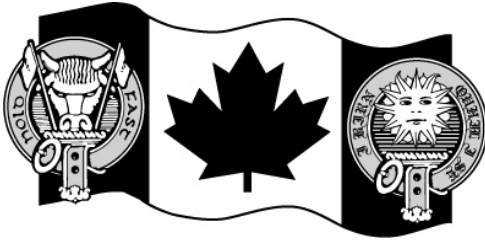




# The LEOD VOICE



CLAN M<sup>AC</sup>LEOD  
SOCIETIES CANADA  
NATIONAL COUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER # 50  
SPRING, 2009



RAASAY HOUSE 2006

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BY DON M. MCLEOD



Dear Clansfolk,

The spring is finally here for us Canadians and we are all busy with our projects. My wife, Christine and I have just planted another 600 grape plants at my parents' vineyard in Naramata, BC, which we have taken over. We are in the process of replanting barley on the hayfield and we will be preparing for the Merritt Mountain Music Festival again for the 17<sup>th</sup> year.

Most of all we look forward to family reunions. We hope to see as many MacLeods as possible in St. Louis in June 2009 and we will try to see as many friends and family as we drive back from our destination in New York, where one of our twin boys is in 3<sup>rd</sup> year medical school. Preparing for the Olympics in Vancouver for February 2010 we be another venture for most of us here in BC.

Christine and I have just returned from Victoria where we attended the Victoria Highland Games with our daughter, Skye. We love wandering through the various tents and reacquainting with the past highland dancing and piping days. The MacLeod Clan tent was organized by Malcolm and Karen from Vancouver Island and was a hotspot of activity as people streamed by to talk. Malcolm's parents are a fixture and Judy Tipple is always snapping pictures round-and-about the games. Wine, music and piping made the day perfect and sunscreen kept the evening cool and exciting. Neil R. and June McLeod have organized an event at Shuswap Lake for dinner and show with Celtic entertainment to follow.

Now I know the truth, that retirement can be busier than working days. I really am afraid of retirement, for fear that my routine could be shattered by unlimited new projects. I think for now, I will keep on working as the recruitment of new physicians seems to be getting more difficult in the smaller communities.

We hope to see everyone soon at various events with a culmination at Clan Parliament next year in 2010 at Dunvegan. It should be an exciting year. We have already had discussions about a new "Dunvegan Cup" organized and presented by MacLeods to Gaelic singing events. This

could be added to a list of ever-growing venues to keep some of the old traditions alive with some excitement. You will hear more of this idea soon as it becomes rooted and develops.

Hold Fast and Prosper



*Don's brother Stewart joins him with the piping duties at son Malcolm and Alison's wedding*



## SCOTLAND VISIT FEBRUARY

### 2009 BY CANADIANS

BY DON M. MCLEOD

Winter is coming to an end for the Canadians. Winter is a four-month process of mostly living indoors with weekend forays out to the world of winter sports like skiing, curling and hockey. Just what the stereotypical Canadian is supposed to do. As we get older, we become more socially gregarious again and look for reasons to celebrate. This seems to be no problem for the Irish and our Scottish ancestors weren't far behind. Our St. Patrick's Day celebrations have

been organized for March but since Gaelic is the common ground, we think that piping and highland beef should be part of the celebration. The entertainment will likely be Red Hot Chili Pipers and Celtic Women interspersed with beverages and scones.

Christine and I have just returned from the MacLeod ACMS gettogether in Edinburgh and we must report a wonderful time. Traveling in the winter in the northern hemisphere means nippy weather but no crowds and no children on

the streets. Most attractions were open and the traffic is generally light, so enjoyable. It is such a warm feeling to be amongst a group of MacLeods with a common purpose that revolves around family. I feel like sitting in a church hall, listening to plans for a family reunion. There is such a smooth commonality in the topics brought up at the meeting. It is a pleasure seeing the dedication and the experiences of MacLeod families from around the world.

The ceilidh in the evening at the Holiday Inn on Londonferry Road was especially different as people from the audience sang beautiful Gaelic songs to us all. The music from the Celtic fiddle and accordion was extraordinary and made for an all around attempt at Scottish Country Dancing. This was the highlight of a trip that included a car trip to the Blarney Castle to kiss the stone of “eloquence” and a visit to Dublin to see if they had learned any Scottish music to go along with their standard “Irish Eyes”. Our trip concluded with a visit to Brussels to meet with representatives from each European country to discuss strategies for dealing with depression and dementia in Europe. There is a feeling that “presenteeism”, which is being present at the workplace but not effective at your job due to illness, is as bad a problem for productivity as “absenteeism”.

I do have some advice for



MacLeod travelers anywhere in the world. If you do enjoy meeting with MacLeods, I suggest that you always include some visible tartan. My wife and I wore green MacLeod jackets and whether we were in Paris, Brussels, Dublin or London, people would either ask where in Scotland we were from or tell us that they had MacLeods or Scottish roots in their family. This was amusing because often in Scotland, strangers would greet us on the street with “Good morning Mr. and Mrs. McLeod”, just because they identified the tartan.

We were proud of the fact that we have the only cultural dress in the galaxy as far as we know, that identifies our family name from a distance. If you are law abiding, then this is fine. Europe is expensive but then traveling is expensive anyway. There will be no finer time to reacquaint ourselves with our past and help each other with our futures than to stay in touch and hopefully meet in Dunvegan 2010. Δ

# CMSC VAN ISLAND

BY MALCOLM MACLEOD



The Clan MacLeod Society of Vancouver Island had a very busy and successful two days at the 72nd Victoria Highland games and Celtic Festival. Karen and I attended a meet and greet reception on Friday night in the officer's mess at the Bay Street Armories, and were at the field early to set our tent up on Saturday morning. We were busy with visitors right away. CMSC President Dr. Don and Chris arrived on Saturday morning accompanied by their daughter Skye.

We signed up five new memberships and would like to extend a warm welcome to them:

\* Bruce McLeod and Penny from Brentwood Bay B.C. (Dr Don's older brother)

\* Skye and Lachlan McLeod, Dr Don's daughter and son from Victoria.

\* Janet and Dorothy MacLeod, sisters from Victoria.

\* Duncan Taylor and Calum MacDonald-Taylor from Victoria.

\* Eric Ages, from Victoria.

\* Don & Lonia MacLeod of Salt Spring Island.

We were also visited by members John McLeod from Sidney, my parents Neil and Fran MacLeod from Duncan and my sister Carol Avon. Judy Tipple made it over on



*Francis and Neil have a long chat with a visitor who had taught French on Skye.  
Several new members were signed up at the tent.*

Sunday, after which she came to Duncan with us to stay over and visit.

On Saturday evening, Karen and I went out to dinner to a restaurant called *The Bard and Banker* with Dr. Don and Chris and Skye then we walked back to our motel. On our way we noticed an Oriental couple and she was taking his picture and trying to get me in it as well. I sidled over to him and put my arm around him and Karen

went to the other side. Were they ever excited and she was saying “MacWoud, MacWoud. Thank you, Thank you!” This puzzled me how they knew we were MacLeod’s since I had no name tag on and they didn’t speak English. It then dawned on me that they must have watched the TV show “The Highlander” and anyone in a kilt to them was a (MacWoud) MacLeod.



*Lining up for the Parade of Clans: Karen, Malcolm and Judy invited banner-holding help from two friendly Murrays from the tent next to the MacLeod’s*



# CMS MANITOBA

BY PRAIRIE BOB MCLEOD

**W**elcome to Winterpeg & Manitoba. Six months of snow, wind, and icy roads. What ever happened to global warming?

Coming up for the summer months will be the Manitoba Highland Games in Selkirk and hope that we are invited to set up our MacLeod table etc. Early August will be the week long Folklorama and the Scottish Pavilion will be held at a new location, the Glenwood Community Centre, 27 Overton St, in St.Vital. Volunteers are needed for setup and take down, and others to work a few hours on the Macleod display table. A head person has not come forward yet so in the meantime, for information, phone our president Roy McLeod 661-0818.



Clan MacLeod Manitoba will celebrate its 21st anniversary on Saturday evening, October 3rd, with our annual dinner being held at the Victoria Inn, close to the airport. Forty to fifty Mac/McLeods are expected to attend, so come on out.

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of two of our members. J. David McLeod, age 43. son of Carole (McLeod) and John Cox also Robert Erle McLeod, age 89, father of Barbara, Shirley and son Robert.

May they rest in peace.

## GENEALOGY REPORTS

BY LESLIE MCCRIMMON

**W**ell, spring has sprung and the outdoor work has begun. While you are making up your “to do” list, be sure to include sending in MacLeod Family Tree forms. Our database of MacLeods and septis is slowly growing. With your help we may be able to connect more people together. I hear the following from people:

- I don't have much information
- I need to speak to Great-Aunt ?? first
- I'm not sure of the spelling
- I only have the birth year, not the whole date

Please send in what you have right now. We can fill in the blanks later and this may just kick-start

some people into doing some research. It is helpful to have date-of-birth and location, date-of-death and location, marriage date and location, as well as middle names or initials. If you are searching for the family of John MacLeod (McLeod), it is difficult to pin down the proper family, as there are many, many John MacLeods. Just do your best.

To get more information or Family Genealogy Forms to help you fill in your information, please contact me by snail mail at: Lesley McCrimmon, 16619 Innis Lake Road, Caledon, ON L7C 3A4 (Canada) or by e-mail at:

[lmccrimmon@hotmail.com](mailto:lmccrimmon@hotmail.com).

Have a great summer. Δ

Yours in Clanship, Lesley

## SELKIRK SETTLERS MONUMENT

Information gleaned from an article by Hayley Brigg published in the Selkirk Journal, Sept 19/08

The dedication of the Selkirk Settlers Monument proved to be a delight to all in attendance. Lord and Lady Selkirk, descendants of the original Lord Selkirk who founded the city of Selkirk, joined other dignitaries in applauding the organizers of the weekend-long celebrations.

Over 350 pipers, drummers, and Scottish organization members participated in the afternoon parade from the Legislature to Waterfront Drive.

Upon arriving at their destination the guests of honour, including Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba the Hon. John Harvard, were accompanied across the river by voyagers from the Red River Brigade to the site of the monument. Among other highlight of the celebration

was a visit to the Selkirk Settlers Encampment at Fort Gibraltar, and an authentic 1872-style dinner gala for over 250 guests.

The Selkirk Settlers Monument is a replica of the 'Emigrant's Statue' in Helmsdale, Scotland. It commemorates the historical journey of the poor crofters forced from their homes and farms to the Red River area of Manitoba. The Fifth Earl of Selkirk Thomas Douglas, a humanitarian and philanthropist, sponsored the 1812 emigration to the Red River valley.

Planning for the 2012 Selkirk Settlers Bicentennial Celebrations is well underway with local cooperation and interest at a high level. For more information on the upcoming bicentennial, or how to become involved, contact Robert Bruce Barron via email at [northst@mts.net](mailto:northst@mts.net). Δ



# SIMON FRASER PIPE BAND NEWS

BY RON  
MACLEOD

Greetings, a message about a rather unique fund-raising campaign by the SFU Pipe Band.

## Travel to the Worlds Pipe Band Competition with the SFU Pipe Band

The Band is very excited to offer a special once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to become an honorary SFU Pipe Band member and travel to Glasgow this coming August. This trip is being auctioned off to the highest bidder on e-Bay as a fundraiser for the Band. The trip includes airfare, accommodation for the week, a ticket to our 'Affirmation' concert, and a seat in the preferred seating section in the Grade I World Championship arena. But this insider's trip also gives you access to all of the Band's practices, the annual pre-Worlds dinner (where you'll be required to participate in the traditional rookie speeches) and a seat on the Band bus.

As earlier indicated, the Band will be performing at the annual pre-Worlds concert on Wednesday, August 12th at the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall. The show, entitled 'Affirmation' will feature both new and retrospective material.



Glaswegian Celtic-rock group *Wolfstone* will open and also perform with the Band. Former SFU Pipe Band members Stewart Liddell and Steven McWhirter, taking a break in their leadership roles with the Grade II Inverary & District Pipe Band, also will make an appearance. Tickets are available from the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall's box office or online at <http://www.glasgowconcerthalls.com/whatson/event/84135-The-Simon-Fraser-University-Pipe-Band--Affirmation>.

The concert will be recorded and released as a CD before the end of 2009.

## Vernon Concert

As a warm-up for the Glasgow show, the Band will perform in Vernon, BC on Friday, July 10th at the end of the first week of the very popular Piping Hot Summer Drummer School. This will be the second time that the Band has taken the stage at the Vernon and District Performing Arts Centre. Tickets are available now at the online store [http://sfupipeband.com/html/cdn\\_order.htm](http://sfupipeband.com/html/cdn_order.htm) Δ

# NEWS FROM SCOTLAND

## THE CULLODEN BATTLEFIELD

### MEMORIAL PROJECT

*(Retrieved from the Culloden  
Battlefield Memorial Project  
Website and Rampart Scotland 's  
'Scottish Snippets)*

On 16th April 1746, Government forces led by the Duke of Cumberland defeated the army of Prince Charles Edward Stuart and ended hopes of restoring the Jacobite Stuarts to the British throne. The battle, staged on open moorland, saw a decisive victory for the 9000 strong Government army. Within one hour, the 5000 hungry and exhausted Jacobite soldiers were defeated and the rebellion crushed.

Culloden represents a turning point in Scottish history. In the years following the battle, many Highlanders sought to begin new lives around the world, free from the oppression they faced in their homeland. The events of that day remain deep and significant in the national psyche of the Scottish people. Acknowledging this, The National Trust for Scotland is building an exciting and innovative new multimedia visitor center at the site, which presents with dignity and objectivity the dramatic events surrounding the battle”.

<http://www.culloden.org.uk>. The Trust needs to raise £1.95 million (\$3.6m) to complete this world-class visitor centre. Please consider sponsoring a stone to demonstrate your lasting support.

We all have an opportunity of putting our own mark (and support) on this enterprise by buying a stone engraved with name, clan, and/or inscription to be laid in the Culloden Walk pathway alongside those of others from around the world. The Walk will be located in the approach to the Visitor Centre, a lasting reminder to all who visit and those who have contributed to such a symbolic heritage site. In addition to buying a stone to be laid in the walk you can also purchase replica stones to keep at home, each one an exact replica of the stone laid in the walk. To find out more about this project, click on

<http://www.cullodenwalk.org.uk/> The National Trust for Scotland is a registered charity SC 007410.

### **Heraldry and The Lord Lyon**

**R**obin Orr Blair, LVO, WS, Lord Lyon King of Arms, was in the United States this winter, and proved to be a great hit with everyone fortunate enough to meet him. Appointed in 2001, Lord Blair has been to the U. S. before, but this time he toured the Southeast, with stops in Sarasota, Savannah, Charleston, Raleigh, then to New York before flying back to Scot-

land. The Lord Lyon explained the function of the Court of the Lord Lyon <http://www.lyon-court.com>, which is the heraldic authority for Scotland. It deals with all matters relating to Scottish Heraldry and maintains the Scottish Public Registers of Arms and genealogies. The Lord Lyon answered many questions about clans, coats of arms, etc. One of the myths he dispelled is that there exist “family” coats of arms. In fact, only an individual can be granted a coat of arms. It cannot be inherited.

### **Wearing a Sporran**

**B**e aware of new regulations for wearing a sporran while in Scotland.

A word to the wise if you plan to wear a sporran to any of the “Homecoming Scotland” festivities. Recent legislation by the Scottish Parliament means that those wearing fur or any part of a protected animal such as badger and otter can face prosecution if they do not have a license for it. It also applies to other vulnerable animals like deer, wildcats, hedgehogs, bats, lynx, moles, seals, whales, dolphins and porpoises. The rules will apply to the fur on sporrans, unless they were made before 1994. Applicants must prove that the animal was killed lawfully before they will be able to get a license. The new law is aimed at protecting

endangered species and is designed to close a number of loopholes and bring Scotland into line with other EU members. So those wearing full highland dress with a sporran made of such material will have to be able to produce a license or face a fine of up to £5,000 and six months in jail. (Retrieved from <http://www.rampantscotland.com/letter.html> )

### **Driving in Scotland & Mobile Phones**

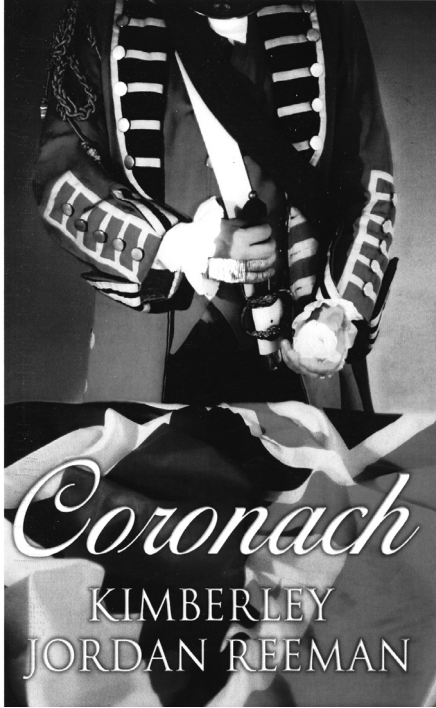
**R**esearch shows that people using mobile phones while driving are four times more likely to have an accident and are as dangerous as those driving while over the alcohol limit. So in December 2003 legislation came into force which penalized those caught risking their own and other people’s lives.

The fine for car drivers is £60 and three penalty points on the license. The maximum fine for a bus, truck or van driver is now £2,500. Δ



*Any more questions?*

## TWO INTERESTING READS



Let the truth be told...

Scotland, July 1746: an army of occupation commits atrocities that will reverberate across generations. From this bloody cataclysm, the hardened English soldier Mordaunt saves an infant who will become his heiress and his obsession, and a traumatized Franco-Scottish laird, Ewen Sterling, offers refuge to a boy damaged by unspeakable horror.

Their lives, fatally bound, unfold against the turbulence of the eighteenth century, in a magnificent, uncompromising saga of love and human cost of war.

Available through the Toronto author, now living in England. Web site: [www.douglasreeman.com](http://www.douglasreeman.com).

ISBN 978-1-4343-1298-3. Δ

## SCOTLAND'S BOOKS

A BRIEF REVIEW BY RON MACLEOD

Scotland's Books was written by Robert Crawford, Professor of Modern Scottish Literature at the University of St. Andrews. The copy I am reading is published in soft cover by Oxford University Press, copyright 2009, printed in New York. An earlier edition was published in Britain by Penguin Books Limited in 2007.

This is marvellous work by a renowned scholar. The author reaches back from the present state of literature in Scotland to the

earliest remnants, some of which reaches as far back as 1,500 years to touch on the monks Columba of Iona and Adomnán. All of the languages of Scotland during that long span are featured, whether Gaelic, Latin, old English and Scots and English (which flow from Old English). Except for a few names, the Pictish language is lost forever.

The interaction of Scottish literature with that of the international community is well explained. In that respect, the inscription

‘Scottish by Nationality, in Spirit a Citizen of the World’ says it all.

Don’t be restrained by the thought of reading through 728 pages. This is the kind of book that you can dip into. A veritable feast of experience awaits you as you follow the scholar as he moves along the multitude of paths down which the Muse wandered for fifteen centuries. Along that winding way you will find much that will delight, stimulate, inform. The author’s erudite, lucid writing makes for pleasurable reading.

Do you want to sip at the poetic table of the modern-day Gaelic poets, Sorley MacLean, Catriona MacDonald, Donald MacAulay? Or earlier Gaelic poets such as Mary MacLeod (Mairi nighean Alasdair Ruaidh), Robb Donn, Iain Lom? Or perhaps at the feast set out in Blind Harry’s Scots medieval poem about William Wallace? Or is it a taste of William Dunbar’s poetic virtuosity that you seek? Or Ferguson, Burns, Hogg, Scott? Or the modern nationalist poet, Hugh MacDiarmid? On the other hand, you might be intrigued to read about the writing of James Bruce who searched for the source of the Nile in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Macpherson and Ossian are waiting for you as is Robert Louis Stevenson. And so much more, such as a dash of modern-day fiction writers Allan Massie, Muriel Spark and Ian

Hamilton flavoured by a taste of modern poetry composed by Kathleen Jamie, Don Patterson and others. A feast that is better nibbled than attacked gluttonously.

I can only repeat, this is a remarkably fine piece of work. I have only one nit to pick. There is no mention of Duncan MacRae of the Silver Cups, who published and authored much of the Fernaig Manuscript, circa 1690, a collection of Gaelic poetry written in the ‘old Gaelic’, that is, before English words began to enter the language. The Fernaig Manuscript is considered to be a valuable resource in the study of the remnants of early Gaelic literature.

If your interest is tweaked by the author’s reference to a poem or author, there is a guide to further reading as well as to web resources:

<http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/english/> or, <http://www.thepoetry-house.org> Δ



# RAASAY HOUSE COMMUNITY COMPANY

**Patron: — John MacLeod, Chief of MacLeods of Raasay**

## **Newsletter February 2009**

Since the fire on 18<sup>th</sup> January, the Board of Raasay House Community Company has been working with Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Raasay Outdoor Centre and the contractors, ROK, to ensure a future for Raasay House. The situation is very complicated, but the board is determined that Raasay House will be rebuilt with the aim of leasing it to Raasay Outdoor Centre, as originally planned.

### **The House**

We have received a preliminary structural report on what remains of the House, which shows that it requires a considerable amount of structural work, including dismantling some areas to make it safe to enter. Approximately three-quarters of the House has been left roofless and it has now been fenced off to the public and site security has been implemented. Listed Building Consent has been applied for to allow structural work to go ahead.

Forensic investigations inside the House cannot take place until this work is complete, but the police advise us that as far as they are concerned there are no suspicious circumstances.

Once the remaining parts of

the building have been supported, discussions will take place with insurers and Historic Scotland to identify the way forward. Planning permission will then be sought and rebuilding will take place. We hope that it will be possible to use at least the façade of the original building.

### **Highlands & Islands Enterprise (HIE)**

HIE has made it clear that they intend to support Raasay House Community Company throughout the long process ahead. The HIE board met the day after the fire and discussed it at length. Willie Roe, Chair of HIE, visited the island the week after the fire and met with representatives of RHCC and ROC to reassure them that HIE would help in whatever way they could. HIE will remain as developers for RHCC throughout, but RHCC will ensure that it is consulted and involved at all stages.

### **Raasay Outdoor Centre (ROC)**

RHCC's top priority is to ensure that the rebuilding project sticks to a realistic timeframe, to ensure that ROC has a building in which to base itself as soon

as possible. In the meantime the board will assist ROC by leasing the new building on the north drive which was undamaged in the fire and is now nearing completion. It provides showers, toilets, office, workshop and storage space and it is hoped that Raasay Outdoor Centre will be able to make good use of it to help keep their business running during the time the House is being rebuilt.

### Site Security

The grounds around the House, including the Walled Garden, are part of a secure site. Members of the public are not permitted within the sealed off area for health, safety and security reasons. We would be very grateful if all residents and visitors to the island would keep away from the site.

### Thanks

The board of RHCC would like to thank everybody for the many messages of sympathy and support received after the fire. They would also like to thank those who have given practical help, particularly Raasay Fire Brigade who did such a good job in difficult circumstances.

An AGM is planned towards the end of March which will also serve as a public meeting to give more information on progress and plans. Δ


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                   ~ Ruth Sutherland, ON  
*Song & Songwriting* ~ Eileen McGann, BC  
                               ~ Doug Feaver, ON  
*Gaelic Song* ~ Ruth Sutherland, ON

**CONCERTS**  
*Celtworld Dance to the Music*  
 July 5th: Royal Theatre, Victoria  
*Sunset & Stars Gala*  
 July 12th: Port Theatre, Nanaimo

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FOR FULL DETAILS




# BURNS ANNIVERSARY

On 25th January 1759, Scotland's best-loved poet, Robert Burns, was born amidst a blast of icy wind in a humble cottage in Alloway.

This year we celebrated the 250th anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns. The National Trust for Scotland is proud to be at the heart of celebrations in the redevelopment of the Burns National Heritage Park in Alloway, Ayrshire.

This project will involve the redevelopment of whole site and the building of a new museum – Robert Burns Birthplace Museum – to house the most important Burns collection in the world.

Work has begun on site in Alloway, but visitors to the Burns National Heritage Park can still vis-



it the Tam O' Shanter Experience, Auld Kirk, Brigg o' Doon, Burns Monument and beautiful memorial gardens. Throughout 2009, visitors can see a temporary exhibition of highlights from the collection at nearby Rozelle House Art Gallery and Museum. The new museum will be open by Summer 2010.

The world's most significant Burns collection will also continue to be displayed in the current museum and the historic Burns Monument and beautiful commemorative gardens are a fitting tribute to the life of Scotland's National Bard.

Take a virtual reality tour of the cottage at [www.burnsheritagepark.com](http://www.burnsheritagepark.com). Δ

## NEWS LINKS

Parliament 2010 organizer Dorna Caskie, is working hard adding links to the ACMS web site. Check out her latest on Raasay House and the fire at <http://www.clanmacleod.org/acms-committees/raasay-house-restoration.php>. The YouTube video is especially vivid and sad.

*The Scotsman* carries interesting articles and interviews of Scottish personalities such as an article on Chief John, Dunvegan Castle and the restoration challenge that Chief Hugh faces.

<http://scotlandonsunday.scotsman.com/features/interviews-john-macleod-of-macleod.5137337.jp>



The National Trust of Scotland has updates of projects as well as educational and travel programs on its web site at [www.nts.org.uk](http://www.nts.org.uk)



The Council of Scottish Clans & Associations posts news of Highland Games, clan announcements and carries its newsletter *The Claymore* on the site [www.cosca.net](http://www.cosca.net).

Victoria Joint Scottish Council provides a schedule of events monthly pleasantly accompanied by a Scottish tune when you Google it.



The Association of Scottish Games & Festivals (ASGF) was founded in 1981 in a spirit of cooperation, to provides its member organizations with a clearinghouse of ideas, resources, and information to assist them in the production of Highland Games. Like the member organizations themselves, ASGF sprouted from the vision of a few and grew to be truly continental in scope.

As to its logo, ASGF has adopted the insignia reproduced above. The thistle and St. Andrew's Cross reflect our Scottish heritage, while the chain surrounding the shield in composed of fifteen links — one

for each of the charter members.

ASGF is committed to the fundamental purpose of cooperation for the betterment of each of its members through sharing experiences and providing counsel. Additionally, the ASGF provides a forum for representatives of other Scottish cultural societies. At each meeting, outside representatives from Scottish groups such as the Pipe Band Association, Scottish Clans Societies, Highland Dancing people, Tartan and Genealogy experts, Heavy Athletics, and others are invited to participate by exchanging information and cooperating to solve problems or to create opportunities for improvement.

Go to [www.asgf.org](http://www.asgf.org) for a wide variety of information.

If you plan to travel try a visit to [www.scotlandsculture.org/guides/events/annual.htm](http://www.scotlandsculture.org/guides/events/annual.htm) to find out about festivals all around Scotland, some in Italy and elsewhere.

*Celtic Design in Atlantic Canada* is sponsored by the Atlantic Craft Trade Show in Halifax gives a display of fine items from 23 artisans and businesses. [info@actshow.ca](mailto:info@actshow.ca)

Maybe you have a link or website which you find useful and want to suggest to our readers. Simply email your suggestion to the editor at [jmtipple@gmail.com](mailto:jmtipple@gmail.com) and [leadvoice@gmail.com](mailto:leadvoice@gmail.com).

This most profound poem was found in a daily paper and sent to the *Leod Voice* by one of our Manitoba members. It was written by an airman from Manitoba who was shot down over Germany in WW11 and was buried in the battlefield.

### Another morn

I gaze into the world with sorrowing eyes  
And see the wide-abounding fruits of hate  
We fight, we say, for peace and find  
The wars we make  
To be a spring of hate and source for future wars.  
Is there no peace for man  
No hope that this accursed flow  
Of blood may cease?  
Is this our destiny; to kill and maim  
For peace?  
Or is this "peace" we strive to gain  
A thin unholy masquerade  
Which, when our pride, our greed, our gains is  
Touched too far, is shed  
And stands uncovered what we are?  
Show me your light, oh god  
That I might fight for peace with peace  
And not with war  
To prove my love with love  
And hate no more.

## DONALDSON MACLEOD HONOURED

Donaldson is a 'Proud MacLeod' and active member of CMS Glengarry and we congratulate him on his many achievements of distinction.

Dr. MacLeod, the manager of Highways and Bridges for Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC), highlighted his career in being selected the distinguished lecturer for the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Management Paving Assets, held in Calgary last summer. His speech was entitled "Managing Infrastructure in the Face of Climate Change."

Dr. MacLeod has worked on all

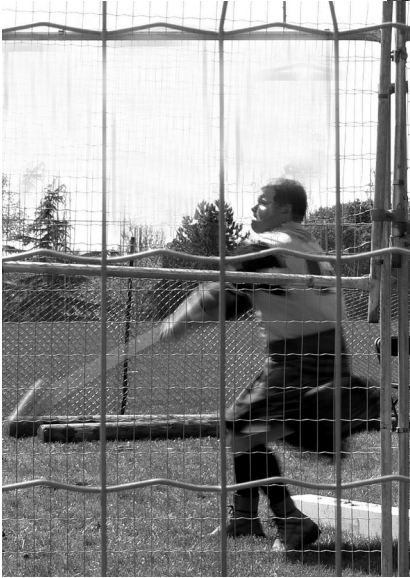
facets of highway planning, design, construction, maintenance and operation over the last 40 years, as an engineer, professor and project manager. He has been involved in most of the major highways in Northern Canada and has been with PWGSC since 1989, initially as the Senior Highway Engineer and as of 2000, the Manager of Highways and Bridges.

His specialty is Pavement Management Systems and he is a recognized international expert on the subject. He has published over 40 papers in scientific and engineering journals and has won sev-

eral prestigious best paper awards including, a Best Paper Award, at the 6th International Conference on Managing Pavements, in Brisbane Australia. A licensed Professional

Engineer in three Canadian provinces and an active member of numerous professional associations, Dr. MacLeod is a leader and major contributor to the industry. Δ

## hIGHLAND GAMES FUN



*The heavy events were watched through a heavy wire fence, a nuisance for picture taking but a comforting safety feature for the spectators.*



*Can you hear the echoing sound of the massed band as they march past?*



## PARLIAMENT 2010

With the theme of Old and New Traditions, planning is well underway as you will have seen by the draft schedule published in the Spring issue of the Clan Magazine. Keep track of details on the ACMS website: [www.clanmacleod.org](http://www.clanmacleod.org).

The pre-parliament tour of Assynt area is available for a limited number of people beginning July 21 when buses will depart from Kyle of Lochalsh and return July 24 and continue on to Dunvegan.

The NRG will once again be an active part of the gathering both at Assynt where they will stay at Glencanisip Lodge, and Dunvegan where they will perform their usual functions essential to the smooth operation of the Parliament.

More on Parliament 2010 in the next issue of the *Leod Voice*. Δ

## FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

MONA MARY MCLEOD

Born in Renfrew County, ON, Mona grew up in Bounty, SK and Pine Falls, ON. She took her Registered Nurses and Public Health Nursing training in Winnipeg, going on to receive her BSC and MA from Columbia University with graduate studies in Psychiatric nursing in Ohio State University, University of Minnesota and Columbia University.

As well as staff nursing and giving rural public health care to many in Manitoba, Mona passed on her knowledge and skills as a Professor of Nursing at the University of Manitoba until her retirement.

Mona created and funded a Scholarship in Nursing enabling many Manitoba recipients to attain their Nursing Degree.

The health and well-being of individuals in countries less fortunate were of utmost importance to Mona and she championed these causes generously throughout her life. "To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield" (from *Ulysses* by Alfred Lord Tennyson) was Mona's life motto.

We send condolences to Mona's family, friends and colleagues, thankful in the knowledge that she was an inspiration to so many. Δ

## J. DAVID MCLEOD 1966 – 2009

We are saddened to hear of the passing of David McLeod, son of CMS Manitoba's active members Carole and John Cox, on January 29, 2009. Graduating with a PhD in International Politics from Aberystwyth, Wales, David enjoyed working in the university world where his leadership skills and deep knowledge of international politics could be shared with others.

His outgoing and caring personality ensured that he made lasting friendships wherever he worked and lived. David's exceptional leadership skills were shared with others in every aspect of his short life in both his career and volunteer roles. He enjoyed playing his bagpipes, curling, scouting and carpentry, demonstrating incredible skill in all he did.

In 1989, David met and married his best friend and soul mate, Carol Manson in Winnipeg. They

had the good fortune to enjoy their life together in various locations: Aberystwyth, Wales; Brandon, MB; and then Edmonton, AB.

David's self-stated legacy was his beloved family: his wife Carole and their three amazing children Rhiannon, Caitlin and Andrew. David's boundless caring, compassion and affection for his family, friends and colleagues was returned generously to him, especially during his illness.

A scholarship has been set up at the University of Manitoba to honour David's tireless work to promote international education.

We extend our condolences to David's family in their loss. Δ



## ROBERT ERLE MCLEOD 1919-2008

Robert was raised on the family farm in Shoal Lake, MB and served with the Royal Canadian Engineers during WW II from 1941 to 1945 in England and Holland. Upon returning to Manitoba he married Gladys and settled in Winnipeg where he worked in construction until his retirement in

1991. Fondly remembered as the neighbourhood handyman, Robert enjoyed being of help to others.

Predeceased by his wife Gladys, Robert is survived by daughters Barbara and Shirley, son Robert and their loving families to whom we extend our condolences. Δ

## MARGARET EVELYN MCLEOD



BY BETH MCLEOD

**I**t is indeed sad news for us that Margaret McLeod, a member of the Clan MacLeod Society of Central Ontario, passed away on February 1, 2008. Margaret, together with her sister the late Marjorie, had been members of our society for over 50 years. For many, many years, Margaret and her sister looked after the

secretarial duties and arranged ceilidhs for Central Ontario, and represented the MacLeods and the MacDougalls at Highland Games around Ontario. They were known worldwide as the M & M sisters. They attended Parliaments in Skye from some of the earliest ones held and all North American Gatherings in Canada and the United States until health considerations curtailed attendance.

They made friends throughout the world through their interest in the Clan. Although not as active in more recent years, Margaret was a fount of knowledge for past events and always interested in the current goings on as was evident in our recent telephone conversations.

## In Loving Memory of Margaret and Marjorie McLeod

BY KAREN MCCRIMMON  
PRESIDENT, CMS CENTRAL ONTARIO

**I**t is with deep regret that the Clan MacLeod Society of Central Ontario has lost a longstanding member. Margaret Evelyn McLeod passed away on Sunday, February 1, 2009 at Brampton Civic Hospital. Margaret was predeceased by her sister Marjorie McLeod (May 20, 2002). I was asked to say a few words at Margaret's funeral service on behalf of her Clan family and I am passing along to you

an excerpt of my remarks. Because of the closeness of the two sisters in their life within the Clan, these remembrances naturally focused on both ladies.

"Margaret McLeod and her sister Marjorie became synonymous with the Clan MacLeod of Central Ontario over the years and in many ways carried the burden of ensuring that it continues to exist today as a vibrant Society. Within the Clan,

they were known as the “M&M sisters”. Where one was, whether at a MacLeod clan function, Parliament or North American Gathering, the other was close at hand.

In 1990, the National Council of the Canadian Clan MacLeod Societies initiated a “Clansperson of the Year” award and it was very appropriate that this first award was presented to not one, but two of our Central Ontario Society members, Margaret and Marjorie.

They joined the Society shortly after its inception in 1955 and worked together in a variety of ways for the benefit of the Society. They were always at the forefront of any activity, whether it was carrying our banner down University Ave. for the Kirkin of the Tartan ceremony at St Andrews Presbyterian Church, washing dishes after a pot luck supper, delivering a half-ton of newsletter pages all over town, manning the MacLeod booth at Highland Games or greeting and hosting MacLeods from distant locations around the world. Both Margaret and Marjorie were also active members of The Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada (CASSOC).

Margaret was secretary of our Society for many years and ensured that we all paid our membership dues in a timely manner. Margaret and/or Marjorie were the first people to greet us at the ceilidh front table for those special nights during

the year whenever MacLeods of the Greater Toronto Area met for food, fellowship and entertainment. They were responsible for ensuring the organization of “who was who” in the days when our ceilidhs drew 70 to 100 people.

Margaret’s contribution to the Clan MacLeod Society cannot be overstated. Because of Margaret’s excellent photography skills, our Society has pictures of many of our members and of important events over the years and we dearly cherish them. Her documentation and photos form a legacy of their participation over the years in the life of the Clan and now are the basis of our archival records for the future as we remember and study our history.

Although we jealously shared Margaret and Marjorie with their MacDougall clansfolk, we will miss the “mothers” of our clan who were a fountain of knowledge on anything MacLeod and who had so many contacts around the world.

Margaret and Marjorie were an inspiration to three generations of my family and I am sorry that my own infant son will not be able to meet the most sincere and caring proud McLeod sisters in Ontario. Their demonstration of devotion to the Clan MacLeod family has been passed down to all of us who continue to pursue our interests in our common Scottish heritage. Thank you Margaret and Marjorie. Δ

# THE EDITOR'S PAGE



I hope that you have noticed that this is a very slim issue; not 36 pages as usual but only 24! We are wasting postage, my Scottish friends, 36 pages would cost the same as 24 and your article would have fitted in nicely.

Something I'd like each of you to think about — since the last issue, did you have a fleeting thought about something that might add interest to the *Leod Voice*? Did you say to yourself, "I'd like to know more about (origin of piping, how my ancestors managed to make contacts in the 'new land'...)? What are some of the sayings you used to hear around your parents' and grandparents' table and what did you learn that they meant (or are still wondering what they meant)?

I was tempted to leave a blank space in this issue for the article that you didn't get around to submitting, but I believe that editors really do abhor a vacuum.

Have you ever thought about what was in the minds of your ancestors when they packed up their meager belongings and boarded a ship to leave their beloved homeland, likely never to see it again? Jot down the conversations they could have had about their problems and possible solutions. There now — you need only to send your jottings to me, with my thanks; I've enclosed an address label to put on the envelope.

On the other topic of concern, that of membership: have you tried to recruit one new member or given a membership gift in the past six months? I bet you thought that I'd forget about my challenge!

A reminder of the deadlines as in the side box; you have lots of time to get those jottings send to me but I hope that you get at it soon!

Enjoy your summer and I hope to hear from many of you soon.

*Hold Fast and Shine Brightly*

## Newsletter Timelines:

*Spring—May 1*

*Fall—October 1*

## Membership and Executive Changes:

*March 1*

*and September 1*

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