



DUM SPIRO SPERO  
WHILE I BREATHE, I HOPE.

# CLAN MACLENNAN CANADA

NEWSLETTER

## Message from the Interim President

Ray McLennan

Please allow me to introduce myself. I have been nominated interim President of Clan MacLennan Canada for a period of one year to replace Past President Robin MacLennan. Robin has stepped aside so that he may have more time to assist his sister Eileen MacLennan (Ottawa) now that she is in full time care nearer to his home in St. Catharines. I'd like to personally thank Robin for his efforts as Clan President and newsletter editor over the past years and wish him a much deserved rest.

My interest in my Scottish ancestry was ignited while serving with the occupational force in Germany with the Queens Own Rifles of Canada. My secondary role was as a tenor drummer with the Regimental Bugle Band, unfortunately I just missed the Edinburgh Tattoo of 1962. This missed opportunity still plagues me to this day! During my time in the Infantry, I worked directly for Brigadier-General Donald Sidney MacLennan, who was Chief's Lieutenant for Chief Ruairidh's father Chief Ronnie.

During the Highland Clearances, my great-grandparents Donald and Margaret MacLennan came from Glenelg, Scotland in 1851 and settled in Lochiel Township, Glengarry County, Ontario. My Grandfather Allan took advantage of the Dominion Land Grant in 1903 and briefly settled in Saskatchewan. The family grew up in the area of Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan.

My wife Lorna and I are both ex-military and have served over 40 years within military communities across Canada. Both our parents grew up in Saskatchewan. Two of our three sons, Kirk and Kevin, live in Mississauga Ontario and our third son, Kelly, lives in Calgary Alberta with his wife Tracy and children Konnor and Kloe.

Upon retirement, we travelled and pondered the vastness of our beautiful and magnificent country Canada, all

the while remembering the writings of Hugh MacLennan's book, "The Seven Rivers of Canada".

Our first home search was to the west coast where we have family on Vancouver Island. We then travelled northward to Tumbler Ridge British Columbia. Our next home search took us to the Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia and onto Prince Edward Island where there are also many MacLennans throughout both regions. After the dust settled, it seemed practical that Lorna and I should settle nearer our children thus retiring in Tillsonburg Ontario.

Lorna and I have now been involved with the Clan MacLennan Canada for five years. Our memories of the 2009 year are of Bob, Kay, Elizabeth, John and Barbara who shared their friendship with us while enjoying the colour and pageantry of the Highland Games in Embro, George-town, Cambridge, Fergus and Maxville Ontario. Every year across Canada, at over sixty Highland Games, Canadians celebrate their Scottish heritage. MacLennans / McLennans as a family can join in by attending the local games and family reunions nearest to them.

Our Clan MacLennan Canada website and the following links have photos of the Gathering in Edinburgh, the Canadian games and offer an opportunity to participate in sharing your clan memories of 2009. Members across Canada have taken the time to report and place photos of MacLennan / McLennan happenings on our yahoo website at

<http://groups.yahoo.com/groups/clanmaclennan/>

Across Canada we enjoyed the highland games with the celebration of its pipes, drums and dancers, on YouTube at: <http://youtube.com/glenelgcanada>.

Celtic music is available on Bell Expressvu on channel 937 Galaxy Celtic.

In August 2010 we are anticipating a visit by Chief Ruairidh to the Fergus Games. We welcome your input and ideas so please send your suggestions to: [info@clanmaclennan.ca](mailto:info@clanmaclennan.ca)

## Family History - Sharing the Past

Article 9 – British and Canadian Cousins, Robert and Lilian - How I found them Part Two

By: David MacLennan

The following is a continuation of Article 9, Part One

What do I look for when I am going back and reading some of the following resource areas I have researched in the past?

### ***The Internet***

Browse the Internet periodically. More and more reliable information is appearing regularly. Although it takes time to dig through all the links it may pay off in the long run. While going through a website from the Guernsey Islands I was able to locate a cousin from my mother's side of the family who actually lived in Toronto Ontario, Canada. She was just starting up her research again and was keen to get more info on that part (my mom's) of the family. Not only were we able to exchange information that we both needed, she was able to put me into contact with a cousin from Wales. All of this occurred about 4 years ago and since then cousin Robert has been able to not only add on dozens of new members of the Guernsey part of the family.

While using the internet again, I located living relatives in New Brunswick. Through this discovery I was able to locate cousin Lilian, a family historian from my mother's side of the family, which pioneered land in and around Shediac, New Brunswick in the 1700's. Lilian has collated thousands of members for that part of the family and actually published them in a family history book for that branch of the family. A truly amazing woman, who continues to add relatives from all over the world to our family tree while sharing it all with others.

### ***Mailing Lists***

Mailing lists are a great way of learning about new developments. Sign on to the surname or geographical area of your interest. This is not a lifelong commitment. You can subscribe today and unsubscribe tomorrow. People who subscribe to lists have the most amazing font of information that they are willing to share. I found this to be a great resource for filling in some information on my grandmother's family (my father's mother).

A reminder about any information gleaned from the internet.

Check all data! When viewing data online which looks like it's relevant to your research, you have to ask yourself--is the source of the information cited somewhere? If the data is part of a project, do the volunteers list which resources they used to transcribe the information? Take a good look at the data and how it relates to your information--are there inconsistencies? Does the data make sense? If there are contradictions in information, weigh the evidence. Which piece of information seems most reasonable? Never accept any information as valid until you can verify it, or at the very least, have a citation for the data's source in your possession.

### ***Last but not least:***

Canadian Searchable Sites Found of the Internet.

\* [http://www.archives.ca/db/1871/1871\\_Census\\_Search.html](http://www.archives.ca/db/1871/1871_Census_Search.html)

The 1871 Ontario Census Index is maintained by the Canadian Archives. You can search the database by keyword (surname, given name, or other search term), as well as select options allowing for partial matches and the number of spelling variations. You can also search by specific enumeration districts. The instructions are clear and easy to follow.

\* <http://www.islandnet.com/ocfa/>

OCFA -- the Ontario Cemetery Finding Aid is a database consisting of the surnames, cemetery name and location of over one million interments in Ontario, Canada. The project is volunteer-run, and has information from approximately 2,000 sources, which include cemeteries, memorials, and cenotaphs.

\* <http://www.interment.net/can/index.htm>

Interment.net is a publisher of cemetery records and materials relating to cemeteries. Visitors use the site's resources to help them locate burials of their family and friends, trace their family history, and learn something about cemeteries in general. While the staff of Interment.net actively visits cemeteries and compiles records, they mostly rely on everyday folks to submit their transcriptions and compilations.

\* [http://www.bcarchives.bc.ca/BC\\_Our\\_Collections/BC\\_Vital\\_Rrd\\_Collect.aspx](http://www.bcarchives.bc.ca/BC_Our_Collections/BC_Vital_Rrd_Collect.aspx)

British Columbia Vital Records can be searched, courtesy of the BC Archives. You can search the index for birth, marriage or death registrations (the actual registrations are not online), and there is information on how to order copies of the records. You can search by surname, given name, gender, age or age range, year or year range, month, day, event place, and other search fields. A useful site for people with BC relatives.

\*<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/cef/index-e.html>

The Canadian Expeditionary Force database includes 600,000 Canadians who fought in WWI. The database is indexed, and you can search by name or regiment number.

\* [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_Canadian\\_Navy\\_ships](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Canadian_Navy_ships)

If you are looking for a Canadian Naval ships, visit this site. This is a **list of [Royal Canadian Navy \(RCN\) ships](#)** that have served past and present, from 1911–1968 and [Maritime Command](#) (MARCOM) of the [Canadian Forces](#) from 1968–present.

## Other Canadian Resources

\* Books of Remembrance

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Books\\_of\\_Remembrance\\_\(Canada\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Books_of_Remembrance_(Canada))

You will find the links to, “The seven **Books of Remembrance** housed in the [Peace Tower](#) of the Canadian [Parliament Buildings](#) in [Ottawa](#) are [illuminated manuscript](#) volumes recording the names of members of the [Canadian Forces](#) and [Canadian Merchant Navy](#) killed on active service in wartime, and in other conflicts”.

\* Maple Leaf Ancestor Queries

<http://www.google.ca/search?hl=en&client=firefox-a&rls=org.mozilla%3Aen-US%3Aofficial&hs=hpf&q=Maple+Leaf+Ancestor+Queries&btnG=Search&meta=cr%3DcountryCA&aq=f&oq=>

This link will bring you to a google search page for ancestral queries from all across Canada. By going through these links you may find someone doing similar research.

As always; for those that want to share with the rest of the Clan, please get in touch with me with problems, solutions or both at [dmac44@rogers.com](mailto:dmac44@rogers.com) until then, happy hunting.

Yours in Kinship - Dave

## Kilt Maker

Kirsteen Eckersley, the Chief's sister, recommended a kilt maker that she and Ruairidh have been very pleased with. Brenda Mair has made and re-fitted kilts for the Chief and has done some beautiful dressmaking for Kirsteen. For the Gathering and our Clan dinner Kirsteen had a dress custom made from pure silk woven in the Modern MacLennan tartan. Brenda did a beautiful job. You can contact her at 27, Haig Street, Portknockie, Buckie, Banffshire, Scotland AB56 4NT. Her email is:

[Brenda@bmair.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:Brenda@bmair.wanadoo.co.uk).

## Flowers of the Field

### Donald E. McLennan Ph.D.

Died peacefully at age 89 on Aug. 1, 2009 professor of physics, Youngstown State University, OH, retired 1990. Born in London Ontario, Canada, on Dec. 5, 1919, B.A. from UWO, PH.D. from U of T. Predeceased by wife Louise, sister Marian MacLennan and son Peter. Survived by sister Cynthia MacLennan of Stratford, ON, daughter-in-law Kathy (Peter ) of Greenwich, CT, daughters Carol (Peter) of Toronto, ON, Chris Cruttwell (Martin) of Newmarket, ON, and Patricia MacLennan-Swanger (Thorn) of Eugene, OR, sons Doug (Martha) of Arlington, VA, Frank (Juliann) of Youngtown, OH and Rob (Hanna) of Davis, CA, grandchildren Liz, Meredith, Caroline, Kate, Elliott, Geoffrey, Lydia, Andrew, Ian, Jonathan, Mary, Carolanne and Michael, and great -granddaughter Tesfa. Don was a proud Canadian, keen observer of political affairs and avid gardener. He maintained an interest in working out physics problems to the end of his life.

### Cynthia MacLennan - 75 (sister of Donald, above)

Died Sept. 24, 2009 of heart failure in Stratford, ON. Born in London, ON October 28, 1933, daughter of Nelson and Winnifred McLennan, predeceased by brother Donald, sister Marian and nephew Peter (Kathy). She will be deeply missed by her many friends in the theatrical community and by nieces and nephews Carol (Pete) of Toronto, ON, Chris Cruttwell (Martin) of Newmarket, ON, Doug (Martha) of Arlington, VA, Frank (Juliann) of Youngstown, OH, Patricia MacLennan-Swanger (Thom) of Eugene, OR, and Rob (Hanna) of Davis, CA. After graduating from the MacDonald Institute in Guelph, she launched a career as a costume cutter, working for many years with the National Ballet in Toronto, and later the Stratford Festival until her retirement in 1998. Other career highlights included working with Sir Laurence Olivier at the Chichester Festival in England, in Australia on productions for the new Sydney Opera House and with Robin Phillips at the Grand Theatre in London, ON. a private cremation has taken place. the family will hold a memorial gathering; details to follow. Donations in her name may be made to the Humane Society, Perth County Branch, Performing Arts Lodge (PAL), Stratford or a charity of your choice through the W.G. Young Funeral Home, Stratford, ON.

## Message from the Chief

(excerpt from Clan Gathering Brochure)

*For more of the Chief's message at the Gathering and to download the new Clan MacLennan Brochure see the Clan MacLennan Canada website.*



Whilst the Clan MacLennan Association Scotland was once the nerve centre of the Worldwide Clan MacLennan Associations, over the past decade we have, like the majority of other Clan Associations, struggled to retain an active organization here in Scotland and have become somewhat reliant on the enthusiasm and determination of our overseas Associations. This is not an uncommon situation as it is often said that the further your take a Scotsman away from their homeland, the more Scottish they become, thus it is not surprising that the overseas Clan Associations tend to be the driving force behind our modern day Clan Associations. I have spoke to a number of Clan Chiefs in recent years most of who encounter the same problem and are working to try and reverse this trend. However, we shall continue to have a Clan presence here in Scotland with our main focus being to support the overseas Clan MacLennan Associations whilst looking to build up our own "home" Association.

### The aims of the Clan MacLennan Association Scotland and intertwined with the aims of the Chief, are:

- To re-create an active Clan Association and proactive Committee here in Scotland.
- To encourage and support the expansion and development of the Clan MacLennan Associations.
- To assist and support wherever possible, the Clan MacLennan Associations of Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States of America.
- To act as a focal point for Clan members throughout the world and to direct interested parties to their nearest Clan Association / Regional contact.
- To promote the active celebration of the Clan's customs and traditions.
- To host a Clan Gathering of MacLennan's here in Scotland on a regular basis.

### Specific Aims of the Chief in addition to those outlined above:

- To act as figurehead and represent and promote the Clan MacLennan both here in Scotland and throughout the world.
- To support Clan members and Clan MacLennan Associations throughout the world.
- To acknowledge and represent the wishes of Her Majesty the Queen, The Lord Lyon's Court and The Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs when conducting Clan duties.
- To ensure that any Clan person or Association acts in an appropriate and respectful manner whilst representing the Clan MacLennan.
- To appoint Chief's Lieutenants / Commissioners wherever deemed necessary to represent the Chief and the Clan in certain Regional / National areas and to act as a link between the Chief and Clan Members / Associations.
- To act in a non-political and neutral manner and to support the office bearers of the Clan MacLennan Associations whilst ensuring that their democratic rights as elected office bearers are not jeopardized.
- To help set out a vision for the future of our Clan for future generations.



## Clan MacLennan at The Gathering 2009

By: Melanie McLennan

When I first heard about "The Gathering 2009" two years ago, I just knew that I had to be there to be a part of it. And not just me, but my whole family just had to be there!



Well two years and a lot of planning and we were heading to the airport on the 16th of July 2009. There were six of us going for two weeks; Andy and I, our daughter Katie and her husband Ryan, our son Alec and our daughter Maggie, and it was an exciting time. Once we landed in Glasgow we spent the next couple of days resting up and exploring the area around Stewarton in Ayrshire. Then it was off to the north. We drove up through the beautiful Loch Lomond area, through Glencoe and up along Loch Ness. We passed by Aviemore and visited the Highland Folk Museum which was a wonderful stop. We arrived in the evening at Fochabers where we were graciously hosted by Chief Ruairidh's sister Kirsteen. The Chief and his sisters had stayed with us in 2000 when they visited Canada and we had met up with them again in 2006 when we were over. We had met James Eckersley then, and he and Kirsteen had just been engaged to be married. We had good time catching up with James and Kirsteen (Charles had gone to bed so we had to wait to meet him in the morning). The time in Fochabers flew by. Max and Mary McLennan and their son Ross and their daughter Alison Sharpe and Graeme MacLennan, all from Australia, joined up with us and we toured the Moray Seafood Company, which is James' family business. The whole group of us then trekked along the coast to a pub that Andy & I had been to before in Findochty, called the Admirals' Inn, for lunch. It was a warm sunny afternoon and the meal and the company sitting out on the patio

overlooking the Moray Firth made for a memorable afternoon. That evening we had a sumptuous meal at James and Kirsteen's home and feasted on the bounty of the sea. While in the area we took the family to see Cawdor Castle and the newly renovated Visitor's Centre at Culloden. A trip to Inverness was in order and we caught up with Chief Ruairidh and his friend Rachel Humphries for a delicious and relaxed dinner at the Dores Inn on the shores of Loch Ness.



The following day we travelled back to the south but went by way of Braemar which is wonderfully scenic route. Braemar is where Andy's father, Marvin McLennan, had been stationed for part of WW II. He served with the Canadian Forestry Corp and their base camp was at Mar Lodge. It is a beautiful area and is now a National Trust Conservation Area. We took pictures of ourselves by the Lin of Dee. We have a photo of Andy's dad standing in the same place. Marvin passed away in 1977, so it was pretty special to see his son and grandson standing in the same place. I wonder if Marvin would ever have dreamed we would find our way there. Just before we left a WW II fighter plane roared overhead. That left us speechless. What are the chances? Where did it come from?



We then travelled south through the mountains crisscrossed with spells of brooding clouds and drizzling rain and bright glorious sunshine. The heather was just beginning to bloom.

We headed south to pick up our son Jesson and Joanne who were flying in from British Columbia. We were then en-route to Edinburgh, stopping to take in the Falkirk Wheel.



Once in Edinburgh and settled into our Bed & Breakfast in Leith, we began to explore the city. There is so much to see in Edinburgh and it was packed. The Clan members began to arrive and we caught up with everyone at the Clan Parliament on the Friday afternoon.



That evening was our Clan Dinner at the Whisky Centre. Dressed in our highland finery we took the bus into downtown and walked up to the top of the Royal Mile right next to Edinburgh Castle.

There were security guards turning people away at the door. When they saw our MacLennan kilts they ushered us in explaining to the bystanders that we were MacLennans and that this was a private event! I can't say we have ever felt more important. Then we met up with the rest of the group at the Whisky Bar to tour the largest and oldest collection of Single Malts in the world; stunning. As we collected together from all over the world we all realized this was a pretty special night. Dinner was upstairs in a dining room with beautifully vaulted and timber-framed ceiling. Our Chief Ruairidh, received us along with his sisters Kirsteen and Lorna, and then welcomed us and recapped some of the sentiments of the day. The meal was excellent, each course made special with the use of various whiskys. Following was a special

surprise from the Chief. Roland O'Brian, a long time friend of the Chief's and historic re-enactor, arrived dressed and armed in the British uniform and proceeded to both amuse and educate us about the life of our ancestors in the High-



lands in the months and years after Culloden. It was a powerful moment and many were respectfully moved. The evening then moved on to the Ceilidh portion of the program and we then went downstairs to the pub in the 'cellar' where an enthusiastic group of Australian MacLennans kept the night bright. Ross McLennan had written a song he called 'Return to Kintail' and he and the Aussies were determined to have us all learn it! After a wonderful evening we headed back to our B&B by bus to rest up for the Gathering the next day.



The skies were clear and the temperature warm for our day at Holyrood Park. With Arthur's Seat and Holyrood Palace as a backdrop, the white tents, bands and festival goers made for an exciting time. The MacLennan Clan tent was a busy place, helped by our getting to know each other the night before. You could say the party just kept going on the whole weekend! There were heavy-weight championships, highland pipe bands, dancers, artists, speakers, displays and more, truly something for everyone.

Towards evening, the mustering began. Over 8,000 people consisting of Clansmen and Clanswomen and twelve pipe bands began to organize themselves by groups of clans arranged alphabetically interspersed by pipe bands. Clan MacLennan had a terrific turnout of almost forty people. To be in the parade special passes had to be purchased that allowed you to participate in the march and then gave admittance to the production of

Aisling's Children at Edinburgh Castle. As we marched up the Royal Mile with our Chief, it was a proud moment. We were a lively group marching, talking and with Ross leading, breaking into the song "Return to Kintail". The sides of the streets were packed with people cheering, waving from windows, and even offering the odd pint when the parade would come to a stop by a pub.



At the top of the Royal Mile, we entered the esplanade of Edinburgh Castle and took our seats for Aisling's Children. Told by dance, music and acting, this was the history of the Scottish people, their scattering around the world, a celebration of our heritage and on this special occasion, our return. Massed pipe bands from all over the world

As we departed the castle and people flooded the Royal Mile heading for pubs and home, there was such a feeling of camaraderie, thankfulness and privilege. I knew there would be another day with the clansmen, more days of travel and sightseeing and more memories to make in the days ahead, but I knew right at that moment that this night was different from anything else I had ever lived to see.

It was a very special time and one that will not be forgotten.



## Changes to the Directory

It is September and our 2009-2010 directories are ready. For the sake of conservation, those of you who receive your newsletter by email, your directory will be in a PDF attachment. If you have difficulty opening the attachment let us know. If anyone else would prefer to receive your newsletters and directories by email, please let know and email [info@clanmaclennan.ca](mailto:info@clanmaclennan.ca) concluded the evening, marching from the ramparts of the castle, filling the esplanade with colour and music.

## New Newsletter Editor

Thanks to Robin MacLennan for his time and energies in compiling our newsletter for the past years. Melanie McLennan is now taking over as Newsletter Editor beginning with this edition. As Melanie and her husband work on the website and newsletter together, we would appreciate any stories, news or photos for the March edition to be emailed to [melaniemclennan@rogers.com](mailto:melaniemclennan@rogers.com) or mailed to 80 London Road West, Guelph, ON, N1H 2B7. We are looking forward to hearing from you!

Clan MacLennan Canada  
Statement of Receipts and Disbursements  
August 1, 2008 to September 12, 2009

	Aug 1/ 08 - Jul 31/09	Aug 1/09-Sep 12/09	
<b>Receipts</b>			
Bank Balance August 1, 2008			1,778.28
Members Dues 2007 - 08	50.00		
Members Dues 2008 - 10	550.00	195.00	
Members Dues 2010 - 13	105.00	25.00	
Total Dues Aug /08-Sep /09			925.00
Clan Sales -2008	118.00		
Clan Sales -2009 Georgetown	31.00		
Clan Sales - 2009 Cambridge	25.00		
Clan Sales - 2009 Maxville		53.00	
Clan Sales - 2009 Fergus		8.50	
Fergus Draw - 2008	75.00		
Fergus Draw - 2009		75.00	
Sale Clan History Book		20.00	
Total Sales Aug /08-Sep /09			405.50
GIC Interest	84.50	34.00	
Bank Interest	1.60	.06	
Total Interest Aug /08-Sep /09			120.16
U.S. Exchange	8.16		8.16
Total Receipts Aug /08-Sep /09			1458.82
Total Bank and Receipts			3237.10
<b>Disbursements</b>			
Newsletters - Copy	130.82		
- Postage	104.12		234.92
Glengarry Mail-out - Copy	36.02		
-Postage	29.48		65.50
New Tent and bag for Games*	492.34		492.34
Edinburgh Gathering **	243.50		243.50
2009 Fergus Avenue of Clans	68.00		68.00
Bank Service Charges	3.00		3.00
Total Disbursements			1107.28
Bank Balance Sep 12/09			2129.82
Royal Bank G.I.C.	3000.00		3000.00
Branch Total			5129.82

Total number of member families - 70

#### Explanatory Notes

\*A second tent allows flexibility for members to attend at two venues on same day.

\*\*Edinburgh Gathering costs for the Clan Tent expenses were divided between Australia, U.S. and Canada.