



Clan MacKenzie Society in the Americas

Cabar Feidh

The Canadian Chapter Magazine



June 2008

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FLOWER OF SCOTLAND

This song is sung so often at Scottish events that it is not always easy to find the words. Well, here they are:

O flower of Scotland
When will we see your like again
That fought and died for
Your wee bit hill and glen
And stood against him

Proud Edward's army
And sent him homeward
Tae think again.

The hills are bare now
And autumn leaves lie thick and still
O'er land that is lost now
Which those so dearly held
And stood against him
Proud Edward's army
And sent him homeward
Tae think again.

Those days are passed now
And in the past they must remain
But we can still rise now
And be the nation again
That stood against him
Proud Edward's army
And sent him homeward
Tae think again.

GAELIC TV SERVICE

Among the many newspaper cuttings we receive from Mark Courtney in Inverness-shire, I could not but help spot this interesting new item from the Daily Telegraph of January

Cabar Feidh Newsletter:

Members who wish to write to the Society with contributions to the Newsletter please send submissions to The Editor, Clan MacKenzie Society, 580 Rebecca St., Oakville, ON L6K 3N9. or e-mail to alan@mkz.com
Clan Web Pages: www.clanmackenzie.com & www.electricscotland.com/mackenzie

29th. It was reported that the BBC had approved a new £25 million Gaelic television service despite being warned by its own advisers that it might not be value for money.

The reason for this comment from the advisers is due to the fact that the new station will serve fewer than 60,000 remote Scottish islanders. In other words, the cost was not justified by the small numbers of viewers. Most BBC programs are funded by the annual television licence fee - something we do not have here in Canada as CBC gets funded by the government directly as well as being allowed to run TV advertisements.

Tory MPs who are almost non-existent in Scotland, accused the BBC of political correctness by "indulging" the Gaelic lobby.

Recent surveys have shown that the predominant second language in Scotland is Polish [who would have thought that?] followed by Urdu, Hindi and then Gaelic.

Angus MacNeil, the Gaelic-speaking MP of the Scottish Nationalist Party for the Western Isles [that includes the Isle of Lewis where so many Mackenzies and MacLeods still live] said: "This is truly good news. We have waited a long time for a Gaelic TV channel. With so many children learning Gaelic throughout Scotland this is very welcome."

If you have any comment about whether this small minority of Gaelic speakers should have so much of the BBC budget allowed for this channel, send in them in to me at alan@mkz.com and I will put your comments in the next newsletter.

Alan McKenzie

TOP 10 BOYS AND GIRLS NAMES IN SCOTLAND

Thanks once again to Mark Courtney for bringing this news item to our attention.

Here are the top ten boys names in order of popularity in Scotland:

1. Lewis
2. Jack
3. Ryan
4. James
5. Callum
6. Cameron
7. Daniel
8. Liam
9. Jamie
10. Kyle

Note the number of very Irish names included in this list! Is it that Scots are now feeling their Celtic roots - reinforced by DNA results which place the Scots and Irish as pretty close cousins? The Scottish racing driver Lewis Hamilton has some responsibility for the number one name on the list.

For the girls we have:

1. Sophie
2. Emma
3. Lucy
4. Katie
5. Erin
6. Ellie
7. Amy
8. Emily
9. Chloe
10. Olivia

This is interesting. So many old names that Mr D'Arcy would surely recognize!

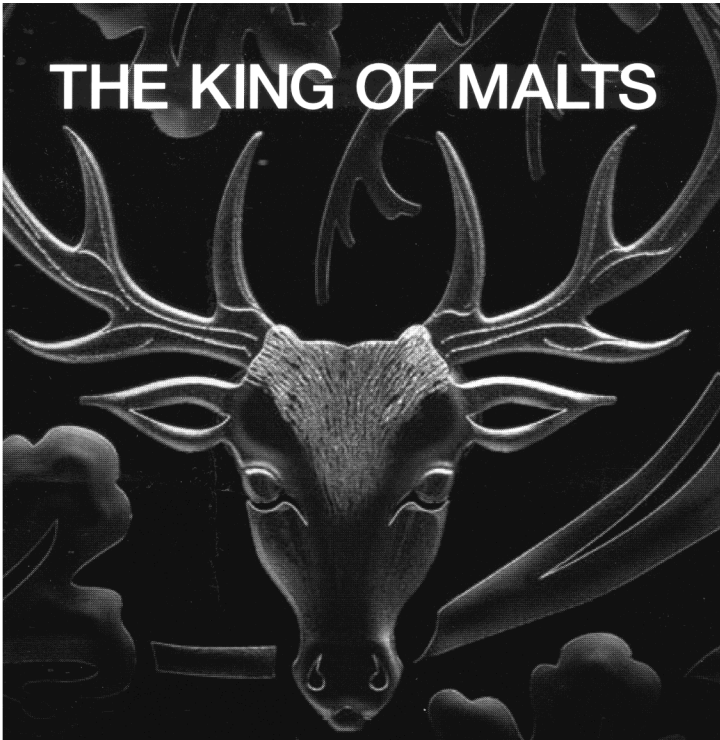
Names which are dropping rapidly in popularity are: Scott, Sean, Robert and Robbie for the boys and Rachel, Leah, Amber and Laura for the girls.

In England and Wales the top names for boys is Jack (top for 13 years), and Grace for the girls. You would think Scotland would have gone for Grace - Amazing!!

[Alan McKenzie]

A MACKENZIE WHISKY DISTILLERY

Once owned by a distinguished local family, the Mackenzies, whose friends James Whyte and Charles Mackay created a famous name in blended Scotch. A Mackenzie managed the distillery until the late 1980s. Whyte and Mackay is now owned by American Brands. The Dalmore distillery, said to have been founded in 1839, bears a passing resemblance to a country railway station. Its offices are partly panelled with carved oak that once graced a shooting lodge. Much of the malt is aged in sherry casks. A 30-year-old limited edition in 1989 was sherryish, nutty, and silky-smooth, with no hint of woodiness. The A-Z of Single Malts gives the 12-year-old a score of 79. Below you can see that a distillery tour is available. Some years ago I won a bottle of Dalmore and it was sent to me in Canada in a box labeled "agricultural produce" or some such wording. (Alan McKenzie)



THE KING OF MALTS

THE DALMORE DISTILLERY TOUR

Established in 1839, The Dalmore Distillery sits on the shores of the Cromarty Firth in the picturesque Northern Highlands. No visit to Scotland would be complete without a visit to this famous distillery. Gaelic and Norse for "the big meadowland", The Dalmore's rare Single Malt Scotch hints at 26 different and surprising aromas, including orange, honey, chocolate and spice.

At the Dalmore Distillery we promise the very warmest of Highland welcomes. Do not miss out on this truly unique opportunity to experience the dedication and craftsmanship that goes into each and every bottle of our world famous whisky.

The Dalmore Distillery, Alness, Ross-shire, IV17 0UT.
Telephone: 01349 882 362. Visit: www.thedalmore.com

THE DALMORE DISTILLERY TOUR

For a truly unforgettable end to your tour, we invite you to our visitor centre for a free sample of our famous whisky. Visit The Dalmore shop with its range of exclusive Dalmore merchandise to remind you of your visit to the distillery of the world's most precious whisky!

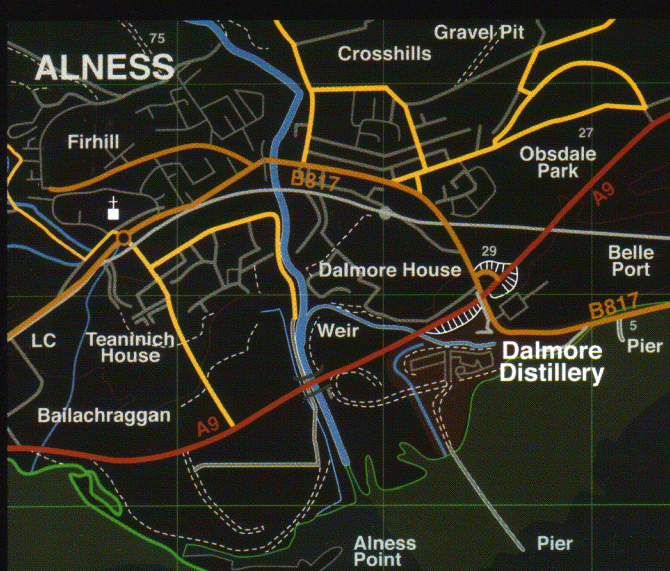
Opening Hours: Open all year round (except Christmas & New Year)

Monday - Thursday: 10.00am - 4.30pm
Friday: 10.00 - 3.00pm
Weekend - group bookings by appointments

Cost: Small charge for tour of distillery

Telephone: 01349 882 362
Visit: www.thedalmore.com

How to find us



HIGHLAND GAMES AND OTHER EVENTS

Ontario & Quebec

June 7 - Scottish Conference at University of Guelph.

June 13 - "Black Watch" at Varsity Arena, Toronto

June 14 - Georgetown Highland Games - we shall be at this event displaying our NEW CLAN TENT!!! Place: Georgetown Fairgrounds

June 28 - Cobourg Highland Games

July 1 - Embro Highland Games, Embro.

July 4 - 5 - Kincardine Scottish Festival, Kincardine.

July 8 - Blue Jays Scottish Heritage Evening

July 12 - Chatham Highland Games

July 19 - Orillia Scottish Festival.

July 25 - 27 - Highlands of Durham Games, Elgin Park, Uxbridge.

August 1 - 2 - Glengarry Highland Games, Maxville.

August 3 - Montreal Highland Games - the location is the George Springate sports complex, just in back of the Pierrefonds Comprehensive High School, in Pierrefonds Quebec.

August 9 - Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games, Fergus.

August 23 - Almonte Highland Games.

September 27 - Scottish Colloquium, University of Guelph, including the annual Jill McKenzie Memorial Lecture.

October 18 - Clan MacKenzie Annual Dinner and AGM - Mississauga Golf and Country Club.

The events above marked in bold letters indicate your Clan will be there. Maybe some others too!

British Columbia

June 16, 2008: Campbell River, BC. BC Legion Highland Gathering. For further information visit Website

June 28, 2008: Coquitlam, BC. 77th British Columbia Highland Games. Pervy Perry Stadium (formerly Coquitlam Town Centre Stadium). Held on last Saturday every June. Phone: 604-263-9111. Website

Cancelled for 2008: Annual Penticton Highland Games.

Manitoba and Saskatchewan

Manitoba Highland Gathering Saturday June 30, 2008 8 am – 5 pm Selkirk Park, Selkirk, Manitoba

Website for more information:

<http://www.manitobahighlandgathering.org/>
Regina Highland Festival is Sunday, May 18, 2008

<http://www.reginahighlandgames.org/>

Houston, Texas

November 8: Fifth Annual DNA Conference hosted by Family Tree DNA. Houston, Texas.

DNA PROJECT

Here is an update to this important Mackenzie DNA Project. We now have 185 persons signed on for the Y-chromosome DNA Project - the y-chromosome is the DNA which passes from father to son - just like the surname. Thus a person finding another Mackenzie or McKenzie or clan sept member with the same DNA can exchange information with that person and see if they can connect their family trees. There have been some interesting successes. You may be able to connect to the families of Sir Alexander Mackenzie, the explorer, or Alexander Mackenzie, the second prime minister of Canada. Both families have their DNAs in our database.

About 85% of Mackenzies are in the R1b

family, a common haplogroup which places Highland Scots in close relationships with the Irish - some parts of Ireland show almost 100% R1b haplogroups. Most of the remainder of Mackenzie DNA participants show an "I" haplogroup. The various families in the "I" haplogroup are most likely descended from Scandinavian ancestry. That seems to point to a likely descent from Viking invaders who ravished large parts of Scotland for several centuries. The Orkney Islands in Scotland show almost half the population descended from these Viking groups.

Speaking personally I have had a separate test done (known as a snip test, which is an abbreviation of a single nucleotide polymorphism) and I have been shown to be in Haplogroup R1b1c. This is a descendant group of families from the main R1b haplogroup. There are many further subdivisions (or families) discovered ranging from R1b1c1 to R1b1c11 inclusive. My DNA does not fall into any of those subdivisions. So far there seem to be around 600 haplogroups in the world and more are being discovered as more people undergo DNA tests.

Since writing the above paragraph further haplogroups have been discovered and this has necessitated renumbering some of the more common haplogroups. As a consequence my own R1b1c has now been renumbered and is now known as R1b1b2. I have not yet got round to changing the database yet but will do so soon as a large number of haplogroups have changed with new data coming in and increasing the number of basic world families.

Anyone who is stuck in their family tree having got back in time to around the 17th or 18th century and cannot go back any further then a DNA test might help expand the possibilities of research. One might find people with

the same name and a very closely matching DNA. If you are interested in knowing more, or would like to enroll in a DNA test (minimum cost US\$101) contact me at alan@mkz.com. Nearly all DNA members need to be on e-mail as that is the medium of correspondence used by the 120,000 people who use DNA to trace their ancestry. By the way DNA is quick, done at home, and is painless. It takes about six weeks for the laboratory to get the result to you. Family Tree DNA who runs our project will provide you with a list of people's e-mail addresses who closely match with you. You may not be able to establish the family connection but you will know that you are likely related through the male Mackenzie line within the last two or three hundred years.

Since most Highland clan surnames were adopted relatively recently - in many cases from about 1730 - then do not be surprised if you match with someone with a different surname.

DNA OF AN ANCIENT BODY IS LINKED TO PRESENT DAY DESCENDANTS

This information was sent to us by a member and details were originally published in the Vancouver Sun. We have made a precis of this report.

DNA tests linked a body found in a melting glacier in 1999 to modern-day relatives. Two sisters from Whitehorse talked about their ancestor Kwaday Dan Ts'inchí, better known as Long Ago Person Found.

Some aboriginal people from northern B.C., Yukon and Alaska were told that DNA testing has proved they are direct descendants of the iceman.

The body of the young aboriginal man was found in 1999 by three hunters at the foot of a melting glacier in Tatshenshini-Alsek Park,

part of the traditional territory of the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations.

By coincidence, the head and other artifacts were discovered four years later, when two of the hunters returned to the area and found the ice had receded at least another 20 metres.

Radiocarbon dating shows the man died between 1670 and 1850, preceding or just overlapping the earliest European contact on the West Coast.

Voluntary DNA testing of first nations people is one aspect of intense, international research spurred by the almost perfectly preserved body and the startling results were announced at a scientific symposium in Victoria.

One of the sisters, said she found it overwhelming when she was told their matriarchal line could be traced back to Long Ago Person Found.

"It was extremely moving. I couldn't believe it," she said. "Our family is extremely excited to find out who our other relatives are."

The sisters are members of the Tselin-Tlingit First Nation and research shows the iceman moved between the coast and the Interior.

A total of 240 people volunteered to be part of the DNA study and 17 were found to be directly related.

Out of those, 15 people self-identify as being from the wolf clan, meaning the young man was probably wolf clan.

Among the international researchers and scientists at the conference -- sponsored by the Champagne and Aishihik, the B.C. Archeology Branch and the Royal B.C. Museum -- were the three hunters who discovered the body while hunting Dall sheep.

As far as the Clan Mackenzie is concerned it raises a subject which may become more relevant in the future. That subject is the ability to take DNA from people long dead. So far very

little has been said on this subject. We are very short of DNA from the descendants of our original clan chiefs and leaders. We do know of some of their tombs and graves and the question that might arise one day is the possibility of having access to bones or teeth from their bodies to obtain their DNA.

E-MAIL FROM FAMILY TREE DNA

The following e-mail was sent to the International Society of Genetic Genealogists chat line and I find it worth reproducing in this newsletter: Family Tree DNA is the group which runs our clan DNA program.

"Dear Fellow Genealogist,

This week an article was published in the UK newspaper Daily Mail, quoting Ancestors Magazine, under the title: '£200-a-time ancestral DNA test kits are a rip off, say experts', by Andrew Levy.

The article was based on tests by the following companies: Oxford Ancestors, Ancestry DNA, and International Biosciences.

Family Tree DNA was not contacted for testing purposes, nor mentioned in that article. Having tested over 350,000 (over 100,000 of our direct customers and 250,000 participants in National Geographic's Genographic Project) we could supply anyone who asks us with thousands of examples that prove the opposite of what the attached article states.

Unfortunately, the journalist's conclusion is based on opportunist companies who noted our success and jumped into Genetic Genealogy to get a piece of it, but who did not have the science or the database that would allow for a serious work. Again, note that Family Tree DNA was NOT one of the companies that the journalist approached.

continues on page 8

Creating...

The University of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland

UHI Centre for History and
Dornoch campus development

Lewis Castle College UHI

Highland Theological
College UHI

Sabhal Mòr Ostaig UHI

Lochaber College UHI

Scottish Association
for Marine
Science UHI

Argyll College UHI

Moray College UHI

Inverness College UHI

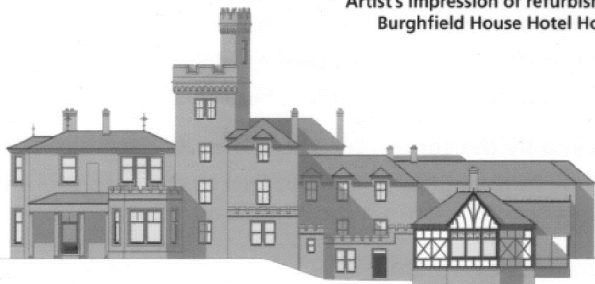
North Highland College UHI

Orkney College UHI

Shetland College UHI

NAFC Marine Centre UHI

Artist's impression of refurbished
Burghfield House Hotel Hotel



A better future for our Highland past

Continued from page 6

About 2 years ago, Oxford Ancestors announced to the world that his company found a descendant of Genghis Khan living in Florida - a Caucasian accountant. Family Tree DNA proved that Oxford Ancestors was wrong. Tom Robinson, the person in question, recounts the entire story in his blog at <http://trrobinson.com/2006/06/16/genghis-khan-or-not--that-is-the-question.aspx#comment-56635>. The Associated Press later distributed the news: 'Robinson, an associate accounting professor at the University of Miami, canceled a planned trip to Mongolia after learning of the new results. He said he never sought publicity on his ancestry. "The results that Family Tree DNA gave me are pretty conclusive," he said. "I'm certainly not going to look for any more tests on Genghis Khan."

(<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/13467247/>)

Family Tree DNA is proud to have the largest database of its kind in the world (more than all other companies combined), to adhere to the best science in the field, and to be the expert source for journalists from the New York Times and Los Angeles Times, among others. National Geographic would not tarnish their century-old reputation by partnering with us.

That article, in the end, demonstrates the following:

While Family Tree DNA prices are in line with other companies, price is not the only thing that matters when choosing a DNA testing company

Science and database size are important factors when choosing a testing company.

You are welcome to share this e-mail with whomever you feel necessary, and we make ourselves available to anyone with questions

about our work.

E-mail me anytime!

Max Blankfeld

Vice-President, Operations and Marketing

<http://www.FamilyTreeDNA.com>

"History Unearthed Daily"

max@familytreedna.com

713-868-1438"

UNIVERSITY OF THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS OF SCOTLAND

by Alan McKenzie

I attended a meeting at the home of the British Consul General in Toronto, Mr Nicholas Armour, to hear a presentation given by Scottish-Canadian Dennis MacLeod, a prominent former gold miner, who once owned Scatwell the former home of the Mackenzies of Scatwell. Also taking part in this presentation was the newly installed Professor of Scottish History, James Hunter, well known for his many books, including the volume "A Dance Called America".

The object of this meeting was to let the invited company know about the forthcoming University which will be formally established as a university within a couple of years. Meanwhile it does have the ability to grant undergraduate degrees.

This is the first time the Highlands have had the opportunity of having their own university and it is necessary as the Highlands are a growing region (at last) compared to the rest of Scotland. Through charitable donations and various government and European grants they have raised over three and a half million pounds and they will need one and half million for the new buildings to be constructed at Dornoch - so close to Mackenzie territory. This new campus will be the UHI Centre for History. On the page 7 is the front page of a

brochure I managed to get in my hands.

The Culmination of 600 years of dreams and aspirations

Because Highland Scots did so much towards the development of Canada it was natural that they considered this might be a cause close to us ex-patriated Highlanders in Canada. Dennis MacLeod certainly has given a huge amount and I asked Professor James Hunter if he was looking for donations and he said that he was.

There are two independent charitable bodies that can receive donations for the University of the Highlands and Islands. They are (in Scotland) The University of the Highlands and Islands Development Trust and another in the USA is the University of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland Foundation Inc. The UHI is seeking recognition as a tax exempt charity in Canada. In the meantime Canadians with US sourced income may be able to claim tax exemption by giving to the US charity under the current 1980 US Canada Tax Treaty.

Contact me for further information and also see the interesting website at:
www.uhi.ac.uk/development

COMMEMORATING THE VOYAGE OF THE HECTOR IN 1773

The Scottish Studies Foundation started an annual tall ship cruise some seventeen years ago to commemorate those hardy Scots who ventured into Nova Scotia in 1773.

Each year at the Labour Day weekend on the Sunday two cruises are held with heavy emphasis on Scotland. There are pipers and dancers and sing songs and if the day is fine - which it usually is - it attracts over 500 people - 250 for each cruise at 11.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.

As I was closely involved with starting this

event as a Governor of the Scottish Studies Foundation I thought you might like to think about joining in if you happen to be anywhere near Toronto at the time. Full details are given in the brochure which is shown on the two centre pages.

Happy sailing.

MESSAGE FROM PEADAIR MACKENZIE

Peadair Mackenzie wrote:

Dear Friends,

As you may know in previous years the Clan Gathering has enjoyed grants from various Government agencies to the tune of £10,000 (\$US19,600). We have now been told these grants will no longer be available to us. Also Glen Ord who used to support us with supplies of malt whisky has been taken over by a company who does not support this plan.

The options open to us are 1) double the ticket price, 2) seek alternative sources from industry and commerce, 3) Panic!

1 and 3 are not an option.

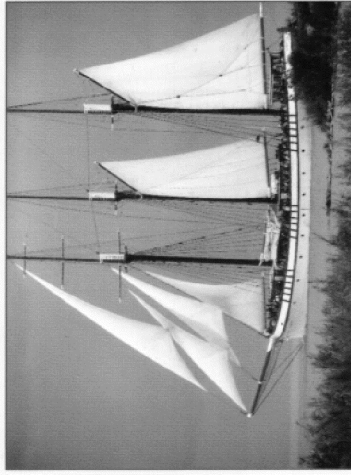
However, Dalmore Distillery, owned and operated by the Mackenzies of Dalmore for 150 years, until it was eventually taken over by Whyte and Mackay Ltd., was selected as a possible source of support.

Derek Mackenzie, one of our members, is the younger brother of Colonel. H.A.C. Mackenzie who managed the Distillery after WW2 and continued to run it after the take over.

Derek facilitated an introduction to the senior executives of Whyte and Mackay in Glasgow who are responsible for the marketing of the Dalmore Malt Whisky.

Together with Derek Mackenzie and Ian Blake I met the executives in their Glasgow

SCOTTISH SAILING CRUISE

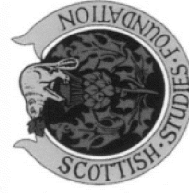


THE SCOTTISH STUDIES SOCIETY
PRESENTS ITS 17TH ANNUAL
TALL SHIP CRUISE

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31ST 2008

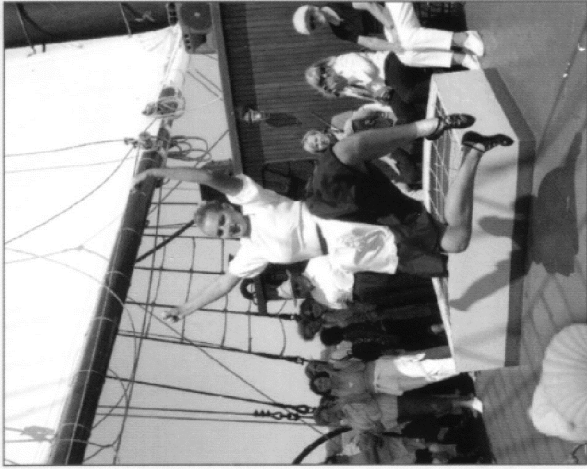
LAKE ONTARIO

BOARDING AT PIER 6, QUEEN'S
QUAY WEST



Morning cruise boarding: 11-11:25 a.m.
Afternoon cruise boarding 2-2:25 p.m.

Each cruise lasts over two hours



RECREATE THE VOYAGE OF THE
HECTOR (1773) AND SOME OF THE
FIRST SCOTS IN CANADA

WE HAVE ARRANGED TWO CRUISES

One boarding at 11:00 a.m. for departure at 11:30 a.m., the other boarding at 2:00 p.m. for departure at 2:30 p.m. (this sells out quickly). Each cruise is over 2 hours long.

The Empire Sandy will be docked on the south side of Queen's Quay West, directly opposite Lower Spadina, beside the Toronto Music Garden. Parking is available, both underground and street-level lots.

Come early for the 2 p.m. cruise for the best choice of parking. There is a map on the reverse of the ticket.



The Scottish Studies Society cordially invites you and your family and friends to join us on our Annual Tall Ship Cruise on Sunday, August 31 aboard Canada's largest sailing ship, the Empire Sandy.

Singers, dancers and the sound of the pipes will accompany and entertain you with songs and music from Scotland and Canada. As you might expect, there will be lots of tartan in evidence!

We will cruise out on Lake Ontario where the views of the Toronto skyline are spectacular and the hustle and bustle of ships of all shapes and sizes is a delight to the eye. If ever there was a photo opportunity, this is it. Be sure to bring your camera as it will be a day to remember!

As an added bonus the CNE's spectacular Air Show is also on that day!

For information on all our events, and for membership rates starting at only \$20, please contact us:

THE SCOTTISH STUDIES SOCIETY

P.O. Box 45069
2482 Yonge Street, Toronto
Ontario, Canada, M4P 3E3

Email: scottishstudies@yahoo.com

Web: www.scottishstudies.com



Cruise photos: www.scottishstudies.com

THIS IS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO SHARE THE EXPERIENCE OF A VOYAGE ON A TALL SHIP UNDER FULL SAIL AND RECAPTURE THE SPIRIT OF CANADA'S PIONEERS!

SAVE ON ADVANCE TICKETS:

Adults: \$20; Children 15 & under: \$5

TICKETS ON DAY OF SAIL:

Adults: \$25; Children 15 & under: \$8

Food & Drinks available for sale on board

Cheques, payable to 'The Scottish Studies Society', should be mailed to:

Maggie McEwan, 2333 Woking Crescent,
Mississauga, ON L5K 1Z5.

Email: magmcewan@gmail.com

Tel: 905 301-5475

Or contact Gordon Hepburn:

Tel/fax: 905 881-5780



A SUPERB DAY OF
SCOTTISH
ENTERTAINMENT



continued from page 9

HQ on 28th April.

A document setting out our ideas had already been sent to them so they were more or less prepared for the Highland assault.

This meeting was most positive and we are now in the process of bringing detail into our joint plans, which we jointly hope to have consolidated by June of this year. I will let you know the final results at that time.

In return for their major support, one of the considerations is that Dalmore Malt whisky in particular and Whyte and Mackay in general, will become the chosen brand for the Clan Mackenzie world wide, supported by our members.

The point of this letter is to seek your support in this venture and I will be grateful if you will confirm this as soon as possible. Taking a dram of this superb Malt in support of the Clan can hardly be called a hardship!!!!

In the meantime I would ask you to keep this information confidential.

Warmest regards to you all, (Believe it or not the weather is really sunny and hot here)

Peadair.

Ed: Peadair Mackenzie is the President of the Clan

Mackenzie Society of Scotland and the UK. Curiously enough as editor of this magazine I had already copied details of Dalmore Distillery and their Mackenzie connection shown on page 3 before knowing about the clan's approach to them! Serendipity!

JAMES MACKENZIE'S GAIRLOCH STORIES

In the previous issue of Cabar Feidh we printed a story entitled "The Other Rob Roy McGregor" a tale told by one James Mackenzie born in 1808. We promised to pass on more of his stories of local events in Gairloch and here are two of them.

William Roy Mackenzie

"William Roy Mackenzie was stopping at Innis a bhaird. This was in the eighteenth century, before they commenced making whisky in Gairloch. William used to go to Ferintosh with his two horses with crook saddles, carrying a cask of whisky on each side. He always went there about Christmas. At that time Christmas was observed in Gairloch; now its observance is given up. William had two horses, a white and a black; one of them was fastened behind the tail of the other, the white horse foremost. On the

other side of Achnasheen there was an exciseman waiting to catch William on his way home with four casks of whisky. The exciseman hid himself until William came past. Then he jumped out from his hiding-place, and caught the white horse by the halter, saying, 'This is mine.' Says William, 'I do not think you will say that tomorrow; let go my horse.' 'No,' says the exciseman. 'Will you let him go,' says William, 'if you get a permit with him?' 'Let me see your permit,' says the exciseman, still dragging at the white horse. 'Stop,' says William; 'let go the horse, the permit is in his tail.' He would not let go; so when William saw that, he loosed the black horse from behind the grey, that he might get at the permit. Then he lifted his stick and struck the old grey so that he plunged and jumped, and in the scrimmage one of the casks of whisky struck the exciseman and knocked him down on the ground. Says William, 'There's the permit for you.' The exciseman lay helpless on the ground; so William Roy got clean away with all the whisky, and came home with it to Innis a bhaird."

Kenneth and John Mackenzie of Rona

"One of the Mackenzies of Letterewe had a daughter who was married to a man in Badfearn in Skye. A daughter of theirs became the wife of William Mackenzie of Rona, who was one of the Mackenzies of Shieldaig of Gairloch. He had a son named Kenneth; and Kenneth had two sons, called Kenneth and John. They were out fishing in a smack of their own, when they were attacked and taken by the press-gang. They were carried off, and placed in a hulk lying in the Thames below London. One night they were together in the same watch, and they then made a plan to escape. A yacht belonging to a gentleman in London was in the river; she was out and in every day, and always anchored alongside the hulk. The gentry from the yacht were going ashore every night, and leaving only a boy in her. The night the two brothers Kenneth and John were on the watch, the boy was alone in the yacht. What did they do but decide to carry out their plan of escape there and then! So they went through the gun-ports, one on each side of the hulk, and swam to the yacht. Then they got the yacht under weigh, the boy sleeping all the time. They got safe away with the yacht, and worked her as far as to Loch Craignish, on this side of Crinan. There they went ashore in the night, and left the yacht with the boy. They left the yacht's gig ashore in Loch Craignish, and set off on their way home.

When the laird of Craignish saw the gig, and the yacht lying in the loch, he went out in the gig to see what kind of yacht she was. The brothers had left the papers of the yacht on the cabin table, that it might be found out who she belonged to. So the laird of Craignish wrote to the owners in London, and advised them to send orders to him to sell the yacht and send the boy home with the money. The owners did

so, and the yacht was sold. She became the mail-packet between Coll and Tobermory. I saw her long ago on that service.

"The two brothers, Kenneth and John Mackenzie, got safe back to Rona, and soon got another smack. They were going south with a cargo of fish, through the Crinan Canal; the smack was lying in the basin after you pass the first lock. There was a plank put to the shore from the gangway of the vessel; by this they went ashore to the inn at Crinan. A girl in the house went to the vessel and took the plank out; the two Mackenzies, on going back to the smack in the dark, for want of the plank fell into the basin, and were both drowned. They were relations of my mother. I saw them when I was a boy at Mellon Charles. They were fine men."

Ed: We shall have more James Mackenzie stories from long ago in the next issue of Cabar Feidh.

MESSAGE FROM MIKE MACKENZIE - COMMISSIONER IN WINNIPEG

Just a note of interest. My father was given the medal pictured below, for my late grandfather, Joseph McKenzie, who fought in WWI, and was involved in the battle at Vimy Ridge. He survived, but was seriously wounded, and upon his return to Canada, was still on board a hospital ship in the Halifax Harbour the morning of the Halifax Explosion. He survived that too, and lived to the age of 94.

The Battle of Vimy Ridge was most important in WWI as the British and French lost some 200,000 men trying to retake this important ridge as it was the high point in the defence of the line between France and Germany. This Battle was the first time that all the Canadian units in France were put together, and was their battle to win or lose. They

planned it, trained for it, and were in control of the Ridge before nightfall, but it took a couple of days to clear out the enemy in the bunkers under the ground which could hold hundreds of soldiers. Canada became a Nation on that day, and won the right to be one of the signers on the German surrender. It was also the first real victory for the allied armies in WWI, and was the beginning of the downfall of Germany in WWI. This medal is for the Canadian soldiers that were in that Battle.



FAMILY HISTORY FILE

McKENZIES IN EASTER ROSS

BY ALAN McKENZIE

I am making an appeal for members to send in reports of any size on family history as it relates to their Mackenzie family.

As a start and to give some idea of the sort of things that can be done I am giving my own family history. It has taken a great many years to produce this file and it all started several years ago when I sat down with my father and asked him to let me know all he could about his family. He did not know very much and it was the files from the Mormon Church genealogical records where I discovered most of the early basic information.

The data starts with a man born somewhere around 1700:

Andrew McKenzie - he was born in Balveallie, Nigg, Scotland. I have never found his wife but he did have two sons. The second son was **Kenneth McKenzie** born January 19, 1733/34 - yes - one of those curious dates before the calendar got changed! There is no further information of Kenneth.

The first son was **Alexander McKenzie** born July 12, 1730 in Balveallie, Nigg, Scotland. He was married to **Margaret McAndie** b c1752 and they had four children.

He was otherwise known as **Alexander McAnin**. Possibly born in 1730 but if so was getting on in years when some of his children were born. He was a farmer in the Loans of Nigg, Fearn.

His four children were:

Lilias McKenzie born January 12, 1773

Alexander McKenzie born abt 1780

Robert Bruce Enias Macleod McKenzie
born November 10, 1785

William McKenzie born April 26, 1788

The alias of **McAnin** crops up several times sometimes spelled **McAnnun** or **Mackannin**.

At this point I should pause because the discovery of Alexander McKenzie and his children was found for me by Graeme Mackenzie, the clan genealogist, who just happens to be my own fourth cousin through our respective Grant and Fraser families in Inverness-shire. I can do no better than record what Graeme said about this family and the alias **McAnin**:

“According to Alexander Mackenzie - footnote on page 396 of the Clan Mackenzie History - “there was a tribe in the Eastern circuit of Ross, surnamed from one of the progenitors, MacEanin, i.e. descendants of John the Fair” . . . Your ancestor’s alias could well be a form of this name; i.e. Mac-Iain-fhionn; where “fhionn” is the genitive form of the adjective “fionn” meaning fair or white (as you probably know “fh” is not generally pronounced in the Gaelic). This “John the Fair” was apparently a descendant of Hector Mackenzie ‘the Bishop’ in Kinellan, who was a grandson of Hector “Cam” Mackenzie of Auchterneed and Culteleod (i.e. Castle Leod), who was an illegitimate son of Hector “Roy” Mackenzie, Tutor of Kintail and 1st of Gairloch (fl. 1488).

“Although this seems the most likely explanation of your family’s alternate surname, I do also have another claimed descent for Alexander McKenzie alias M’anin which came to me from New Zealand. This was sent as a matter of interest to me by a non-M’kenzie client in New Zealand many years ago, and sadly I have lost any information about whom it came from there; though a note on the tree I made up from it says that the original was compiled by **Thomas Urquhart M’kenzie** who appears on it as of **Alexander’s** son **Robert Bruce Enias Macleod Mackannin**. I have

added that information into the material I am sending to you, along with as much about this family as I have so far been able to check in the records. I have not however added what this tree claims to be Alexander’s descent since there is no proof of it, and it contradicts the above explanation of the name “M’anin”; but here it is, for what it is worth: **Alexander M’kenzie alias M’anin** was born/baptized 12 July 1730 to **Andrew M’kenzie in Balveallie, Nigg** (there is a record of this birth/baptism, the 6th surviving entry in the Nigg OPR; but no proof that this Alexander is the same man). **Andrew M’kenzie** is claimed to have been a son of the **Rev. James M’kenzie, Minister of Nigg 1655-1701**, and his wife Mary Rose, daughter of John Rose of Broadley, Nairn. The **Rev. James Mackenzie**, who was the ancestor of **Henry Mackenzie** the author of “A Man of Feeling” and according to some accounts of Hugh Miller the writer from Cromarty as well, appears in most of the main Mackenzie genealogies, where he is said to have had 21 children; of whom some seven are named only, not including an Andrew etc”

On receipt of this information I immediately contacted Sonia Mackenzie (now Lieutenant to Cabarfeidh in New Zealand). I asked her if she knew of this man, **Thomas Urquhart McKenzie**, who emigrated to New Zealand in 1841 married a Fraser woman and had 21 children! Sonia told me that many of their members in New Zealand were descendants of **Thomas Urquhart McKenzie** including their former Secretary **Liz Gunn**.

To cut a long story short I went to New Zealand and met several 4th and 5th cousins and stayed with many of them in 2003. The New Zealand branch alone added 2000 names to my family tree thanks to the prolific numbers of descendants for the 21 children of **Thomas Urquhart McKenzie**.

Among the many distant relations I met in New Zealand was **Colin Ashton McKenzie** in Thames, a fourth cousin once removed. Like myself he was a retired senior banker and was about the same age as me. We became great pals and I was delighted to meet up with him and his charming wife Josie once again at the Clan Gathering in Strathpeffer in 2005. One final and important note before moving on: I was able to prove that the New Zealand branch of the family was indeed a closely related to my own McKenzie family. Colin McKenzie and I did DNA tests and he is the closest match I have in the world so far out of over 120,000 DNA tests done so far.

Suffice it to say that as mentioned by Graeme Mackenzie, **Robert Bruce Enias Macleod McKenzie** was the father of seven children including the emigrant son **Thomas Urquhart McKenzie**, the progenitor of the vast New Zealand family.

Now it is time to move on to my relation, **William McKenzie**, the fourth child of **Alexander McAnin**. It took a long time to find him and that was because I was misled with a string of names which did not appear to make sense. It was great good fortune that Graeme Mackenzie found William's death certificate which read as follows:

"William McKenzie died March 27, 1878 at Shandwick Street, Tain, aged about 100 - a crofter. A widower of 1st: Isabella Gair; 2nd: Christy Munro. Father Alexander McKenzie, crofter, dec'd., Mother: Margaret McAndie, Dec'd. Informant: Andrew McKenzie, son, present.

I must now quickly tell you of an important piece of information given to me by the genealogist Mr MacLeod at the Inverness Library in 1995. We were looking for the birth of William McKenzie and Mr MacLeod raced through the parish register for Fearn Parish and suddenly

stopped and told me to make a note of this reference:

Birth: Fearn Parish Register "McAnin & McCandie: Alexander McAnin, Loans of Rarichie, had a child baptized named William 26 April 1788, born 16 April 1788."

The date of birth was around the time I had calculated but I asked the genealogist why do I need to record this name. He said the name McAnin was a very common alias for Mackenzie in Easter Ross. Indeed it was and it had to wait five more years to prove that this birth record was indeed that of my own great grandfather!

The confusion on William was due to the fact that my great great grandmother, **Isabella Gair**, died at an early age and William married a second time and had a great many children by his second wife, **Christy Munro**.

William and Isabella had only two children who might have survived childhood.

Isobel McKenzie b. March 11, 1816 in May 07, 1819, at Arboll, Tarbat Parish, Ross & Cromarty, of which nothing more has been found.

and **Alexander McKenzie** b. May 07, 1819 in May 07, 1819 at Arboll, Tarbat Parish, Ross & Cromarty. He married **Janet Munro** b abt 1823 in Fearn Parish, Ross & Cromarty. These are my great grandparents. He was a master tailor but on a document he made a mark so I assume he was illiterate.

Alexander and Janet had eleven children:

Many of these I have not been able to trace and so I would ask people reading this if they see a possible connection with any of them.

Here are the children:

1. Isabella McKenzie born about 1848 at Fearn, Ross & Cromarty. She never married but had two illegitimate children, **Murdo McKenzie** b. January 18, 1872, and **Isabella McKenzie** b. November 27, 1876 both born at

Bayfield, Nigg, Ross & Cromarty.

2. John McKenzie b. 1849 at Fearn

3. William McKenzie b. January 1851 at Fearn. My grandfather's army service record shows him living in Tain in 1885. The same record has an indistinct pencilled note against his name with an address in Melbourne, Australia. This fits with a family tradition that he emigrated to Australia and became a millionaire either in sheep or cattle farming. Despite this seemingly important clue, I have never been able to find him.

4. Alexander McKenzie b. 1854, at Fearn - nothing known.

5. David McKenzie b. 1854 at Fearn - (twin brother of Alexander). Nothing known.

6. Colin McKenzie b. September 02, 1856 at Midoxgate, Fearn, Ross & Cromarty. Little known about him.

7. Jean McKenzie b. July 12, 1859. Midoxgate, Fearn, Ross & Cromarty. No further information. Alive in 1871.

8. Archibald McKenzie b. January 06, 1862 Nigg, Ross & Cromarty. Died August 27, 1864

9. Hector McKenzie b. August 04, 1864 Bayfield, Nigg, Ross & Cromarty. He is believed to have emigrated to the USA (probably New York) as a gentleman's companion. He returned to the UK and visited the family around 1909 on a vacation to Belfast and gave each of my grandfather's children a gold sovereign.

10. Archibald McKenzie (my grandfather) January 18, 1867 at Bayfield, Nigg, Ross & Cromarty. At last - someone I can remember. My grandfather was a regular soldier joining the Seaforth Highlanders at Fort George, later transferring to the Military Corps of Staff Clerks where he served in South Africa in the Boer War. He later transferred to the Army Pay Corps. He married Elizabeth Martin, a Lady's Maid in Dingwall, and they were married in

Dingwall. He rose through the ranks at a very fast pace to the rank of Staff Quartermaster Sergeant by 1893 but then further promotion ceased. He was religious and the family were strict Presbyterians. He later moved with the army to the Woolwich Arsenal in London and bought a small house there. The family lived there for many years. He died in 1952.

11. Janet or Jessie McKenzie born September 26, 1870 at Bayfield, Nigg, Ross & Cromarty. Her claim to fame was her marriage to Dr William Speirs Bruce, who headed the only Scottish National Antarctic Expedition in 1902-4 where he discovered and named Coats Land (after his patron who supported his voyage). They had two children, 1. Eillium Alastair Bruce and 2. Sheila Mackenzie Bruce. She worked as a nurse in London for Samuel Noble Bruce and that was where she met his son, her husband-to-be. She was, according to her daughter "a woman of striking appearance with fine auburn hair". On marriage she and her husband set up house in Milton Street, Joppa, five miles east of Edinburgh on the southern shore of the Firth of Forth.

After the death of her husband in 1921, Jessie emigrated to Australia and died in Sydney in January 1942. Why did she leave her children and why did her husband put young Sheila with guardians? Did Jessie go to Australia to join her brother, William, who was supposed to be very wealthy?

I since learned from Moira Watson, a granddaughter and my second cousin, (October, 2002) that Jessie was an alcoholic and was violent with her children. Very odd behaviour for a former nurse! Hence the removal from her care of daughter Sheila.

Ernest Shackleton the explorer, referred to seeing "the great Bruce with Miss McKenzie in a carriage."

We must now turn to the children of my

grandparents, Archibald McKenzie and Elizabeth Martin:

1. Janet McKenzie b. October 18, 1892, Inverness, Scotland. Married Roy Palmer and they had five children: 1. Margaret Palmer b. May 13, 1918 who married Frank Hill. They emigrated to Canada and lived in Sarnia, Ontario. Margaret died in March this year and her daughter Maureen Elizabeth Hill (now Mrs Torma) is my closest relation here in Ontario other than my own family. 2. Roy Palmer, b. January 05, 1920. I believe he was a plumber and was never married. He was a paratrooper and took part in the D Day landings. He died July 2002. 3. Joan Mary Palmer b. September 18, 1921 Married Walter Moffatt and had one son, Ian. I remember meeting my cousin in London on a brief visit from Canada. She died in 1999 in England. 4. Kenneth Palmer born August 26, 1923. Married Audrey Walder and had two daughters, Alison and Gillian. 5. Doris Palmer b. July 12, 1925, married Raymond William Hearn and had two children Alan and Jean. Nearly all of this large family lived in or around London and I have only the slightest memory of ever seeing any of them.

2. Mary Elizabeth McKenzie b. January 14, 1896 in Perth, Scotland. She never married and I remember her well as one of my favourite aunts who bought me presents at Christmas. She lived in the same house in Woolwich until she was alone after the death of her parents and she died there in June 1991. aged 95. A lovely lady and lots of fun with a huge sense of humour.

3. William Alexander McKenzie b. June 29, 1897 in Perth, Scotland. This was my father! He married my mother Ada Ethel May Cross, a Londoner. A very handsome man and my mother always said she was lucky to get him because so many men had been killed in the First World War! They married in 1925 in

Fulham, London and had three children. My father was another regular army soldier like his father before him. He joined the army as a boy soldier in 1911 at the age of 14 and rose through the ranks to hold the most senior non-commissioned rank in the British Army - a First Class Staff Sergeant Major in the Royal Army Service Corps. He was later commissioned and finally retired as Officer in Charge of Barracks at Raglan Barracks, Devonport in Devon. He was a Major by that time. My father served in both world wars. He avoided the slaughter on the Western Front since he was serving with the British Army in what was German East Africa. Remember that movie "The African Queen" set at that time and place? He died in March 1988, aged almost 91.

4. Archibald McKenzie b. June 01, 1900. Uncle Archie was my Godfather and I have only a faint pleasurable memory of him. He was married but to my knowledge had no children. He died at an early age on October 25, 1943 in The Wirrall, Cheshire when he was killed in a factory when a load of metal dropped accidentally from a crane onto his head.

5. John McKenzie b. March 20, 1903 in Belfast, Northern Ireland, where my grandfather was stationed at the time. Like his father and brother he joined the army - the Seaforth Highlanders and it was while he was serving with that regiment in Shanghai, China in 1939 that he was accidentally killed from coal gas poisoning. He was married and had one daughter, Jean born around 1931.

6. Annie McKenzie b. November 17, 1905 in Belfast, Northern Ireland. Another one of my very popular aunts. Always extremely amusing with a huge sense of humour. It was a fun family. She was married and had two children - both boys. One died a few years back and the oldest, Martin Benn is about the same

age as me and we stay in touch, even though he lives in England. He is unmarried. Aunt Annie was almost 95 when she died.

Turning finally to my parent's children:

1. Stewart William McKenzie b June 10, 1926, in Colchester, Essex. Married Hazel Smith, no children - both still living near Launceston, Cornwall. Stewart left home to join the army while I was still a child of six. He served in a number of regiments and finally in the Parachute Regiment and he also got his wings while serving in the Glider Pilot Regiment. He was a tiny bit too young to take part in the Arnhem raids in 1944, but I do remember seeing the sky, from our home in Ipswich, filled with planes dragging the gliders when I was just eight years old.

2. Muriel May McKenzie b. August 23, 1929. Married three times having been widowed twice. Muriel lives in Plymstock, Devon with her husband Peter Page, a retired BBC Producer and former Justice of the Peace. Muriel has two children from her first husband, Tudor Eric Davies (died 1975) and has eight grandchildren.

3. Alan McKenzie b September 22, 1936, in Chester, Cheshire. Married **Jill Leach** August 16, 1958. We had five children:

Duncan Stuart, Fiona Juliet, Ian Bruce, Neil Gordon and Catherine Alison.

Jill died December 2006 - greatly missed! My youngest son, Neil died in North Dakota in 1988.

I now have eleven grandchildren.

I was a banker for most of my working life - 38 years with Barclays Bank in England and in Canada. I did almost two years with the Bank of Montreal and two years in Hong Kong with Cosmopolitan Properties and Securities Limited, a public company, as Joint Managing Director 1976-78.

I retired from banking on my 60th birthday

at which point I was Senior Vice President and Secretary, and Compliance Officer of Barclays Bank of Canada in Toronto. I served ten years as a Governor of the Institute of Canadian Bankers, the educational arm of the Canadian Bankers Association.

I was the founder of the Clan MacKenzie Society in Canada in 1987 and was a governor for over 20 years with the Scottish Studies Foundation including two years as President.

[This concludes this family history and I welcome submissions from members. If you have a story to tell then please tell it.]

THE GATHERING - EDINBURGH 2009

Our Clan is booked for the Gathering in July 2009. See the following web page which includes a short video with Lord Semple, one of the main organizers of the Gathering: <http://www.clangathering.org/>

We shall give more information in due course but meanwhile make sure you have a diary and block out July if you wish to attend. Our clan has booked some rooms at Edinburgh University at a very reasonable rate.

CANADIAN MASSED PIPES AND DRUMS TOUR 2009

The Canadian Massed Pipes and Drums will take part in the Gathering of the Clans in Edinburgh on the 25th and 26th July 2009, being the first Band to be invited

The 25th will involve the Parade of Clans up the Royal Mile and a March Past on the Esplanade, which will be followed by a Historical Pageant and Finale. The Canadian Massed Pipes and Drums will also take part in the Finale.

On Sunday the 26th there will be a Kirkin of the Tartan and other events.

Other performances confirmed to date,



Canadian Massed Pipes and Drums at a nighttime performance at Edinburgh Castle.



include events and parades in Perth, Pitlochry, Glasgow, Aberdeen. The Cavalcade Parade along Princess Street and a Pre-Show Performance at the Edinburgh Tattoo.

The band is under the direction of Senior Pipe Major Ross Baxter and our own Clan President, Drum Major Norman MacKenzie CD!

See photo above of the Canadian Massed Pipes and Drums performing at night at Edinburgh Castle under Senior Drum Major Norman MacKenzie.

DRUM MAJOR WORKSHOP

The 2008 Annual Drum Major Workshop, was held this year at the Armouries, Victoria, BC. This is the ninth year for the event, with it being rotated annually between Calgary and Victoria.

The event is sponsored annually by the Canmore Highland Games and this year by the Canadian Scottish Regiment.

The Instructor is Drum Major Norman MacKenzie CD President of the Clan MacKenzie Canada.

Photo opposite: From left to right

1. D/M Gary Louis CD, Canadian Scottish Regiment, Victoria, BC
2. D/M Robin Long, Portland Police P&D, Oregon.

3. D/M Matthew Harthill Seattle Firefighters P&D, WA.

4. D/M Murray Wood, 78th Fraser Highlanders. BC

5. D/M Sally Garen, Canmore, AB

6. D/M Norm MacKenzie CD. Instructor. Toronto

7. D/M Gerry Smith Courtney Legion. P&D. BC

8. D/M Chris Hoskin, British Columbia Regiment. BC

9. D/M Bob Smith Cowichan, P&D. BC

10. D/M Duncan Patterson, Sooke Legion. P&D. BC

11. D/M Ken Templeman, Beinn Gorm Highlanders P&D, Collingwood. ON

NEW MACKENZIE CLAN TENT

We must thank President Norman MacKenzie for hunting down a splendid new clan tent which arrived here a couple of days ago. We shall show a photo in the next newsletter - you should be impressed!

In this regard we must thank Donald G.A. McKenzie who sent us a generous donation of \$500 in memory of Dr. R.G. McKenzie. We have applied this donation towards the cost of our new clan tent. Thank you Donald.

