held our annual Burns Night Supper at the Caledonian Club for a second year running in cooperation with the Stewart Society of London. In all, 89 attended, Macleans, Stewarts and the important category "Friends of Macleans". This was one of our highest ever attendances at a dinner and meant that tables filled all of the Johnny Walker Room and that we first had drinks downstairs in the Smoking Room.

The Stewarts were not only represented by the Chairman of the Stewart Society in London, Jamie Stewart, who did us proud last year in his Immortal Memory speech, arm in sling straight from an operation, but also by Robert Stewart of Blackhouse, President of the Stewart Society worldwide, of which HM The Queen is the Head. It will give something of the spirit of the occasion to share a couple of paragraphs from Bobby Stewart's report to Clan Stewart:

"It was perhaps fortuitous that I had decided against booking the return 11.43pm sleeper from Kings Cross home to Perth. We met many charming people and were honoured to have been invited – I reciprocated. The Indian lady, Ratna on my left at dinner was a total convert to the occasion; having been warned by a knowing [presumably English] friend to eat a little something before going, and to have a handy handbag with removable lining for the sheep thingy she would undoubtedly be served at table, was entranced – spicy curry has now taken a poor second place to whisky-fuelled haggis.

As I said, a wonderful evening, and excellently staged by Nicolas – we got much more than the "Bun's" [sic] night we were promised on the invitation!"

Bobby Stewart also writes of his first meeting with our Patron: "About 45 years ago I had occasion to pick up her daughter Janet, the 'Maid' [the eldest daughter of Duart having the charming courtesy title of the Maid of Morvern]. Her father was Lord Chamberlain at the time, hence the grand London address. I leant urgently about three times on the bell at the St James's Palace side entrance, when at length the door was opened by a formidable-looking lady; rather startled, I asked if she was staff or the Lady Maclean. "Both" she replied crisply

"and you're late, Mr Stewart!". Thankfully we've got on famously ever since for some reason."

Jamie Stewart addressed the Haggis with great panache and a large dirk, sharing alternate verses of the eight, "so as to vary the pace", with contributions by Malcolm Maclean, Younger of Duart and Morvern, Bobby Stewart of Blackhouse, and Hew Dundas.

We were fortunate to have Lord Leitch, (Sandy), a Sept of Clan Maclean, to hold us in stitches with a series of jokes, including at the President's expense: "By the way, I would like to thank my dear friend Nicolas Maclean for the invaluable advice he gave me on how I should approach my speech this evening. "Sandy" he said "Don't try to be witty or intellectual. Just try to be yourself!"

Sandy is Deputy Chairman of Lloyds Bank, Chairman of BUPA, Scottish Widows and several other companies, but his angle on Robert Burns was to look at his humble origins, a vertical or 90 degree angle, himself like Burns the son of a ploughman, who had also worked as a coalminer in Fife. Sandy paid a moving tribute to Burns as a man of the people and then moved on to the horizontal aspects of the breadth and width of Burns's impact globally, both 180 and 360 degree angles on the great man 216 years after his death. Sandy was just back from Davos, where a senior Kazakh politician had been telling him of Burns Night this year in Almaty. The international aspect of Burns was well represented in the Caledonian Club that night with guests from Canada, Serbia, Armenia, Germany, Australia, Japan, Iran, the USA, Russia, France, India, and several more including the European President of the Hell's Angels, another Maclean. "Burns embraced the full horizontal and raised the "cup o' kindness" "that man to man the world o'er shall brothers be for a'that."

Jamie Maclean, Sir Fitzroy's son, then drew deeply but respectably from his wealth of experience as the Editor of "The Erotic Review" in order to toast the Lassies. His wife Sarah has given him Carte Blanche by not attending the dinner, but he did not abuse his freedom. "So now it falls to me to reassure Scottish womanhood that we Scotsmen are worthy of their love. I'm not sure that I'm really up to the task, but I'll do my best!" Jamie rose to the occasion with revelations of his early explorations with Big Morag, following Burns's example, to his successful efforts to keep at bay Calvin, Knox and the "monstrous regiment" of Scottish Women Against Pornography. He also revealed that many models of Scottish manhood were NOT Scottish, other than Gordon Jackson: Mel Gibson-an Irish-American raised in Australia, Liam Neeson-a Ballymena boy exported to New York, and Connor MacLeod of the movie Highlander-a Frenchman, Christopher Lambert. However, Jamie ended with a lesser-known but very sexy poem by Burns: "Super is'na Ready".









Caroline de Klee responded in a vigorous and lively way for the Lassies, ending with an innovative Toast to the Laddies! In this centenary year of the re-possession of Duart by Clan Maclean, we were particularly pleased to have one of the Burns Night speeches by a representative of the family which had sold the Duart Peninsula and its

then ruined castle back to the Macleans of Duart. Caroline's husband is descended from the Guthries of Torosay and accompanied her at the Burns Night Supper. We all regretted that a hundred years after the Macleans of Duart became neighbours of the Guthries of Torosay, Torosay Castle is itself up for sale-the end of an era on Mull and of a great tourist attraction that has complemented Duart Castle and its

surroundings across the bay.



After the speeches our traditional musical medley was as great a success as ever: first with Andrew Maclean's inspiring and rousing "War-song of the Macleans", then our piper Roderick's reprise of popular pipe tunes, including a special tribute to Torosay, and finally David Dunham on the Melodeon with James Arbour on the guitar. Bobby Stewart of Blackhouse and Malcolm Maclean Younger of Duart and Morvern then closed the



evening with speeches of warmest appreciation, especially to the evening's main organizer, our Hon. Secretary Helen Bailey. Finally, Rod led us in an enthusiastic "Auld Lang Syne" and we all reluctantly began to head for home or to beds at the Club.

A last word about future Maclean events in London: in July the British Museum will open a major exhibition on "The Age of Shakespeare", putting on display the silver, pearl and moonstone Maclean of Lochbuie brooch, now thought to be late 16th century, rather than a hundred years earlier as credited when it was last displayed. Perhaps its place in the exhibition will be linked to the "Scottish Play", wholly appropriate as Macbeth is buried on Iona close to several Maclean Chiefs. Our AGM this year will be on Friday 2nd November, the night before the Glasgow Dinner. The Chief and his wife

are hoping to attend, and the Guest of Honour is due to be the Right Hon. Lord Patten of Barnes, representative of a Sept of Clan Maclean, as well as Chancellor of Oxford University, Chairman of the BBC Trust, and a former UK Cabinet Minister, EU Commissioner and the last Governor of Hong Kong.

Next year's Burns Night will be on Friday 1st February with Lord Guthrie proposing the Toast to the Immortal Memory, Jamie Stewart toasting the Lassies, and a surprise response from the Lassies. On Friday 11th October Lord Blencathra, (former Chief Whip, David Maclean MP), will be Guest of Honour at our Annual Dinner.



The Pennycross twins



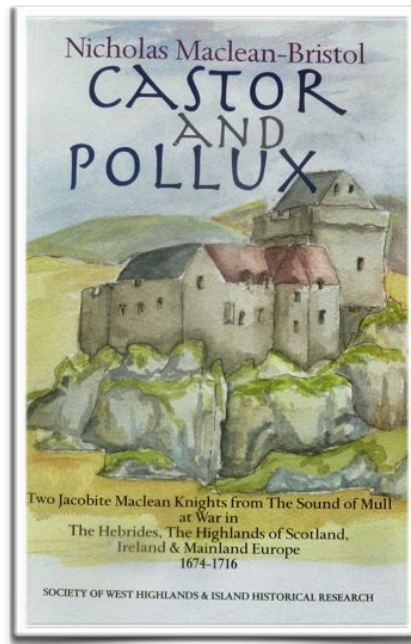
Castor and Pollux

Reviewed by Nicolas Maclean of Pennycross

Castor and Pollux, by Nicholas Maclean-Bristol, ISBN 978-0-0957-0361-0-9, Society of West Highland and Island Historical Research 2012. (480 pages). Nicholas Maclean-Bristol has produced a book of remarkable erudition but which is exciting and immensely readable. It can be highly recommended to all Macleans, Maclaines, and Septs, and to the general reader. The author wears his scholarship lightly, and the chapters are short which helps to keep up the pace. There are many footnotes, but some provide further insights into character, or intrigues, or complex strategy, and are not merely there to list sources. The only heavy aspect of the book is due to the high quality of the paper it is printed on. The spelling is occasionally Highland, which lends authenticity.

Anyone interested in tracing family history during the 17th and 18th centuries will find a host of useful references, and at the back are detailed indices, subdivided by People, Battles and Sieges, Castles, Hebridean Islands, and Regiments. There are also appendices with three family trees and an eight-page bibliography. Although the main focus of the book is the lives of two Jacobite Maclean Knights from the Sound of Mull at war in the Hebrides, the Highlands of Scotland, Ireland and mainland Europe between 1674 and 1716, all readers will find the first three chapters invaluable for clearly setting out the context of what follows, showing the importance of key events as far back as the 15th and 16th centuries and giving many insights into traditional highland society in Morvern and on Mull.

One of the knights is Sir Alexander Maclean of Otter, (hence the pun in June 1689 in the epic Latin poem, *The Grameid*, when Alexander is likened to Castor [meaning a beaver]) and Sir John Maclean of Duart to Pollux. Castor and Pollux were the twin sons of Leda and Zeus, heroes of antiquity, whose adventures included the quest with Jason for the Golden Fleece. As Yeats described their conception: "A shudder in the loins engenders there the broken wall, the burning roof and tower, and Agamemnon dead."



*Pollux: Sir John Maclean of Duart
around 1693*



Sir John was later blamed by some, and in the author's view unfairly, for the final loss of Duart Castle, following the Letters of Fire and Sword obtained by the Chief of Clan Campbell from the Privy Council. The author explains that it was the failure of Elizabeth I to pay for the army of 3000 gathered by Sir Lachlan Mor in the 1590s to put down a Catholic rebellion in Ireland that left his successors with an ever-mounting burden of debt. Without the debt and land offered as security to the Campbells, the position of the Macleans of Duart would not have been nearly so vulnerable. In the book Sir John is portrayed realistically but sympathetically.

On the other hand, the exploits of Sir Alexander were truly heroic, including his rescue of his regiment cut off on the

Isle of Gigha from under the guns of a Royal Navy squadron in 1689. The author explains that many Macleans subsequently named their sons Alexander, (or its Gaelic form "Alasdair"), in his honour. The two Knights fought with "Bonnie Dundee" and in many other campaigns. In the Highlands Sir Alexander developed a form of highly effective guerrilla warfare and combined operations, which was a forerunner of the SAS in the Western Desert or Orde Wingate in Burma.

The book is full of fascinating insights into a period of huge historical importance and political turmoil, from the end of the reign of Charles II, through the troubled reign of James VII and II, to those of William and Mary, Queen Anne, the Act of Union, and the Hanoverian Succession. It includes battles from Killiecrankie and the Boyne to Blenheim and Sheriffmuir. It clarifies many intra and external clan complexities and entices the reader to race through the chapters from one major event to another, from "The Invasion of Mull", "The Road to Glencoe", "The Dash to the Scheldt", and "The Assassination Plot", to "Betrayal?" and "The Aftermath of the '15'".

Of Leda Yeats asked, "Did she put on his knowledge with his power....?" In the case of the author the answer is in the affirmative. Castor and Pollux will be available for sale and signature by the author at the Gathering.

Master of the Quaich

Contributed by Charles MacLean

News has reached us that Charles MacLean, Edinburgh – a member of Council since 1976, and the former editor of this magazine – was created ‘Master of The Quaich’ in October 2009, for his services to the Scotch Whisky industry over the past thirty years.

Charlie is a well known figure in the world of whisky – the author of ten books on the subject (and managing editor of a further three); consultant to many whisky companies, judge of many competitions (including the International Wine & Spirits Awards), presenter of the on-line whisky channel, www.singlemalt.tv, and soon to become a film-star, with a role in Ken Loach’s forthcoming feature film, *The Angel’s Share*, to be released in May. He has been described by *The Times* as “Scotland’s leading whisky expert”.

We asked him what it meant to be a ‘Master of the Quaich’.

“In the late 1980s a group of leading figures in the Scotch whisky industry decided to establish an exclusive ‘club’ to reward individuals who play major roles in the global success of Scotland’s leading export. They were inspired by the ancient French wine guilds, like the Chevaliers du Tastevin in Burgundy and the Commanderie de Bordeaux.

From them they adopted ceremonial, medals and uniform – in the case of the Keepers, their own tartan and coat of arms - and appointed a number of aristocratic patrons, including the Dukes of Atholl and Argyll, and the Earls of Erroll, Mansfield and Elgin, to lend prestige. They named this organisation ‘The Keepers of the Quaich’.

“Today, there are around 2,000 Keepers from eighty countries, all of whom have given significant service to the cause of Scotch whisky and Scotland. We meet twice a year for a grand banquet at Blair Castle, escorted by the Duke of Atholl’s private regiment, the Atholl Highlanders, entertained with songs, toasts and speeches, and by the induction of new members.

“From the outset, the rank of ‘Master of the Quaich’ was constituted to honour those deemed by the Management Committee to have made an outstanding contribution towards the manufacture, sale or promotion of Scotch whisky, over

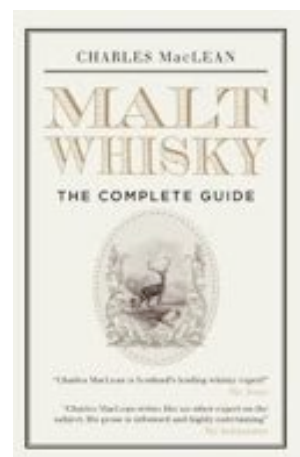
very many years. To be eligible you have to have served as a Keeper for twenty years - and to be elected Keeper you have to have worked in or for the industry for ten years.



Charlie



“There are only around a hundred ‘Masters’, and I am proud to be numbered among them, but I must admit to being embarrassed by *The Times* generous description which you quote above! There are many in the Scotch whisky industry who know a great deal more than I do!”



Clan Maclean at Quatre Bras and Waterloo

Nicolas Maclean of Pennycross

On 18th June 2015 a huge bicentennial commemoration of the Battle of Waterloo will take place, with tens of thousands of “re-enactors” wearing period uniform or civilian dress. It will be a great occasion but very crowded. So on 18th June 2011 as part of a three-day visit, members of Clan Maclean and its Septs had their own more private and personal commemoration of the Clan’s involvement with the historic campaign that brought peace to North Western Europe for 99 years.

We were fortunate to be guided throughout by Alasdair White, President of MacleanNet. Alasdair and his wife, Fiona, live in a farmhouse only a few minutes from the cross-roads, Quatre Bras, and within earshot of cannon at Waterloo. Alasdair is a very experienced Waterloo Battlefield Guide and a Fellow of the International Napoleonic Society. He is also a specialist on the aspects of the topography and vegetation that are so crucial to an understanding of the course and outcome of the Battle of Waterloo.



A Maclean of Pennycross by descent, Alasdair not only shared with us the general excitement, drama, heroism and tragedy of the campaign but made it more personal to us by focusing in detail on the story of three Macleans, who fought at Quatre Bras and Waterloo, two of them brothers. The historian, Major Nicholas Maclean-Bristol, and his wife, Lavinia, joined the visit and shared with us some of their own family links with the campaign, as well as stories of Macleans from Coll, most in the British army but several of whom fought in the French and Dutch armies, their families having emigrated after the crushing of the

‘45. Lavinia’s great-great-grandmother was present at the Duchess of Richmond’s ball in Brussels attended by Wellington and his officers on 15th June, on the eve of Quatre Bras. Others on the trip were able to tell their own stories.

Although the visit was organised by the Clan Maclean Association of England and Wales together with Alasdair and Fiona White in Belgium, other Maclean Associations were invited to take part, including the Clan Maclean Association of France. For a variety of reasons the immutable dates did not suit the other associations, and the total group was around ten, including Pollyanna Bristol, Nick and Lavinia’s niece, whose husband is a British officer serving with NATO.

On Friday, 17th June 2011, the London Macleans arrived in Brussels by Eurostar at 17.33, after a journey of just under two hours. Alasdair was waiting at Midi station to drive the Maclean party to the Ibis Hotel in Waterloo and on to a surprise location, even kept secret from Nicolas Maclean of Pennycross, the group leader. We found Fiona in a restaurant, holding the fort surrounded by uniformed French “re-enactors”, including Grogards of Napoleon’s Old Guard, at least one Marshal, and Napoleon’s secretary. During a delicious dinner at Le Bivouac de Napoleon next to the actual centre of Wellington’s lines, the crescendo of traditional anti-British chansons grew louder, but we held our own, and after dinner Alasdair gave an illustrated lecture with maps, describing Napoleon’s escape from Elba, the start of what is now called the ‘Hundred Days’, and the lead-up to the Waterloo Campaign, all of which he placed in a political and military context.

On Saturday, 18th June, we left the hotel early with Alasdair and were soon at Quatre Bras. Alasdair took us to the key points of the battle, showing us the main





monuments, including a new monument, listing all British regiments which took part by their names in 1815 and their current names. The younger Maclean of Pennycross brother, Charles, carried the colours for the 79th Regiment of the Line, the Cameron Highlanders, whose particular valour was highlighted by Wellington in his first dispatch after Quatre Bras and Waterloo. We all walked to the point at which the 79th had charged the French. Then Alasdair guided us in the minibus through the narrow streets of Genappe, through which the Allied army made a tactical withdrawal to the defensive position



Wellington had identified years earlier at Waterloo. This withdrawal was covered by allied cavalry, including the 13th Light Dragoons, in which Allan Thomas Maclean, Charles's elder brother, was an officer.

The rest of the day was spent guided by Alasdair and visiting the main monuments and points of note at Waterloo in chronological order, sometimes in the minibus and sometimes on foot. We mingled with some of the several thousand re-enactors in their bivouacs, first with the French near Napoleon's headquarters, (now a museum), at Le Caillou and the Hameau du Roy farmhouses and later with the Allies at the Hougoumont farmhouse on the allied right. The battlefield does not cover a large area, and we mainly walked along roads and paths and through fields, but at one stage swung round much further by minibus to the allied left at the Papelotte farmhouse to see where the Prussian general, Zieten, struggled to keep his corps connected to the British and allied left in spite of repeated French attacks.

We could visualize the rain that delayed the start of the battle till late in the morning as the French tried to move their artillery forward through the thick mud, then the advance of D'Erlon's corps through the tall cornfields against the allied left, covered by that artillery, while Napoleon's younger brother Jerome again and again through the day attacked the allied right at Hougoumont. As D'Erlon's infantry moved forward, the French guns could advance behind them and gradually brought the allied left into range. To the left, near the allied centre, General Picton was killed, wearing top hat and civilian dress, as he had rushed to Waterloo ahead of his baggage. Nearby on the left the Inniskillins suffered terrible casualties from the French bombardment and just a little further along the line, the 79th also suffered severe punishment, Charles Maclean again rallying them to the regimental colours.

This is not the place for a detailed account of the battle, but Alasdair described it all vividly minute by minute.

Towards 8pm the light was fading on that long day, and La Haye Sainte, the key farmhouse in the allied centre, had fallen to the French, the wrong-sized ammunition having been brought up to its defenders. All eyes were straining towards the South East. Napoleon expected to see the dark blue uniforms of Marshal Grouchy's troops streaming over the forested hills, while Wellington hoped against hope that his main ally, the septuagenarian Marshal Blucher, would have succeeded in rallying his field grey forces after their defeat by the French two days earlier at Ligny. Napoleon's strategy was to divide and rule. Had he succeeded? In the gloaming it was hard to tell if the first reinforcements from the South East were French or Prussian.

The answer was made clear in a more limited area of the battlefield near Hougoumont, which had been fenced off



for the re-enactors. Gradually the thousands of uniformed re-enactors scattered over the battlefield earlier in the day for their own sight-seeing and fraternizing were formed into squadrons of cavalry, and regiments of infantry and artillery. An attempt was made to squeeze the key developments of ten hours into two, with fireworks and fires creating a lot of noise and smoke and a sense of authenticity, and French cavalry repeatedly and unsuccessfully trying to break the allied squares. There too, with the pipes skirling, were re-enactors of the 79th, whom we had visited in their bivouac. There too were Light Dragoons-on the day Allan Thomas had played an active role. There too were the 73rd Foot, with whom the elderly John MacLaine, son of Gillean MacLaine of Scallasdale, had served at Waterloo as a major.

There were even re-enactors taking the roles of Wellington and Napoleon, though as on the actual day, Napoleon was not himself much in evidence physically, having chosen to base himself some way from the front line. As cheers went up from the assembled troops and spectators at the end of the re-enactment, the Maclean contingent hurried through the fields towards our battle-bus parked at La Belle Alliance, the spot where Wellington and Blucher were first able to greet each other at the end of that long day. We all felt that we had metaphorically, in Wellington's words, received "a damn good pounding". The lavish dinner hosted by Fiona and Alasdair at their farmhouse at Baisy-Thy near Quatre Bras was just what was needed to restore us.

The next morning might have been an anti-climax, but Alasdair had prepared more surprises. First a visit to Wellington's headquarters, now an impressive small museum. Uxbridge, the British cavalry commander, had remarked to Wellington during the battle, as a cannon ball whistled past, "By Gad, Sir, I've lost my leg!" to which Wellington's laconic answer was "By Gad, Sir, you have!" At the museum we saw a monument where the leg was buried, and the wooden limb made later to replace it, as well as a letter home written by Wellington after the battle, soaked with his tears. Across from the museum was the Royal Chapel at Waterloo, in which Alasdair showed us many memorial plaques, including to the fallen of the 79th. We then drove with him to the main cemetery in Brussels at Evere, where he revealed a final surprise: the principal British memorial to those who fell at Waterloo, remarkable for its magnificence and beauty. Beneath the bronze weeping lions, heroic figures and military accoutrements was a crypt containing the remains of 15 of the most senior British officers to die at Waterloo, and with a flourish Alasdair showed us one name among them, the stone of John MacLaine, who had been cut in two by a cannonball at the height of the battle.



Alasdair also revealed a mystery relating to an illegitimate child of Napoleon's, concealed in a nearby tomb. After lunch at a Brasserie Rustique frequented by cemetery visitors, Alasdair led us on a visit to the Military Section of the great Cinquantenaire Museum, displaying memorabilia from the Napoleonic period and much else besides, including an unexpected display on the execution of the Emperor Maximilian of Mexico and many traces of Belgium's colonial past. Our final adventures were a trip to the Grande Place by metro, where Alasdair's soldierly command of vernacular French and Flemish sent a gang of pickpockets scurrying away. A final toast to the Clan at La Chaloupe d'Or with potent Belgian beer in glasses that could only stand with wooden supports and when we





made it back to the Eurostar terminal, we too felt that we might need supports to stand. On the train the final remnant of the proud Maclean contingent who had set out on the trip consisted of Nicolas, Mary Wilson, the Vice-President of CMA E&W, her Australian friend Diane Burley, and Donald MacLean, whose son is a senior army officer and with Donald had joined us for the Sir Fitzroy Maclean Centenary at the Special Forces Club.

The Clan is immensely grateful to Alasdair and Fiona for all their arrangements and kind hospitality. Everyone who took part was enthusiastic about a memorable and stirring glimpse of a key moment in the history of Britain and of Clan Maclean, when the future of Europe hung in the balance, “the nearest-run thing you ever saw in your life”, as Wellington recalled, and we all returned with a deep respect for the courage and endurance of everyone from all sides who took part in those historic events nearly two hundred years ago. Charles Maclean died in Calcutta in 1832. Allan Thomas went on to become a General and sponsored the later Sir Fitzroy Maclean of Duart and Morvern to take a commission in his regiment, the 13th Light Dragoons, and we remember Major John MacLaine and the many Macleans in the ranks who fell in the campaign. In Wellington’s words “Next to a battle lost, the greatest misery is a battle gained.”



CMA France

President Chevalier Alan RM and Elizabeth McLean

Dinner Dance in Paris

The year got off to a flying start with a dinner dance in Paris on the eve of the Scotland versus France Rugby Match in the Six Nations Tournament. It was held on board a boat moored on the Seine beneath the Eiffel Tower and the atmosphere was one of great excitement. Thirty nine Macleans came from near and far including Robin and Fiona of Ardgour and his brother Hamish and family from Scotland.

As usual, we shared the evening with forty members of Clan Mackenzie who provided the musical entertainment. For the first time, Clan MacDonald Europe was represented by Julian Hutchins, a professional whisky connoisseur. He very generously provided several bottles of different whiskies for tasting purposes. However, the measure of a 'wee dram' is unknown in France!

We were proud and honoured that a report of the evening was published in the summer 2011 edition of Scots Heritage Magazine in the section 'Social Scots' (No. 52. pp. 84-85). The photos capture the fun that was had by all.



The Biennial Visit to the Stade de France

Before our visit to the stadium to watch the match, the day started with a champagne and canapés reception hosted by Alan and Elizabeth at their apartment in Paris.

Alan then led the way to the restaurant for lunch which plays a vital role in the day's events. Not only does it specialise in

Landaise food (duck, foie gras etc.) but it is where Alan buys the tickets from the Patron! As the kick-off was not until 1700h, the meal was a very leisurely affair which everyone relished.

France won the match (37-21) and Fiona of Ardgour won the sweepstake. Despite the loss, the match was thoroughly enjoyable and entertaining with Scotland playing a full part and giving us hope for victory in the near future.



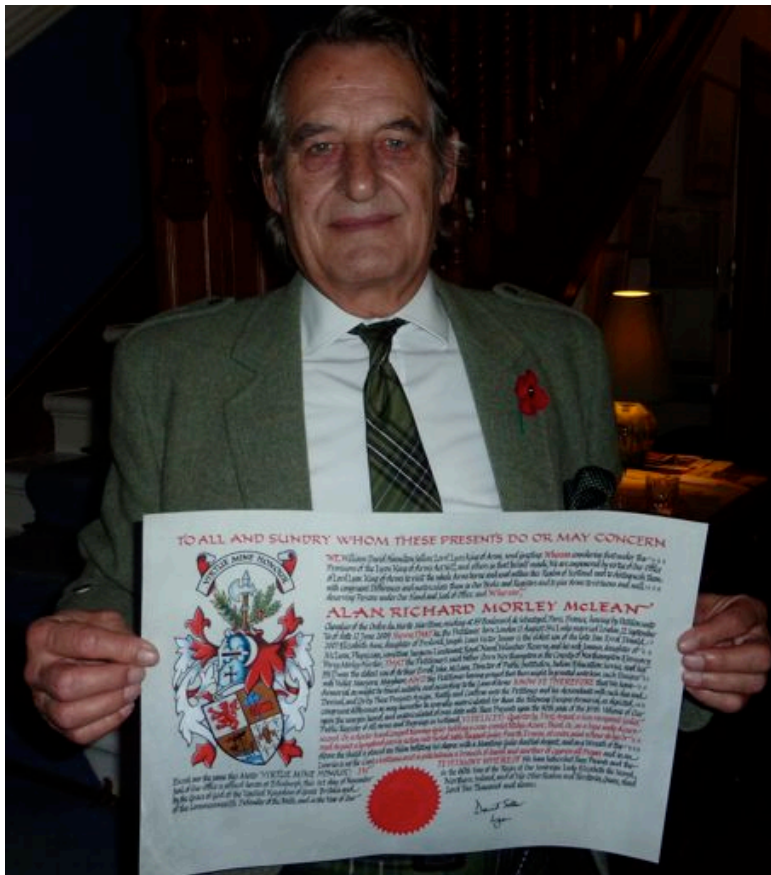




A Visit to the Festival de Cornouaille

In July, Alan and Elizabeth attended the annual Celtic festival held in the city of Quimper (Southern Brittany). This is one of the major cultural events held in Brittany. The diversity and richness of Breton culture is showcased through 180 exhibitions and competitions of dance and music which take place throughout the week every day and evening. The festival culminated with a parade of all the participants through the city streets which lasted over three hours. Sadly, it rained on their parade, but the show went on with umbrellas protecting the beautiful dresses and coiffes (head dresses), which are region specific. The children take part in the parade too, thus ensuring a continuing interest in the cultural traditions through the generations.





A Feather In His Cap

Alan, President of CMA, France has matriculated arms. He was granted Letters Patent by Lord Lyon on 1st November, 2011.

Clan Maclean Heritage Trust

We are also delighted to report that Alan has accepted an invitation extended to him by Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch to become a Trustee of the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust.

Founded in 1996 to complement the Clan Maclean Association, the objectives of the charitable Trust are to guard and promote the heritage of the clan around the world. Detail of the work of the Trust can be found on the website: www.maclean.org/heritage-trust/maclean-heritage-1.php;

Year End

We ended the year with a cocktail dinatoire chez nous in Paris following the AGM which was attended by twenty one members. I was pleased to report that our membership has increased to 39 adults and 11 children.

Clan Gathering 2012

About twenty members of CMA, France will be participating in the Clan Gathering on Mull in June to celebrate the centenary of the redemption of Duart Castle. We are all looking forward to meeting up with our kith and kin then.



New South Wales ~ Australia

Les MacLean ~ President

We send our best wishes to our worldwide members of Clan Maclean.

Vale Colin McLean Sproule

Most Clan Maclean members would have had some contact with Colin McLean Sproule over the past twenty-five years and it has been a sad time over the past weeks accepting that Life Member Colin will not be with us in the future.

He contributed greatly to the growth of Clan Maclean in NSW by providing a great service to our members assisting them with tracing their ancestry and attending all the Gatherings with his supportive wife Norma.

As the Clan Maclean President for twelve years he has left us with the fruits of his dedication to the Clan through the many books he researched and produced for the benefit of those with a Scottish or Ulster-Scots connection.

Apart from his interest in all things Clan Maclean, he was also interested in the History of the area in which he lived, and the people who lived there. He was to write numerous books on the subject, some of which are:

From Picton to Pretoria ~ the story of those men who fought in the Boer war.

On Mines and Men ~ Of early miners in the area.

Timbergetters of the Wollondilly

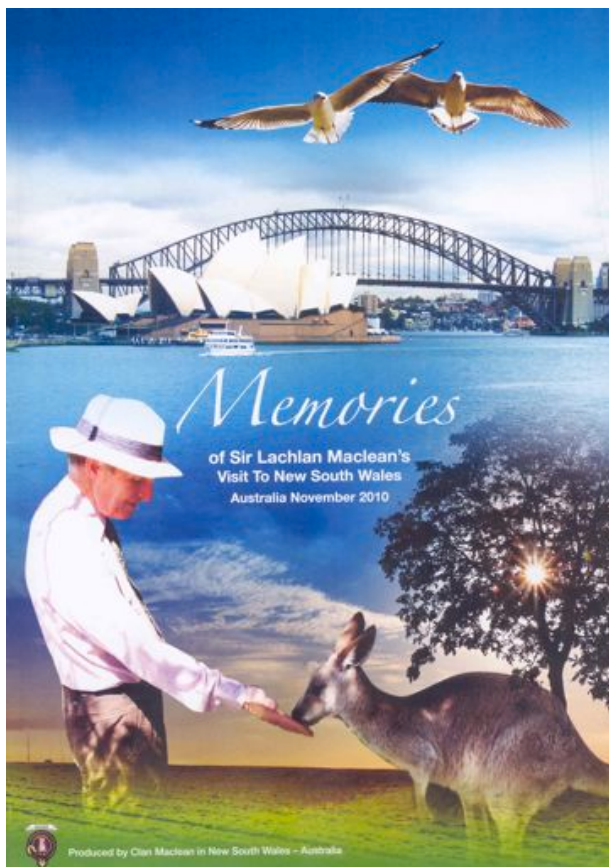
100 years of Apple Growers in Oakdale

His interest in our Clan spawned books on early Maclean settlers in NSW and in 1993 he began compiling a series with the object of "Laying a foundation on which to build as much history of Macleans in NSW between 1788 and 1902 as would be possible from available sources"

Colin's Dad had served in World War I, so when he was of age he also served in the Army, in the Korean War. Having an interest in things military he compiled books on Macleans in WWI (with the benefit of his father's pictures, which had been carefully preserved), and then continued on with a book of WW2 Macleans.

In 2007 Colin was awarded 'Honorary Membership' of the CMIA in recognition of his dedication and support of the Clan.

Colin's wife Norma is also a Life Member of Clan Maclean in NSW and at our recent Meeting she was presented with a floral tribute on behalf of the members.



Book of Memories

We thank our members and friends who have purchased the "Book of Memories". Letters in response have been full of praise and congratulations to the Clan Committee for producing a book full of colour and a very professional presentation that includes a DVD. The books have recorded every moment of the Chiefs 2010 visit to New South Wales and a special copy of the book will be presented to Sir Lachlan in June 2012 at Duart Castle by the group of Australian Clan members that are attending the Centenary Gathering.

Clan Maclean Centenary Gathering in June 2012

Northern Highland Travel our valued sponsor has prepared the paperwork for the forty-plus members and friends who have committed to attend the Centenary Gathering on Mull in June and the subsequent "Tour of Scotland" following the gathering. Most Australians visiting overseas countries tend to extend their time away from home when travelling due to the long distances to most destinations and the idea to tour Scotland after the conclusion of the Gathering has attracted some members and friends to visit Scotland for the first time. Our program for the "Tour of Scotland" includes Glasgow, Isle of Skye, Ullapool, Thurso, Orkney Islands, Inverness, Highland Excursion, and Edinburgh - then some sightseeing back in Glasgow.

Life Members

At the general meeting of Clan Maclean in NSW – Australia held in February 2012 the members present nominated and accepted that Norma & Ian McLean become Life Members for their tireless contribution to the Clan over the past fifteen years. The constitution of Clan Maclean in NSW – Australia has a clause that includes the following words "Life Membership may be conferred upon a member who has rendered outstanding service to The Clan". Members at the General Meeting



held in February 2012 unanimously agreed that Norma and Ian definitely met the standards required by the constitution, and although the Life Member Certificates will not be issued until the next General Meeting in May 2012, the members present congratulated Norma & Ian for their well deserved awards.

Clan Maclean (Scottish House)

Recently Les McLean was appointed President of Scottish House, (the Australian Scottish Cultural and Information Centre Incorporated), an association which assists all the Clans and the general public with their Scottish enquiries. Scottish House attends most of the organised Gatherings and provides tent accommodation and liability insurance for the Clans and has been

Colin McLean Sproule with the Chief and Clan

of great assistance to Clan Maclean over past years.

Clan Maclean has travelled to several gatherings during the past year including the township of Maclean, Bundanoon (the largest gathering in the southern hemisphere) Berry, Aberdeen, Toukley, Canberra (Australia's Capital).

Scottish House also arranges other functions during the year that are specifically designed to encourage all the various Clans to get together to celebrate past historical events such as the Battle of Bannockburn and the Battle of Falkirk.

Scottish Australian Heritage Council

Clan Maclean is also a member of the Scottish Australian Heritage Council and we have attended several functions during the year including 'Kirkin' o' the Tartan' at Saint Stephens Church in Sydney and the 'Burns Dinner' also held in Sydney.

In summary, this year has been very busy, but very rewarding for Clan Maclean in NSW - Australia. It has had both membership and financial growth thanks to a very active and visionary committee.



Western Australia

Peter MacLean ~ President

Hearty and fraternal greetings to all Clansfolk everywhere from CMA Western Australia. We look forward to meeting many of you at the Clan Maclean Centenary Gathering on Mull in June. As a consequence of Sir Lachlan's visit to Australia and New Zealand in November, 2010, there is great enthusiasm for the Gathering and each of our Associations will be represented in record numbers.

Annual luncheon

Our Annual Luncheon was held in September, 2011. We chose 'The Clansman' in South Yunderup as the venue and it proved to be a very suitable place for our members to meet and celebrate together. It is a lovely setting on the banks of the Murray River, has Scottish décor and the ambience of a British hotel. We had a lovely meal including haggis, were entertained with some piping, toasted our Chief and had a very pleasant afternoon enjoying the fellowship of members and friends.



Inter clan liaison

As has been the custom for several years we met with our Clan Associations' members and friends for two very pleasant events. The first was a Combined Clans picnic in King's Park, a 1,000 acre natural bush reserve overlooking the City of Perth. There was entertainment from various sources with the Macleans providing the piping renditions. Then in June, we joined other Clans for the Kirkin' o' the Tartan followed by an enjoyable lunch and musical afternoon at the Air Force Estate in Bull Creek.



Armada Highland gathering

On 20 November, we promoted our Clan and Association at the Armadale Highland Gathering with a prominent display in the clan tent which generated quite a bit of interest. Brian McLean set up an excellent display of Clan Maclean history and genealogical items and was available throughout the day



Top: President Peter Presenting Stephen Maclean
With his Membership Certificate

Centre right: Brian Willis & Brian McLean

Lower right: Maureen Maclean (standing) and her Family

Centre left: Alex Cumming & his Daughter,
Betty Leonard & Treasurer, Lyn Brodribb

Centre: Val & Brian McLean, Marlene Forrest-Moore, Joy Dench, Doug & Frances McLean

to respond to the public interest and questions the display generated. Maureen Maclean put together a hamper which was raffled, with proceeds boosting Clan funds.

Armadale is a suburb situated south-east of Perth city and the Council has in recent years promoted Scottish heritage and events. Some years ago the City registered its own tartan and the Annual Highland Gathering has now developed into the premier event on the Western Australian Scottish community calendar.

Life membership award

At the Annual General Meeting held on 5 December, 2011, the members unanimously bestowed Life Membership on Valerie McLean. Val has been a tireless contributor to our Clan and gave outstanding service as the Treasurer from 1991 to 2008, meticulously looking after the Clan's financial records and introducing ideas for fund-raising.

She and husband Brian have been very involved with the organising of all of our Clan events over many, many years and so it was fitting that three years after Brian was elected our first Life Member, Val should have accorded the same honour.

Sincere congratulations Val from all your friends in the Clan locally, nationally and internationally and the contribution you and Brian have made to Clan Maclean has been far reaching and most valuable.

World's first Karaoke bagpipe program

Congratulations to Clan member, Malcolm MacLean, who has created a unique program titled 'BagpipeStar' which allows pipers to play along to backing tracks to favourite piping tunes, karaoke-style.

The fully-produced backing tracks are tuned to the difficult scale of the great highland bagpipe, and allow pipers to experience playing with full rock, concert, folk and brass band accompaniment.

Available as a DVD or as digital files for iPhones, tablets and computers, the player just needs to turn up their hifi speakers to match the volume of their pipes, and play along to the sheet music scrolling on the screen as he or she performs. It's perfect for pub performances, busking, karaoke sessions with pipe band friends, playing on laptops with electronic pipes, or just making solo practices more interesting.

BagpipeStar was launched at the recent WA Police Scottish Day Out event with quite a few sales on the day, and has been selling well in the USA and around the world via the website.



To see a video demonstration of BagpipeStar in action, or to order a copy, visit <http://www.BagpipeStar.com>

This is proving popular worldwide and is a credit to the ingenuity and talents of our "Honorary Piper". Malcolm is also the President and a Life Member and long serving Pipe Sergeant of the Perth Highland Pipe Band.

2012 Centenary Gathering

At this time many of us are focussed on the Centenary Gathering of our Clan to be held on Mull in June, 2012. It is wonderful that Western Australia will be so well represented at this historical event and I know Sir Lachlan will be delighted with our support.



Above: Val and Brian McLean at the AGM and Christmas Luncheon after the Conferring of Val's Life Membership

Below left: Pipers John Dunbar & Peter MacLean
'Now what shall we play?'

Below right: Honorary Piper, Malcolm MacLean



Clan Maclean in Australia Inc.

Rewa Feenaghty

In November we held our AGM in the Warrnambool area on the south coast of Victoria. The weekend was organised by John and Jean Paton who went to a lot of trouble and it was a great success – especially the lovely food provided by Jean. We had our traditional dinner at the Lady Bay Hotel on the Saturday prior to the Sunday meeting. Some of the local Macleans joined us and seemed very interested in CMAA, and we hope they become members.

The AGM itself was held in the picturesque town of Koroit, we went there because of our interest in the Shearer's strike of 1891 when Billy McLean was shot and became somewhat of a hero; there is a memorial to him in Koroit.

Our guest speaker was author, song writer and musician Dennis O'Keefe. He spoke of Billy McLean, mentioning that there is some speculation that he was the inspiration for "Waltzing Matilda"

At the AGM we were told that unfortunately, due to circumstances, neither the Senior nor Junior Vice Presidents were in a position to fulfill the role of President in 2012 and so Gordon, whose term was expiring, was asked to continue for another year.

The good news was we are pleased to welcome a new Secretary cum Editor, Kiran Mudaliar. Her mother is a McLean and the family came from Coll. She is coming to the Gathering so everyone can meet her then.

Also in November, Dorothy and Grahame Gartside celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary (60 years) with congratulations coming from the Queen, the Governor General and the Prime Minister.

It was decided to hold our celebration of the Chief's Birthday in March this year down in Hobart, Tasmania. We have not been there for a function before. It was well worth the trip, and a lot of us came over from the mainland. At our council meeting it was decided to trial a software program that Mark McLean demonstrated to us; it should make life easier for office bearers and may encourage younger members to come on council – as Mark has done, promising to help us.

No one enjoyed the weekend more than 89-year-old Iris who really made the night for those of us who were lucky enough to sit with her; her two sisters also came. There she was at the Kirkin'o'the Tartan next morning bright and early and raring to go – these McLean girls are strong, you know. Kiran, her mother and helpers gave us a great time.

At our AGM in Warrnambool it was decided we should have our Chief's Birthday Banquet celebration early this year to enable members to go to the very special Gathering this year.

Because of distance we do not get together as often as we would like but we certainly enjoy ourselves when we do. This year we have been to Warrnambool and Hobart. We had not had a do in Hobart before but it is the home town of our new Secretary cum Editor.



Top: John & Jenny Parsons (Grahame Gartside's daughter) with Gordon

Above: Members enjoying themselves at the Dinner before the AGM

Right: John and Jean Paton with their son Andrew

Below: Three former Misses McLean at the dinner in Hobart with Iris in the centre



New Zealand

Noel Robinson ~ Publicist

Following on the highlight of our Chief, Sir Lachlan's visit in November 2010, life has returned to normal for the CMANZ. Our main and ongoing focus is the provision of services to our members and ensuring a presence at as many Highland Games and other events as it is practical to do so.

This past year we have also had some members who have been affected by the major earthquakes in Christchurch and we have offered our support where appropriate. For this city and surrounding area it will be many years before life resembles anything like normal and fellow new Zealanders are very mindful of this.



Above left: Sir Lachlan, talking to Clan Member Des McLean at the Waipu Cemetery in November 2010.

Right: Rewa talking to President Ian McLean during her visit.

One of the great joys of the clan world wide is the occasional opportunity to meet fellow clansmen from other lands and we were pleased have had a visit from Rewa Feenaghty of Melbourne, Australia and Clan Maclean Australia Vice President and to share time with her and her husband. This visit, although brief just emphasises so readily the great fellowship and friendship that the Clan brotherhood generates.



Looking forward - some of our members will be visiting Mull for the Gathering in June. Shortly afterwards we plan to extend the Annual Dinner and Tartan Day to the wider community, and in conjunction with the local Museum and Cemetery Board, to conduct a guided tour of the historic local cemetery at Waipu, in which many of those who made the historic voyages from Nova Scotia to New Zealand in the 1850's are interred. It is our hope that this project will not only highlight the graves of notables, but provide interesting family notes and information on others there. We anticipate this project will result in a booklet being available to enable self-guided tours in later years.

We sent warmest fraternal greetings to Clan Maclean members worldwide and invite your contact with us.



“Tartan in the Park”

A Clan Maclean Association of New Zealand Project that is growing.

Some six years ago, as the Committee of the Clan Maclean Association of New Zealand sat pondering how to improve communication and impact with the Clan and also the Scots community generally, the idea of a fun fashion parade was developed. Something that would have interest from the community, something where skilled seamstresses might exhibit their handiwork, something above all where we could all have some fun.



Yes, there were other events already like wearable arts and also “Fashion in the Fields” (held in conjunction with horse racing events. Cautiously and with some trepidation, we enlisted the assistance of the Waipu Caledonian Society to provide us with a stage for an hour at their Annual Highland Games and the first event took place on 1 January 2008 with just a few entries but plenty of enthusiasm.

The initial categories for were for Children Under 14 years (both boys and girls) and for men and women. As popularity for the event and its fun grew we have continued each year at Waipu and for the past four years have also held the event at the Paeroa Highland Games and Tattoo. In fact it is now a sort of “prelude” to the Tattoo and is held in from of a sizeable audience.



As we have progressed some of the garments being worn have been stunning, other very novel, and others more traditional. Each competitor is interviewed by a Master of Ceremonies and asked for information on their clan links, details of the tartan used, and also information on the particular garments. In the adult area garments have ranged from replica Jacobite garments (and weapons) to evening and classic day wear. Imagination is also apparent in many children’s garments. Most recently we have introduced a fifth category of Toddlers under four-years-old. This was in response to the audience’s clear love of seeing the “wee ones” in their finery.

Entry is now free but winners and runners up usually attract valuable prizes and we certainly appreciate the great effort competitors and their creative teams put in to the event. It is now well established.

We have competitors from around the world as well as from many areas of New Zealand. The event is always a feature in news (including Television) coverage of Games. Persons or organisations interested in more details can contact the Clan Maclean of New Zealand – we would love to hear from you!

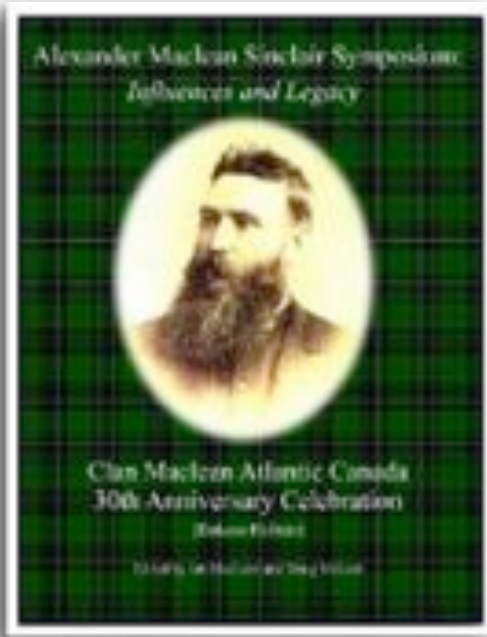


Atlantic ~ Canada

George Maclean ~ President

Greetings to all from Clan Maclean Atlantic-Canada (CMA-C). Visit us at www.clanmacleanatlantic.org

A significant achievement as a result of our 30th year anniversary as a Clan Maclean association (1979-2009) was the release of the commemorative book in 2011, *Alexander Maclean Sinclair; Influences and Legacy*. The major event associated with our thirtieth anniversary meeting was a one day symposium presented in partnership with the Celtic Studies Dept. at St. Francis Xavier University.



As well as chronicling CMA-C's thirty year history, the book also contains the full excerpts of the presenters and keynote speakers on this fascinating man, A. Maclean Sinclair. He was one of the Clan's greatest historians, linguists, poets and singers. The book is available on our website.

One of the highlights of our 30th Anniversary celebration was the unveiling of our MacLean cairn at Cairn Park in Antigonish. Our Chief, Sir Lachlan, was on hand to handle the unveiling, the dedication and the requisite dousing with a splash of whiskey.

In May-June, well known genealogy expert and historian, Terry

Punch, released his new book, *Some Early Scots in Maritime Canada – Volume 1*; published by Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, MD, 2011. Our own Ian MacLean was at the book launch and states "The book features a short history of Scots emigration to the Maritimes, and a very good review of the reasons for the migration."

Mr. Punch's research has uncovered information from documents not easily accessible by the general public. If you have any eastern Canadian blood in your veins you may wish to obtain this book. You can find it at www.genealogical.com Members of CMA-C were once again present and active at a number of festivals, games and events across the region during our busy period from June to Sept.



Clan Maclean Scottish Gathering

The Annual Gathering will be held on Saturday 3rd November 2012 in the Glynhill Hotel, Renfrew, near Glasgow Airport. This is a family run hotel which has good parking, a leisure centre and swimming pool. Tickets will cost £38 per adult and £18 per child aged 8 to 15 inclusive.

The hotel has offered the Clan special accommodation rates of £75 for a double room and £65 for a single room, to include breakfast and use of the extensive leisure club. When booking please use the Group code MAC 0312. The hotel is very accessible by road (Exit 27 on M8), by rail (Paisley, Gilmoor Street) and by air (Glasgow Airport).

Applications for ticket should be sent to:
Lt Col Donald MacLean, 2 Fullerton Drive, Seamill,
Ayrshire KA23 9HT, UK. Tel: +44(0) 1294 823240 Email:
col.damaclean@btinternet.com

Conor's Pudding

The Proof of the Pudding.....

Hearty congratulations to Conor McLean from Glenrothes, Scotland who on 27th May won the ITV cookery competition 'Britain's Best Dish, 2011' with his award winning 'Best Dessert' of vanilla friande with amaretto cream, fromage blanc sorbet and blueberry compote with pernod, which he had created himself.

The competition consisted of eight weeks of regional heats contested by 162 amateur cooks in the UK who presented either a starter, main course or desert.

In the early rounds, the cooking took place in the TV studio and the dishes were judged by Ed Baines (English Chef and Restauranter), Jilly Goolden (British wine critic, journalist and television personality) and John Burton Race (a Michelin starred chef).



*Photo ~ D C Thomson & Co Ltd
80 Kingsway East
Dundee DD4 8SL*

In the semi-final however, the remaining six contestants (two in each category) cooked on industrial equipment at the Savoy Hotel, London under the watchful eyes of Bernhard Mayer (Executive Chef), Trevor Mordaunt (Manager of The Thames Foyer Restaurant) and Stuart Stancombe (The Hotel's Assistant Director of Food and Beverages). At this stage of the competition the judges were Peter Harden (author of numerous food guides); Sophie Grigson (food writer) and William Sitwell (Magazine Editor, Waitrose Kitchen).

The final three dishes, cooked before a big TV audience, were judged by the aforementioned judges and the two managers from the Savoy.

Conor's pudding was described by the various judges as "Brilliant; insanely good", "Amazing cooking; close to miraculous", "Can't fault it", whilst his younger brother declared "it's too fancy, but I hope he wins and gets the money".

Apart from the winning dish being included on the menu at the Savoy, the prize consisted of £10,000 in addition to a trophy. Presenting the awards, Kieran MacDonald, General Manager of the Savoy had another surprise in store for Conor. He was told that the Head Chef had been so impressed by his cooking, he believed Conor had a career in catering. They wanted that to be at the Savoy, so he was offered a place on the apprenticeship programme run by the Savoy in conjunction with Westminster College. At this point, Conor, who had been described as 'Mr. Cool' throughout the competition cried, as did his Mum and Dad.

Maclean Pipers for the Centenary Gathering at Duart Castle.

We would like to produce a Maclean Pipe Band (less Drummers) to play at the Centenary Gathering at Duart Castle on Saturday 23rd June 2012. So if you are coming to the Gathering and play the Pipes, please contact Colonel Donald MacLean at col.damaclea@btinternet.com.

We did this in 2002, when James MacLean the Chief's Piper sent out a list of well known tunes to the volunteers in advance. This ad hoc Band did a few ten minute sessions on their own and then joined up with the Mull and Iona Pipe Band for the finale.



Mr Toad and the Stone of Destiny by Patrick Baird

Reviewed by Donald H. MacLean

An imaginative story featuring a family sailing the waters round Mull – with starring roles for Duart, Clan MacLean and some of our Clan lore (which might spark an interest in the traditional versions). It's aimed at teenage readers but if, like me, you're a wee bit past adolescence you might still like to sneak it onto your Kindle (for £4.08 in UK).

Clan Gillean USA

Bob McLean ~ President

As we all wait in anticipation of the Centennial Maclean Gathering it enters my mind that many Macleans will never experience a gathering of the Clan at Duart Castle. Due to age, health, family responsibilities or purely economic reasons the only glimpse of Scotland and the land of the Macleans will be provided by one or more of the many Highland games or festivals in our areas. No, it's not the same, but it is an introduction to our Scottish heritage and a chance to fellowship with other Macleans.

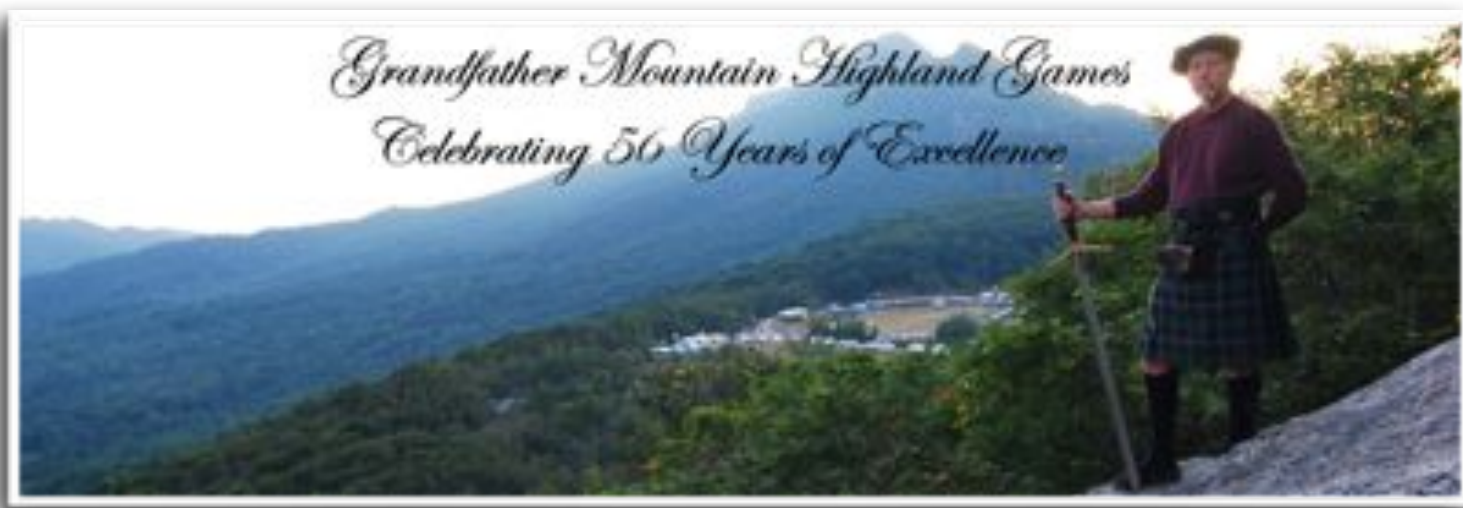
The highland games of Scotland gave way to the games in the new world. These include Grandfather Mountain Highland Games. Donald McDonald is the author of *America's Braemar*, a historical book covering the 50-year history of The Grandfather Mountain Highland Games (1956-2006). The largest and the longest running of the North American games is Pleasanton, California, which has taken place every year since 1865. The Celtic festivals and Scottish highland games vary in size from these huge masses of men in kilts to the very small one that may have a single piper for entertainment. They all give displaced Scots a chance to dress, eat, drink and party like we think is done in Scotland. I am very sure that many of the kilts and much of the food would not see the table in Scotland. Now, the drink is another matter. Strong ale or a dram of very peaty whisky is the same all over the world. Maybe a wee bit more water and some ice, but still the same amber liquor.

During the games or gatherings as some are called, our castles are the clan tents. Each Clan tries to outdo the others with our decorations and hospitality. Some of the clans are probably not very well known outside of the games, but all proudly fly their tartan flags. The Macleans are very well known at all of the games and have amassed quite a collection of trophies and

certificates naming us as the best clan tent, the best clan spirit or having the best shortbread at the games. We owe this recognition to the Maclean Clan conveners. These hard working members carry the tents and supplies to the games, set up the displays and get up very early to be the first at the tent to welcome all of their clansmen. Some spend late nights at the stove to prepare some delicacy for all to enjoy. The next time you attend a game please say thank you to the conveners, for without them there would be no games.

Of course the sports competition is one of the favorite activities, but many other are available. Games for the wee lads and lassies have their own cabers, stones and sheafs, a little less weight and size, of course. Men, women, boys and girls compete in many different events. Some events are unique to a single game, such as the ale relay. This pits teams of maids trying to fill a large container with ale by running a relay carrying a dram of ale each time. Some competition with weapons is seen, but no hand to hand is allowed, thank God for that. After all, Campbells do show up at these gatherings. The Maclean Clan sponsors the battleaxe competition at many of the games. There is also the test of accuracy with the longbow.

Many dignitaries can be seen at the festivals. It is a prime spot for politicians because the Scottish population in North Carolina, at least, far outnumbers all others. Most games select an honored clan for the year and The Chief of that clan or a designated representative is invited. We were very excited in April of 2011 when we were selected as the Honored clan at the Loch Norman Highland Games. Sir Lachlan and Lady Rosemary were our guests and the Macleans made a very good show, if I do say so. In 2010 Prince Andrew attended the Greenville, South





Carolina Games. All Scots present were very nice to The Prince as they smiled and waved with enthusiasm. Many have suggested that we invite Sir Sean Connery to an event, but so far we haven't been successful.

Music plays a big part in the games. Both solo Bagpipe and Pipe Band competitions are very popular. Celtic bands are usually a part of the entertainment. You can't help but keep time to the drums of Albanach or sing along with Alex Beaton. Highland dance is very present at

most of the games. Young women and men compete in different dances, such as the Highland Fling and the Sword Dance. It is only for the young at heart and the very fit of body.

Another favorite activity at these games is wearing, or simply admiring the colorful tartan attire. A game may be the only time that someone has the opportunity to wear their kilt or skirt. Therefore you will see everything from a kilt made of canvas to a full dress highlander with Prince Charlie jacket and tartan fly. If you got it, wear it is the motto. Many of the lassies wear tartan arisaids with colorful dresses under. The showplace for all of this color is the Parade of Tartans, usually at the end of the festival.

All clans march as a unit, with the officers of the association leading and the clansmen following. Many will carry tartan or Scottish flags. Others, both men and women will brandish swords, dirks and battleaxes. It is truly a sight to behold.

So, as you say goodbye to friends and clansmen when you depart, you need not say "Till we meet again," just yell "See y'all at the next games."



Pacific Northwest USA

Jim McClean ~ President

We send greetings to fellow clansmen from the Pacific Northwest. The skiing to date has been among the best. We had a busy 2011, one tea, three festivals, ten highland games and our annual picnic. We were pleased to see our 2010 congratulation photo to the Chief and Lady Rosemary appeared in the "Clan Maclean Magazine". We ventured up into British Columbia again in 2011 and got soaked, which cut into the attendance. We made a stop at new Scottish/Irish Festival in Hamilton, Montana, on the western slope of the Rockies. It was held at the summer estate of Marcus Daly, one time "copper King" of Montana. He was an Irish immigrant. We enjoyed a very large crowd, lots of sun, good food and a well stocked bar! Our Heritage Project has been ongoing.

Washington State Tartan.

Our PNW member, Margaret McLeod Van Ness was behind the design and development of the Washington State Tartan. She was a member of the Vancouver USA Scottish Country Dancers and they took on the project of developing a State Tartan to commemorate the Washington State Centennial in 1989. The group began in 1985, and the dancers had numerous ideas about colors and their significance. Margaret distilled these six colors into a specific sett or pattern, and conferred with a fellow dancer who already had experience in tartan design. All the information was sent to Dalglish Mill in Scotland, asking them to weave a sample. They did samples both in ancient and modern colors. The dancers were unanimous in choosing the ancient color. Margaret noted that "1988" is the date used in the District Tartans book as the date given for the design. That would have been when the sample was woven and sent off to The Scottish Tartan Society in Cromie, Perthshire, Scotland for approval and registering. Another sample was taken to the Pendleton Mill in Washougal. They wove the first bolt, which Margaret and the dancers used in their campaign to have the Tartan to be the official symbol for the state of Washington. Senator Al Bauer introduced the bill, but not until the Legislature was started for a long session (they alternatively are in a long or short sessions each year). That is the reason the promoters had to wait until 1991 for past Governor Booth Gardner to sign it into law. The colors designations are; Green for the Evergreen State, Blue for all the lakes, rivers and ocean, White for the snow-capped mountains, Red for all the fruit (apples, cherries) Yellow, for all the grain, Black for Mt. St. Helens, (all rendered in ancient colors). Numerous pipe bands and pipers in Washington proudly wear the tartan.



And of course, the Scottish Country dancers wear the State tartan sashes and kilts! We are proud of our member, Margaret for a lasting contribution to promoting her Scottish heritage.

McLain Ave., Roseburg, Douglas, County, Oregon

In the 1930s a plot of land west of US Interstate 5, (I-5), which did not exist at that time, was originally private land purchased by a family name of McLain. It was on the outskirts of town, and a very private and secluded area. The family with a small access road built a few homes. As at that time the US Mail Service was designated as Rural Route Service, no street name meant no mail service. The family cut and graded a street through and named it McLain Ave., so they could get their mail. Up the gully from the houses was a large V-shaped opening in the foothills. The family



stared dumping trash there, to form a make shift road. The land now belongs to the City of Roseburg and is now the reclamation center, (AKA the city dump). There are various recycling stations at the site. The McLain road was paved and continued through all the way to the dump, where it dead-ends. The access road still has two or three homes, however there are no known living McLain relatives living in Douglas county or Roseburg. McLain Ave. is exit 121 off of I-5 just south of Roseburg.

First Mayor of Vancouver.

In the summer of 2011, the first Mayor of Vancouver BC, Malcolm Alexander Maclean would have turned 125 years-old, and several of our BC members suggested an article on his life. Malcolm Alexander Maclean (1842-1895) was born in Tyree, Scotland, and immigrated to Victoria County. Ontario, when Malcolm was 4 years old. He was educated at a grammar school and after his graduation he taught school in the county for



three years. He attended business school in Poughkeepsie, NY. For a time he managed the first-co-operative store in Oshawa. He moved to Toronto where he was manager of an assignees agency company. He married Margaret Ann Cattanach in Jan.1869, in Laggan, Glengarry Co. Ontario. Her father was from Inverness and mother from Skye. Family tradition relates that she was the granddaughter of the granddaughter of the famous Flora MacDonald of the Isle of Skye.

After gaining much business experience he moved to Winnipeg in 1877. He invested heavily in real estate but the business suffered in the recession after the boom of 1880-81, and he gave up. He settled for a time on a farm. This developed into the successful Laggan Stock Farm. He saw opportunity for advancement in coming to the



Pacific Coast in 1885, with the thought of going on to Hawaii. He stayed a few months in San Francisco. But then moved with his family to Vancouver (known as Granville) in 1885. Almost immediately upon arriving in Granville, Maclean entered local politics. When they arrived the population of the place was 600, and there were but a hundred habitable buildings. By May there were six times as many. In January and February he and a group of residents petitioned the provincial legislature for a change in the name of the town and for it's incorporation. As a result, the City of Vancouver came into existence on April 6 1886. The first Vancouver civic election, May 3, 1886 was a crooked affair and though the "good guy" won, only the chaos of the Great Fire of June 13, 1886, saved it from being declared null and void. The two candidates for Mayor were Richard H. Alexander, the manager of the Hastings Sawmill and Malcolm Alexander Maclean, who, though recently arrived and virtually unknown in Vancouver, who was approached and persuaded to run. There was, sad to say, chicanery, flimflam and coercion on both sides, however, by the end of the day 499 votes had been cast and Maclean was elected by a margin of 17 votes! In the confusion that followed the Great Fire, which destroyed most of Vancouver less than a month later, the protestations were dropped and Mayor Maclean went on to become elected for a second term. The burden of the reconstruction of the burned down city fell upon the newly elected mayor and newly formed council. Maclean's business connections back east helped obtain finances for rebuilding the city. In 1887 Maclean welcomed the first Canadian Pacific Railway train into Vancouver, and the first steamship into its harbour. At the end of his two years in office, he proudly reflected that the city streets had been cleared of giant stumps and graded, bridges and sidewalks had been constructed, and a fire department, a water works system and electric light and gas service and sewers had been put in place. He was successful in acquiring land for public parks, including Stanley Park. He was fluent in Gaelic and was the first President of the St. Andrews and Caledonian Society in Vancouver. He was made a justice of the peace and at the end of mayoralty he was appointed police magistrate of the city, a position he held until 1890. Known as "Squire Maclean" the first mayor died in 1895 at the age of 50, just weeks after he had been appointed stipendary magistrate for the District of Vancouver. He was buried in the Mountain View Cemetery with a large Celtic cross marker. It has since been vandalized over the years, however there is an old plaque above his grave noting him as the first mayor of Vancouver. Currently historical societies and city officials are planning some kind of new marker to be placed at the site. Malcolm Alexander Maclean accomplished a lot in his lifetime.

These Heritage projects have been a learning experience for our Association in the Northwest. It was interesting to find a lot of important Maclean/Maclaine history.

MacleanNet

Alasdair White ~ President

The last few years have seen a dramatic rise in the connectivity provided by the internet and a similar rise in the number of people actually using it for email, social networking sites and research. Some current figures suggest that in Europe, North America, Australia and New Zealand, computer penetration is now around 52%, in other words there is one computer for every two people. The research also shows that computer usage has now risen to around 75% (or three in every four people regularly use a computer), and the figures are very similar for online usage. The most frequent usage is for social networking and research and the fastest growing user demographic is the 55-70 year age group. But what also comes out of the research is that email is declining rapidly in terms of usage and popularity. Just about all online users have an email address (and maybe even two or three) but the number of messages sent and received has been declining for the last four or five years in terms of messages sent per email address registered. Furthermore, the volume of spam (unsolicited and even inappropriate email) has now reached around 90% of all emails in the area under consideration.



Taking all these factors into account has led MacleanNet to reconsider the way our members interact and the original email discussion groups have now migrated to Facebook and the email discussion lists will be closed in the next few months. We will be retaining our 'new' list as this is the way that we can communicate to the whole group in one go. This move to Facebook brought into focus the community site that we had established on www.maclean.org for which there had been little take up - although established five years ago as a result of the suggestions at the International Gathering in 2007, it came into existence at the time that Facebook was in its first real growth phase and our members preferred not to split their social networking. The community site has, therefore, been taken down as part of the ongoing development of the website.

The website is now firmly in the capable hands of Ian McLean who is also runs the amateur radio group and he and Alasdair White have recently begun the slow process of checking and updating the entire site so that it more effectively serves the needs of the growing Maclean community around the world. The first step was to

relocate the site to a new hosting unit and the second has been to expand the coverage and support that maclean.org offers to the various clan associations, organisations and activities. At the moment, the 'public' face of this may not be too apparent to the interested visitor but a great deal of behind the scenes work has been undertaken and we are now about to move into the next phase which is to modify and update the content. Once that is complete, we will be developing new content and increasing the utility value of the site so that our ever more interconnected (even 'hyper-connected') clanspeople can gain more from it. These exciting steps are attuned with the recent developments of CMA pages and sites and we are looking to provide much greater interconnection and thus linking the entire world via maclean.org.

Many of these ideas will be aired and discussed at the International Gathering on Mull in June this year and we look forward to coming away with new ideas and the certainty of renewed enthusiasm for the online clan. We look forward to meeting MacleanNet members and encouraging others to join us while we're on Mull and everyone will be welcome to visit Ian and Alasdair in the Aros Hall in the days before the Gathering.



A tribute to Vincent Gillon

1942 - 2012

On the hill above Tobermory, in the wee Log Cabin Hotel during a MacLean Gathering in the nineties, the presidents of three CMA branches (and a half-bottle of Glenmorangie) met, sketched-out the idea of CMIA — and charged me, from London, with its implementation. It proved a challenging task.

The hotel is long gone. Sadly Scott MacLean (Pacific NW) succumbed to cancer before any progress was made. Vince Gillon (Ontario), born in Gourrock, while an executive of the Toronto Ministry of Transportation was elected President of the "Scottish Societies of Canada". He was an early supporter when I created MacLeanNet, and we maintained a friendship I valued until his death on 16 March 2012.

Vince is survived by brothers Jack and Paul, daughter Eleanor and son Rob. And by a vibrant CMIA.

Donald H. MacLean.

Hon V.P. CMIA & CMA.

Clan Maclean International Association



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