



Vol. IV Issue No. 4 *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree* Section B September 2010

## Clan Buchanan Society, International sets Annual General Meeting at the New Hampshire Highland Games



The AGM of the Clan Buchanan Society, International will be held in conjunction with the New Hampshire Highland Games in the White Mountains National Forest in Lincoln, New Hampshire. The 3-day event will be held September 17-19, 2010. In addition to their AGM, the CBSI will be this year's Honoured Clan in one of the largest clan villages in the eastern United States.

The NHHG features the best entertainers from Scotland, Canada and the US including Alasdair Fraser, The Brigadoons, Albannach, John Carmichael, The Red Hot Chilli Pipers, Roy Johnstson and Steve Sharratt.

The featured pipe band is The Royal Canadian Mounted Police Pipes and Drums. They will join over 30 other pipe and drum bands in attendance.

You will also see heavyweight athletics, sheep dog trials, drum major competitions, dancing piping, fiddling and hard competitions. There will be whisky tasting, genealogy seminars and historic re-enactors.

The Clan Buchanan AGM dinner will be held Saturday evening at the Masonic Lodge in North Woodstock, NH. Please contact David Byrne at [ctbuchanan@gmail.com](mailto:ctbuchanan@gmail.com) to make reservations.

There is no host hotel for this event. Visit <http://www.lincolnwoodstock.com> for hotel information.

### **Congratulations to Clan MacTavish International!**

Clan MacTavish was given the "Best Tent" award at the recent Scottish Festival and Celtic Gathering in Bridgeport, WV.

Debbie and Rick Backus and Honored

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**This year's college freshmen only know Jay Leno on the *Tonight Show*.**



# Electric Scotland speaks...

Alastair McIntyre, <http://www.electricscotland.com>

## *The Pipes of War*

### **A Record of Achievements of Pipers of Scottish and Overseas Regiments during the War of 1914 - 1918. by Brevet-Col. Sir Bruce Seton, Bart. of Abercorn, C.B. and Pipe Major John Grant. (1920)**

WHEREVER Scottish troops have fought the sound of the pipes has been heard, speaking to us of our beloved native land, bringing back to our memories the proud traditions of our race, and stimulating our spirits to fresh efforts in the cause of freedom. The cry of "The Lament" over our fallen heroes has reminded us of the undying spirit of the Scottish race, and of the sacredness of our cause.

The Pipers of Scotland may well be proud of the part they have played in this war, in the heat of battle, by the lonely grave, and during the long hours of waiting, they have called to us to show ourselves worthy of the land to which we belong. Many have fallen in the fight for liberty, but their memories remain. Their fame will inspire others to learn the pipes, and keep alive their music in the Land of the Gael.

#### *Preface*

This record of the achievements of pipers during the war of 1914-18 is not intended to be an appeal to emotionalism. It aims at showing that, in spite of the efforts of a very efficient enemy to prevent individual gallantry, in spite of the physical conditions of the mod-

ern battlefield, the pipes of war, the oldest instrument in the world, have played an even greater part in the orchestra of battle in this than they have in past campaigns.

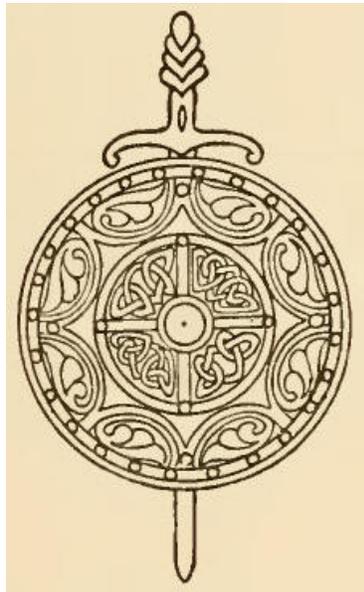
The piper, be he Highlander, or Lowlander, or Scot from Overseas, has accomplished the impossible—not rarely and under favourable conditions, but almost as a matter of routine; and to him not Scotland only but the British Empire owes more than they have yet appreciated.

In doing so he has sacrificed himself; and Scotland—and the world—must face the fact that a large proportion of the men who played the instrument and kept alive the old traditions have completed their self-imposed task. With 300 pipers killed and 600 wounded something must be done to raise a

new generation of players; it is a matter of national importance that this should be taken in hand at once, and that the sons of those who have gone should follow in the footsteps of their fathers.

This is the best tribute that can be offered to them.

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PIPER JAMES RICHARDSON, V.C., 16TH CANADIAN SCOTTISH  
AT REGINA TRENCH, VIMY RIDGE

*From the Painting by J. Pringle*

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### **The Pipes of War**, *continued from page 2*

The Piobaireachd Society intend to institute a Memorial School of piping for this purpose, and all profits from the sale of this book will be handed over to their fund.

The compilation of the statistical portions of the work has involved correspondence with commanding officers, pipe presidents and pipe majors of many units in the Imperial armies; to them, for their enthusiastic assistance in obtaining information, is due the credit for the mass of detail that has been made available.

To the other contributors—authors, artists and poets—is due in large measure such success as may follow the publication of this work. They have helped a cause worthy of their efforts.

It is earnestly to be hoped that Scotland will rise

to the occasion. To the compilers it has been a privilege to record the achievements of men—many of them personal friends—who contributed so largely to the success of their gallant regiments.

B. S. & J. G.

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## **The Pipes of War** **The Pipes in the War, 1914-1918** **- The Western Front**

DURING the autumn [Probably the first pipers to play on French soil were those of the 2nd Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders on their landing at

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## The Pipes of War, *continued from page 3*

Boulogne.] and winter of 1914-15 pipers, for obvious reasons, had few opportunities of attracting much attention, still less of performing their highest duty, viz, playing their companies into action. They were necessarily, on account of the extreme shortage of men, for the most part employed in the ranks; and in many of the old Regular battalions pipe bands disappeared altogether.

For a time it seemed that the critics were right, and that in warfare in the twentieth century there was no longer a place for a class of man which was destined to disappear, as the bard and the harper had done in days lang syne.

This view was widely held, and in some regiments was never modified.

But gradually, as attacks became more frequent and movements set in, and as the British Army grew stronger in numbers, the position changed, and the piper became more than an invaluable marching instrumentalist or performer at ceilidhs in billets.

The first occasion on which pipers played, or tried to play, their companies into action was at Cuinchy on 25th January 1915, when the 1st Black Watch suffered such heavy casualties in advancing through deep mud up to their knees.

It was at Neuve Chapelle in March 1915 that the company piper really had his first chance of showing what he could do, as a piper, in action. On this occasion the 20th Brigade had to carry the stronghold of Moulin du Piètre, and lost very heavily; the 2nd Gordons were in the main attack and the 6th Gordons, a Territorial unit, in reserve. The 6th Gordons were called upon to support their comrades of the old Regular Army, and advanced, headed by their pipes and drums, with a rush which carried many of them beyond their objective.

From that time onwards, right up to the end of the war, pipers have repeatedly played their units into

action, in spite of the unfavourable conditions resulting from modern rifle and artillery fire and gas, and have established the standard of gallantry in this respect which has been at once the admiration of all observers and an incentive to their successors to emulate them.

During the first weeks' heavy fighting, in April-May 1915, on the left of the attenuated British line of the Ypres salient, the pipers of Canadian battalions took a prominent part. In their advance on the St. Julien wood the 16th Canadians were led by their company pipers, two of whom were killed and two wounded

while playing; their places were at once taken by others, who played the battalion through the German trenches at the heels of the retiring enemy to the tune "We'll tak' the guid auld way." In many subsequent actions these men distinguished themselves in the same way.

After the failure of the first attack on the German line at Rue des Bois on 9th May 1915, in the action of Richebourg-Festubert, the 1st Black Watch were played to a fresh attack by their company pipers. "With their characteristic fury they had vanished into the smoke, and the only evidence that remained was the sound of the pipes."

When they reached the German trenches a piper, Andrew Wishart, stood on the parados playing until he was wounded. Another piper, W. Stewart, was awarded the D.C.M. on this occasion.

The same thing happened in the case of the 2nd Black Watch at Festubert, the companies being led by their pipers. Of these men two, Pipers Gordon and Crichton, were specially mentioned for their gallantry. The Seaforth pipers, too, suffered heavily in this as in many later actions—"Caber Feidh" has often been heard along that line which looked so weak, but was too strong for the Germans.

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PIPER DANIEL LAIDLAW, V.C., 7th KING'S OWN SCOTTISH BORDERERS  
At Loos  
From the Drawing by Louis Watère, R.I.A.

## The Pipes of War, *continued from page 4*

In the action at Festubert on the 17th May the 4th Camerons got further than any other battalion, and were played in by their pipe major, J. Ross, and four pipers. These men got through untouched, though their pipes were all injured.

Later again, on 16th June 1915, when the Hooge salient was straightened by the 3rd Division, the attack was led by the 8th Brigade, and the enemy front and support lines were taken. On this occasion Pipe Major Daniel Campbell, although wounded, played his battalion, the 1st Royal Scots Fusiliers, over the top.

Dawn was just breaking when the Pipe Major scrambled out on the parapet and started playing. The men raced forward after him until stopped by uncut wire. In the hand-to-hand fighting which ensued the Pipe Major threw aside his pipes and, catching up a bayonet, joined in the attack.

It was during the Ypres fighting, where gas was first used against us, that an incident occurred of which the facts are as stated, but unfortunately it has been found impossible to get the names of the men concerned.

The men, looking into the storm of shells that swept their course and at the awful cloud of death now almost on them, wavered, hung back —only for a moment. And who will dare to blame them?

Two of the battalion pipers who were acting as stretcher bearers saw the situation in a moment. Dropping their stretcher they made for their dug-out and emerged a second later with their pipes. They sprang on the parapet, tore off their respirators and charged forward. Fierce and terrible the wild notes cleft the air ... after fifteen yards the pibroch ceased; the two pipers, choked and suffocated with the gas fumes, staggered and fell.”

Although in these earlier actions pipers had done

much to maintain the traditions of the past they had never had the opportunities of distinguishing themselves that came to them during the great operations about Loos in September 1915. The attack of two army corps, in which were thirty Scottish battalions, along a seven-mile front, was a chance for these men, and one of which they were not slow to avail themselves. Three pipers at least earned the title of “The piper of Loos,” and one of these, Daniel Laidlaw, of the 7th King’s Own Scottish Borderers, was awarded the Victoria Cross ; but, in the general orgie of gallantry

which characterised those operations, individual pipers in very many cases won the highest praise in their own units but escaped the official recognition they had earned.

The attack by the 28th Brigade on the Hohenzollern Redoubt was accompanied by fearful casualties; with uncut wire in front, in an atmosphere heavily laden with gas, exposed to machine-gun fire in front and flank, the 6th K.O.S.B., 10th and 11th H.L.I. and 9th Seaforths were decimated. The K.O.S.B. were played over the top by their veteran Pipe Major, Robert Mackenzie, an old soldier of forty-two years’ service. He was severely wounded and died the following day.

On the right of this Brigade the 26th had better luck, as the wire was found to be more thoroughly cut. The 5th Camerons and 7th Seaforths led the way followed by the 8th Gordons and 8th Black Watch, and reached Fosse 8, where they hung on, though reduced to the strength of a single battalion.

“The heroism of the pipers was splendid. In spite of murderous fire they continued playing. At one moment, when the fire of the machine guns was so terrific that it looked as if the attack must break down, a Seaforth piper dashed forward in front of the line and started Caber Feidh. The effect was instantaneous—

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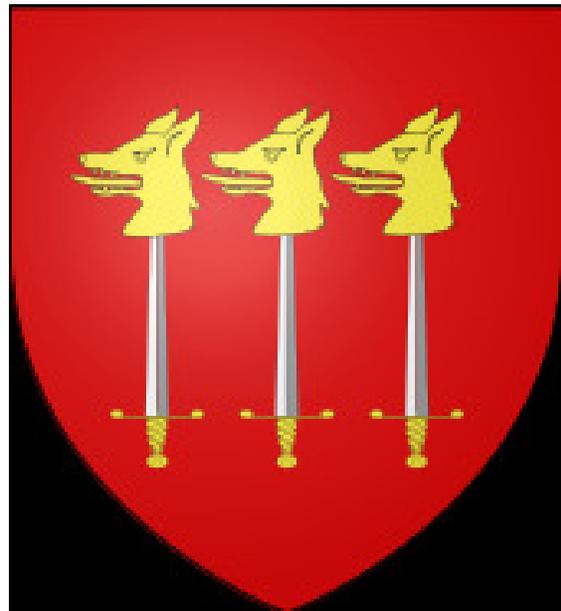


PIPER DANIEL LAIDLAW, V.C., 7th KING'S OWN SCOTTISH BORDERERS  
At Loos  
From the Drawing by Louis Wainwright, R.S.A.

# Clan Skene Association, Inc.

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## The Pipes of War, *continued from page 5*

the sorely pressed men braced themselves together and charged forward. The Germans soon got to realise the value of the pipes and tried to pick off the pipers.”

In this one attack the 5th Camerons had three pipers killed and eight wounded. Further south the pipers of the 2nd and 6th Gordons led their companies in the costly attack on Hulluch and the Quarries. An officer of the Devons, on their flank, writes:

“I shall never forget those pipes. . . . During the charge a Gordon piper continued playing after he was down.”

On the other side of the Hulluch road the 15th Division received its baptism of fire, and lost 6000 men in the two days’ fighting. One of the battalions of the 46th Brigade, the 7th King’s Own Scottish Borderers, afforded an admirable example of the value of the pipes in rallying men when the position is critical. The piper concerned, Daniel Laidlaw, was awarded the Victoria Cross and the Croix de Guerre. The London Gazette Notification, which does not err on the side of uncontrolled emotionalism, describes the award as follows:

“For most conspicuous bravery. . . . During the worst of the bombardment, when the attack was about to commence, Piper Laidlaw, seeing that his company was somewhat shaken from the effects of gas, with absolute coolness and disregard of danger, mounted the parapet, marched up and down and played his company out of the trench. The effect of his splendid example was immediate, and the company dashed out to the assault. Piper Laidlaw continued playing his pipes until he was wounded.”

The evidence of eye-witnesses shows that, at the time, a cloud of gas was settling down on the trench and there was heavy machine-gun fire. Laidlaw played “Blue Bonnets over the Border,” and the effect on the men was indescribable as they followed him over the

top he changed to “The Standard on the Braes of Mar.” The old tune was surely never played to better purpose; and if Laidlaw’s action stood alone, if he were the only piper during the war who stimulated a company at the moment when things were at their worst, surely that achievement amply supports the view that, even in the warfare of to-day, piob mhor is an instrument of war which can justify all claims made for it. As

it is, Piper Laidlaw, “the Piper of Loos,” stands as type of a class of men who, throughout the war, have lived up to the traditions of a great past.

Another piper of the same battalion, Douglas Taylor, being wounded and unable to play, spent thirty-six hours bringing in gassed men without relief, until he himself was dangerously wounded. Further on, the 44th Brigade—the 8th Seaforths, 7th Camerons, 9th Black Watch and 10th Gordons—made the historic charge which captured Loos and then went on, until, for want of support, they could get no further and were compelled to retire. They rallied on Hill 70 round a tattered flag made out of a Cameron kilt. The battalions of this brigade were



played into and beyond Loos; and, when they were widely scattered and mixed up, pipers played to rally the men of their own battalions. Among many others, Piper Charles Cameron of the 11th Argylls stood out in the open playing unconcernedly, and was thereafter known in his battalion as “the Piper of Loos.”

The shattered remnants of the 15th Division were withdrawn in the evening from the blood-stained slopes of hill 70, but the battalions were played in by their own pipers. The 9th Black Watch numbered only 100 of all ranks and one piper; the 7th Cameron pipers were practically annihilated, the 8th Seaforths lost ten,

## The Pipes of War, *continued from page 8*

and others suffered in similar degree.

It is a far cry from Hill 70 to Scaur Donald, and they were only regimental pipers, but to these brave men the words of the old song are surely applicable.

“There let him rest in the lap of Scaur Donald,  
The wind for his watcher, the mist for his shroud,  
Where the green and the grey moss shall weave their  
wild tartan,  
A covering meet for a chieftain  
so proud.”

In the fighting subsidiary to the main action of Loos, at Mauquissart and in the neighbourhood of Neuve Chapelle, the 2nd Black Watch pipers distinguished themselves greatly. They played their companies into and beyond the first line of German trenches. One of them, A. Macdonald, stood playing on the German parapet while the position was being cleared, and then on, through a hurricane of fire, over three lines of trenches, until dangerously wounded. For this he was given the D.C.M.

Three others, J. Galloway, H. Johnstone and David Arnsit, did precisely the same; and yet another, David Simpson, behaved with such gallantry that he also came to be known as “the Piper of Loos,” the third of the brave trio to earn that honourable title. He had already played over three lines of German trenches, and was leading towards the fourth when he was killed. Johnstone, on this occasion, played till he fell gassed.

Throughout the long succession of actions which punctuated the Somme operations in 1916, the pipes continued to be much in evidence, and references to them and to their effect upon the men during that bloody fighting are frequent in the contemporary reports of observers, and in private letters subsequently published. French reports also have placed on record their admiration for the company pipers of Scottish regi-

ments. “Some of the finest work,” writes one well-known French military writer, “was accomplished at the very outset by the Highlanders, who carried the trenches in lightning fashion, urged on by the inspiring music of their pipes.”

The fighting at Loos had shown, on a comparatively small scale, that the pipes, when freed from the restrictions placed upon their employment by the exigencies of trench warfare, were still capable of fulfilling their historic role in open fighting. The gallantry of the pipers at Hulluch and Hill 70 was worthy of the units they led, and established a record which was hard to beat; but for months on end their great achievements were emulated by those of their successors in the new armies which had poured into the field.

The opening attack on the 1st July affords numerous examples of pipers playing their companies into action, and a few may be taken as representative of the whole.

In the attack by the 32nd Division the 17th H. L. I. succeeded, with a loss of over 500 men, in capturing and holding part of the Leipzig

redoubt, though unsupported for a considerable time. The Commanding Officer writes:

“I told the Pipe Major to play; he at once responded, getting into a small hollow, and playing and greatly heartening the men as they lay there hanging on to the captured position. Pipe Major Gilbert showed a total disregard of danger and played as if he were on a route march. For this action he obtained the Military Medal.”

In the advance on Mammetz on the same day the 2nd Gordons were led by their company pipers. An officer of an English battalion in the 20th Brigade de-



*Continued on page 21*

# Robert the Bruce sword fetches £10,000 at Bonham's auction, London

Martyn McLaughlin

The 1705 broadsword, whose blade dates back to the days of Bruce, features a wild man with a heart on his left breast and a crowned Lion Rampant.

It was commissioned by a 14th century nobleman in memory of the final battle waged by King Robert the Bruce's most trusted captain. Then it passed down generations of the aristocratic Douglas family into the

hands of Scots prime minister Sir Alec Douglas-Home. Now a "very rare" broadsword made to commemorate the carrying of Bruce's heart on crusade has

fetched more than £10,000 at auction.

The historic weapon, which experts said represents a "fascinating link" in the history of Scotland and England, exceeded its estimate price at an auction of antique arms. The silver-hilted broadsword dates from 1705, but features a much older Scottish blade, dated to the time of Bruce.

On its blade, an emblem pays homage to Sir James Douglas, who died while carrying Bruce's heart in 1330. Depicting a wild man with a heart on his left breast, the emblem features the inscription, "*For Strength In Stier This Heart I Bier*" (for strength in battle this heart I bear). On the reverse it features a crowned Lion Rampant. The exquisite silver handle is believed to have been added by a London swordmaker in 1705 for one of Douglas' descendents and the sword was passed down through the family. Given an estimate of £7,000 to £10,000, the sword was eventually sold on Wednesday for £10,800 at Bonhams in London. It was bought, after a bidding

war, by a private collector from Britain. The new owner, who wishes to remain anonymous, said simply: "It has gone to a Douglas."

It was unclear who had put the sword up for auction, but members of the Douglas-Home family said last night that they understood it had been sold by a relative.

David Williams, Bonhams' head of antique arms

and armour, said yesterday: "We are very pleased with the result, but this is a very interesting sword and there was competition. This was a gentleman's sword. "The



inscriptions and heart referred to on the sword hark back to a famous journey of Sir James Douglas to the Holy Land with King Robert the Bruce's heart, which ended with Douglas's death fighting the Moors in Spain in 1330. "The story of this crusade with the heart of Robert the Bruce became part of the Douglas family history and the heart on this sword recalls the actual earlier sword carried by James Douglas on the ill-fated crusade to the Holy Land, which ended in Moorish Spain.

The heart has been incorporated in the Douglas badge ever since." The tapering double-edged blade is believed to date from the 1300s, but its English silver hilt bears the mark of the famous London swordmaker Thomas Vicaridge, 1705.

Mr Williams said: "It was made in 1705, two years after King James VI came down to England. It is very rare and has a very fine English silver hilt."

At the heart of a crusade Sir James Douglas was

*Continued on page 11*

# You might be surprised at how close we have all been to American history...

The *Los Angeles Times* reported on Monday, 20 January 2003, that the last surviving widow of a Union veteran died at the age of 93. Mrs. Gertrude Janeway had married John Janeway, 81, in 1927. She was 18 at the time. He had died in 1937 when he was 91.

As a Union veteran's widow, she had been receiving a \$70 monthly check from the Veterans Administration. The place of her death was a three room log cabin her husband had bought several years after they married. The cabin was located near Blaine, Tennessee.

Her death left Alberta Martin, 95, of Alabama, as apparently the only surviving widow of a Civil War veteran. Alberta's husband was a veteran of the Con-

federate Army. She has since also passed away.

One interesting thing for genealogists is that for many decades after a war ends, the federal government may be paying pensions and thus there may be records of interest to those researching their family history. The basic reason is that an elderly war veteran may have married a very young woman who would then become entitled to a pension upon his death.

According to the Veterans Administration, the last pension related for service in the Revolutionary War was paid in the early 20th century; the last pension related to the War of 1812 in 1946; to the Mexican War in 1962, and now the Civil War, in 2003. Since the federal government didn't pay pensions to Confederate veterans, it appears now the books will be closing on Civil War pensions as well, nearly 140 years after the end of the conflict.

*My grandmother was born in 1887 and Confederate veterans were as commonplace when she was growing up as World War II veterans were when I was growing up. My friend, Jeri, often visited the Confederate Soldiers Home near Atlanta when she was a child. I can remember a veteran of the First World War who appeared at a patriotic ceremony in south Georgia not that many years ago.*

*My great-grandparents were alive when Abraham Lincoln was President and Robert E. Lee lived.*

*It was my honor to blow TAPS for our Disabled American Veterans in Moultrie, Georgia for 26 years...and I was honored to know those great heroes who mostly lived out their lives in quiet dignity.*

*Now, our Vietnam Veterans and Gulf War Veterans are among us.*



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## Robert the Bruce sword, *continued from page 10*

the son of Sir William Douglas the Hardy, who had been a supporter of William Wallace. Educated in Paris, on his return to his homeland, he found an Englishman, Robert de Clifford, in possession of his estates.

Casting in his lot with Robert the Bruce, he soon created a formidable reputation for himself as a soldier and a tactician, laying a leading role at the battle of Bannockburn. The English dubbed him "The Black Douglas" and he became something of a bogeyman, inspiring the lullaby, "Hush ye, hush ye, little pet ye. Hush ye, hush ye, do not fret ye. The Black Douglas shall not get ye."

He met his death in Spain while fulfilling Bruce's request that his heart be carried on a crusade. Douglas is said to have spotted one of his knights surrounded, taken the silver casket with Bruce's embalmed heart and thrown it among the enemy, shouting: "I will follow thee or die."

With thanks to *The Scotsman* via the North County Scots newsletter, San Diego, California. Contact them by visiting:

[www.northcountyscots.com](http://www.northcountyscots.com)





## Clan Graham Society

If you are a Graham or Sept of Graham, you are cordially invited to share in a proud and noble heritage.

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## Clan MacTavish,

*continued from page 1*

Guest Donley Tomey were in the tent to receive the award.

As a result of the award in 2010, the Clan MacTavish will be the Honored Clan at the 2011 games there the first weekend of May next year!

# The Other 70%

**Judi Lloyd**, president Scottish District Families Assoc., [starshipraleigh@aol.com](mailto:starshipraleigh@aol.com)

Scotland's Lowlanders' heritage is made up of several different races including an Irish Celtic tribe (the Scots) who invaded the Lowland areas in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries and established colonies there.

Much later the Lowlands was the area separating England from the Highlands. In the skirmishes and wars between the latter two the Lowlands were continual battlefields, and suffered total destruction of their farms and other lands many times by both sides (the Highlanders to prevent the English from having supplies to aid in their advance, and the English in revenge). They also added to their own land destruction through the planting of the same crop continually, thus stripping the lands of the nutrients required and causing crop yields

to diminish or become non-existent. Thus the life of a Lowlander was unstable and eventually untenable.

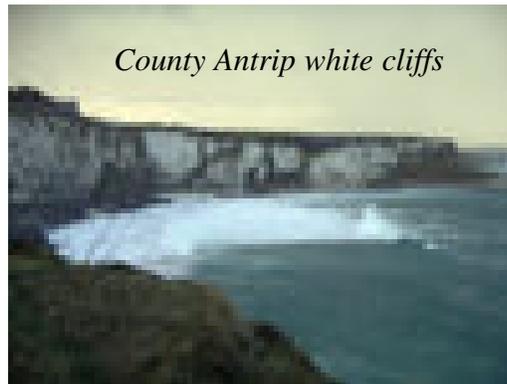
The people of the Lowlands were mostly strong Presbyterian, and, in the reign of the Catholic James 1<sup>st</sup> (James the 6<sup>th</sup> of Scotland) were persecuted by the Crown of England.

When James decided to set up his plantation of Ulster (he had already successfully set up the Jamestown Plantation in 1607 in the colonies) he meant for Englishmen to settle there in addition to some of his Scottish supporters. James also saw it as a place to send 'pesky' Scottish border families to quiet the border between Scotland and England.

The English did not do as well as the Scots on the Ulster Plantation. Their lands at 'home' were more profitable, and many of them returned to England. Since it was only a 30 mile trip from Scotland to Northern Ireland thousands of

Lowland Scots migrated to the Ulster Plantation, bring-

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## Clan Crawford Association

Incorporated to serve our members worldwide to preserve our legacy. Our Associates can assist you with surname related activities including events, DNA genealogy, heraldry, surname history and more.

Ralf Smart, Director, SE  
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# Family Bibles and genealogy

**Bryan L. Mulcahy, Reference Librarian Fort Myers, Lee County (FL) Library**

Family bibles can be one of the most valuable and accurate sources of genealogical information.

When searching for ancestors prior to the mid-1800s, the family Bible may constitute the only source of such information for those members of your family who lived and died before the implementation of governmental mandates concerning civil registration and the creation of vital records.

If you are fortunate enough to find a family bible in your home or in the home of a relative, the next step is to evaluate the reliability of the family information recorded in it. The importance of this step can be illustrated in the following example from one of our patrons.

In my wife's line, there were five children in one generation. Our family bible is in the possession of our family, a bible which was called the *John Y.C. Bible*. However, during the research process, my brother-in-law pointed out to several entries dated between 1810-1840, well before the Bible's publication date in 1849.

Further investigation uncovered that my brother-in-law's grandmother felt compelled to fill in the information from previous times in that book.

Here are some important points to remember when examining family bibles. Note the publication date of the bible. When recording data from a family bible, always include the date and place of publication, the name of the publisher, the name of the printer if different from the publisher, the name and address of the current owner, and the name and dates of birth and death of the original owner.

Be carefully to examine the dates of the earliest family events recorded in the bible. If a bible published in 1870 indicates that Great-great-great-grand-

father Mulcahy was born in 1799, you can be sure this information was entered in the bible long after the fact. Perhaps it was copied from another source. Or it may simply be someone's best recollection of Great-great-great-grandfather's birth date.

Regardless of the reason, the possibility of error is far greater in this situation than if the event had been recorded at the time it happened. Look for other clues such as changes in handwriting, inks, writing instruments, and style of recording information. These variations suggest that the information was not copied from another source and that the events were probably being recorded as they occurred.

Are the entries made in chronological order, or did someone forget and record a birth after a death or after the birth of another younger child?

Are christenings or baptisms recorded in logical time sequence to births?

Are the children of each set of parents recorded together, or is the bible record a mishmash of several branches or generations of a family?

Family bible records sometimes confuse as much as they clarify. If this is the case, accept the record as you do a family tradition. Then work on testing its accuracy just as you go about proving or disproving the stories you have heard from older members of your family. Be thankful that someone made the effort to leave some form of written record.

At least you have something to work with. Compiled by Bryan L. Mulcahy, Reference Librarian, Fort Myers-Lee County Library 8/6/2010. Bryan L. Mulcahy Reference Librarian Fort Myers-

*Continued on page 17*



# BOOTS ON THE GROUND

Dr. Ed Hendrick

I am not sure what I expected to see in Afghanistan when I signed on for this duty, but the place has exceeded any expectations I might have had..

Travel in a war zone is problematic at best; but when you are a replacement and not part of a larger unit, you tend not to get priority. However by some circuitous and inventive efforts on the part of several individuals, I was actually able to arrive at my destination ahead of schedule.

The troops here are professional in attitude and attention to duty, doing their assigned tasks without complaint, or not more than is the norm for any soldier. They go out on missions prepared for the worst, but steady. They come back and if no problems occurred they go get some chow and relax a little until the next mission.

The attitude here is simple, get the job done.

The countryside from where I first arrived in country has intrigued me. The cities are standard fare, but the suburbs are reminiscent of pueblos with flat roofed terraced homes climbing up the sides of the mountains that always seem to surround the cities. The farther out you go from the city centers, the more the homesteads re-

semble the homes of Israel and Palestine that would not have been foreign to the family of Jesus.

Shepherds tend the sheep during the days and small fields irrigated by hand are ever present.

The history of this place is of war.

We can sit in the evenings and look out at the outpost castles built by Alexander the Great, and the Khyber Pass that gave the British hard times is not far away.

The Russian shells still take their toll on the Afghan people when they are stumbled on by farmers, shepherds and children.

War is a legacy here which we would like to change.

Our job here is to assist these people to maintain their independence from entities that prefer a weak Afghani government, easily manipulated and kept impoverished.

The local Afghan citizens are either friendly to us or afraid to get too close in fear of retaliation from the insurgent groups.

We are helping them to upgrade their healthcare, improve their infrastructure, and educate their children.

We provide humanitarian aid in the form of clothes and medicine where we can, and the chaplains are heroic in these endeavors going into areas less than secure to distribute these items.

The local hospital has, under the guidance of some dedicated people from the U.S Air Force and contracted individuals, become almost self sufficient for



*In Afghanistan*



*At Stone Mountain*

*Continued on page 17*



# Ludlow Porch

No matter where you live, you can enjoy The Ludlow Porch Show on your computer! Just visit <http://www.funseekers.net> and follow the prompts. You'll not only find the program, but you'll find the toll-free phone numbers for outside Atlanta, GA that will allow YOU to become part of the show! It's just fun.

Georgia Radio Hall of Fame member, Ludlow Porch, is a pioneer in talk-radio. His humor and wisdom and wit has been on the airwaves for more than thirty years...and it is as fresh today as it has always been! You're in for a treat if you haven't heard Ludlow before...and you'll welcome him back if you have not heard him in awhile.

Visit <http://www.amazon.com> and type in "Ludlow Porch" in the author's box and you'll see a list of Ludlow's books that will make you laugh and laugh and laugh and laugh and laugh.



Beth's visit to Flagstaff, Arizona was made possible by Ludlow and Nancy and AirTran Airlines.

## Family Bibles and genealogy, *continued from page 14*



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## Boots on the ground, *continued from page 15* the health care of the local armed forces.

There might not be a great comparison between our U.S. hospitals and these early facilities, but they are a step forward.

My job is more helping the soldiers, the contractors and the local Afghan workers with their ailments, sprains and other injuries. I also am responsible for three main FOBs (forward operations bases) as far as their medical care and the assignment of medics is concerned, as well as a number of smaller outposts.

We provide logistics for them as well as people. We are prepared at all times for worse, but thankfully we have had little else.

The medics here are as professional and trained as one would hope. They go about their duties with skill and dedication to duty that we all expect of the American soldier.

We pray that we will continue to be vigilant and prepared, but not called upon to exercise that duty.

A soldier's greatest hope is peace, despite the rhetoric that you hear in the press.

## The Other 70%, *continued from page 13*

ing with them their Presbyterian religion and their very strong feelings of independence from England.

Hugh Montgomery and James Hamilton, who had been given land in the Ulster Plantation by James, were instrumental in assisting many Scots in the Ayrshire and Galloway regions to leave their homes and obtain land in the Plantation.

This was surely not what James had had in mind. The areas of Antrim (which had already been settled by Scots since the 1400s) and County Down became inhabited almost totally by Scots. At this time Highlanders were totally banned from the Plantation.

The Scots prospered here with agriculture, the raising of animals, and growing flax for linen production.

The language spoken was Ulster-Scots. At one time this was the main language spoken in Belfast. Now the language is spoken only in some rural areas. Some of the words and phrases here in the U.S. are said to have originated from Scots Ulster. The most intriguing one I've seen was a reference to y'all owing its existence to the Scots Ulster word 'yis aa' (meaning you all). There are also words that we associate with Scotland as Scottish words, (such as nicht – night) which are really Scots-Ulster in origin.

In 1641 the Irish rebelled against these 'invaders' of their lands and in surprise attacks killed many Ulster Scots in an effort to rout them from their lands. The war lasted 8 years and at its end the Scots were still in Ulster. (However the skirmishes continue to this day between Northern Ireland – Ulster, and the Irish Republic).

In the 1800s the Highland Clearances created another migration to Ulster. Though these were in the main, Highlanders, the population still remained Lowland ancestry. Though the American term given to these people is Scotch-Irish, these people did not and still do not consider themselves Irish.

It is said that if you live in Northern Ireland and you are protestant, that your ancestry began in the Lowlands of Scotland – or (if you will reread the first paragraph of this article) did it? Perhaps the people in Ulster have simply come full circle?

The Ulster-Scots Society Of America  
105 Arrowhead Way, Cary, NC, 27513  
(919) 380-0383 e-mail - ulstermen@yahoo.com  
The president is Paul Smallwood.

# *A Highlander And His Books*

## Meet authors Meta and Jamie Scarlett from Scotland

Reviewed by  
**Frank R. Shaw, FSA Scot**

When my wife, Susan, and I were in Scotland in 1993 visiting the Inverness area of the auld country, we received an invitation to lunch at Newhall, the Black Isle home of our clan chief, John Shaw of Tordarroch.

Two other guests appeared shortly after our arrival.

Little did I know that meeting Meta and Jamie Scarlett would have such a deep impact on our lives.

On subsequent trips, we found ourselves on several occasions in the home of the Scarletts at Milton of Moy, just a few miles south of Inverness in the heart of Mackintosh territory. In turn, they joined us for tea or dinner at the Dunain Park Hotel, our home away from home, on the outskirts of Inverness just off A-82 toward Urquhart Castle. Since then, many letters, pictures and emails have been swapped across the pond between the four of us.

Jamie was my “proposer” or sponsor, as we would say here in the States, when I became a member of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland; thus, the FSA Scot designation I use with my articles. Some time later, Tordarroch faxed me the following: “Queen Elizabeth has given to Jamie Scarlett the award in this year’s Honours list of MBE - Member of the Most Noble Order of the British Empire - for his contributions to the history and study of tartan.” All the joy and happiness turned to sadness when Meta passed away

in the spring of 2000. “I the *Inverness Courier* no of their own was gone. is still going strong - h tartans were written in By the time you r privilege to once again l

of our favorite eating spots, the Tomatin Inn where, in my opinion, the best fish and chips in Scotland can be found, just across the A-9 from Moy Hall. So, it is with a great deal of personal pleasure that I break precedent and review not one, but three of the many books Jamie has written, as well as the one masterpiece Meta published in 1988. Enjoy!

***In the Glens Where I Was Young***  
**By Meta Humphrey Scarlett**

As stated by this writer in the 2000 Spring/Summer issue of the Clan Shaw newsletter, *Clach na Faire* - “The Stone of the Watch” - this book

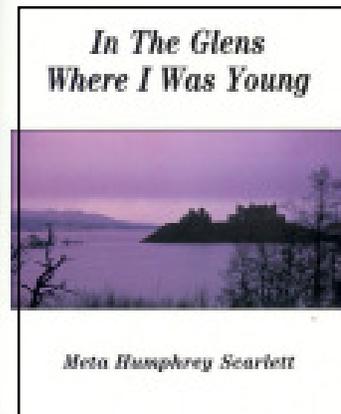
“is a classic about the history, folklore and traditions of her Scottish Community in and around Kingussie, Inverness-shire.”

Since writing that statement a few years ago, I have revisited the book twice.

So, for the life of me, I can see no reason to change what I wrote then, and today I feel even stronger than ever that Meta’s publication is a real classic.

This graduate of Edinburgh University, former teacher and editor, has written a wonderful book fea-

*Continued on page 19*



*Sadly, both  
Meta & Jamie  
Scarlett have died  
since this was  
written.  
Their books are  
even more precious  
now!*

turing heart-warming stories on Kingussie, Kinrara, Rothiemurchus, as well as its Martineau Monument, Cluny's Land, and 15 other well-written chapters.

I have no trouble putting this book in the same category of that other successful and much read book, *Memoirs of a Highland Lady*, by Elizabeth Grant of Rothiemurchus.

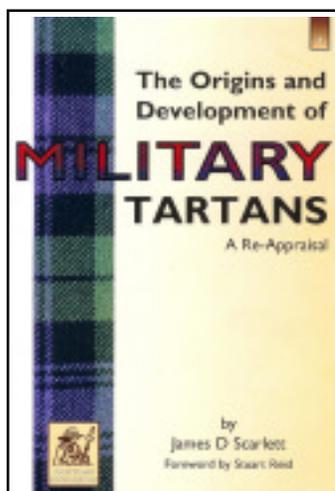
If you want to read what it was like growing up in the Highlands, this is a book you will not want to miss. I heartily recommend it for any true Scotsman. Any member of Clan Chattan, "the Confederation of Cats", worth his salt will want a copy of this book for background information. Details for purchase can be found at the end of this article.

*The Origins and Development of Military Tartans, A Re-Appraisal*  
By James D. Scarlett, MBE

Stuart Reid, author of *Like Hungry Wolves, 1745: The Last Jacobite Rising*, and *Highlander: Fearless Celtic Warriors*, and himself a leading 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> military authority, writes in the Foreword of this book by Jamie Scarlett that the author's "knowledge and expertise in the field of identifying, classifying and indeed weaving tartan is unparalleled - as I can cheerfully attest, being myself the son of a kiltmaker." Well said, Mr. Reid!

Rather than putting a long bibliography at the end of the book that only a few readers will use, the author begins with a section on sources that interested tartan experts or "wannabes" will find of great interest. I have held some of these rare books in my hand while a guest in the author's home.

Naturally, a lot of attention is given to the Black Watch tartan, Campbell, or not. Then there is Grant that must be considered. On a personal note, the Shaw tartan of R. R. McIan is used on the title page, as well as on page 20 of the book, and a picture of Farquhar



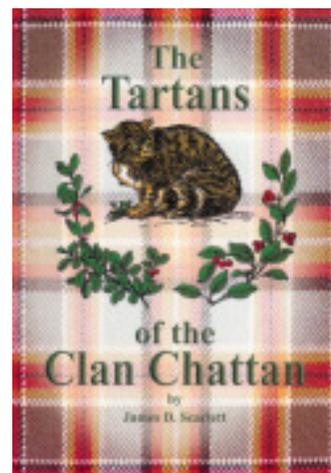
Shaw, executed at the Tower of London in 1743 (another story for another time), is displayed in the section entitled *The Black Watch Tartan*. Pipers and their tartans are covered under the title of *The Sound of Music*. Yes, the author's wry sense of humor is as much a part of his writing ability as the serious side, evidenced in his writing that "the Tourist industry has reduced tartan almost to music hall status and the tartan trade appears to be wary of research..." They certainly do not want to do anything to hurt sales!

Did you know Allan Ramsay kept a Murray of Tullibardine in his studio? He was not shy about painting the likes of Lord Loudoun, Norman MacLeod of MacLeod, or really anyone else who walked in without a tartan and a £ or two in hand to hire the good artist. Space does not permit further review, but I can sum up simply by saying I do not know much about tartan, but I do know a wee bit about books and writers. Thus, what we have here in plain English is a winner for one and all! To purchase, email the publisher at [ask@caliverbooks.com](mailto:ask@caliverbooks.com) ISBN is 1 85818 500 9.

*The Tartans of the Clan Chattan*  
By James D. Scarlett, MBE

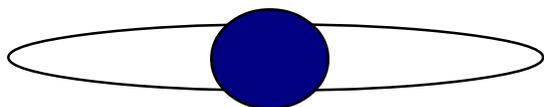
Published by the Clan Chattan Association on the occasion of their 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (1933-2003), this book, as the one above, is dedicated "To Meta, An irreplaceable companion in all my undertakings."

I feel compelled to quote Jamie about his beloved companion when he writes, "this is the last occasion on which I can acknowledge the direct involvement of my wife, Meta. She read most of the bits that matter, agreed with my revisions and knew that the Council had accepted it; though no longer directly involved, her influence will continue, for she made me aware of my weaknesses in writing, corrected many of my faults of style and taught me



*Continued on page 22*

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when a new issue of  
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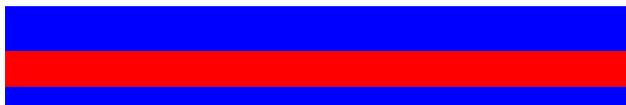
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## The Pipes of War, *continued from page 8*

scribes how “we heard their pipes play these fellows over. It sounded grand against the noise of shells, machine guns and rifle fire. I shall never forget them.”

The same thing occurred later when the battalion attacked the orchards of Ginchy. On both occasions the casualties were very heavy.

At Fricourt Pipe Major David Anderson of the 15th Royal Scots stood out in front of the battalion until he was wounded, and played across shell-beaten ground under heavy fire. He was awarded the Croix de Guerre.

The two battalions of Tyneside Scottish were similarly played to their attack on La Boisselle and the ridge in front of it on the opening day of the battle of the Somme. A correspondent who was present says:

“The Tynesiders were on our right, and, as they got the signal to advance, I saw a piper—I think he was the Pipe Major—jump out of the trench and march straight towards the German lines. The tremendous rattle of machine-gun and rifle fire completely drowned the sound of his pipes, but he was obviously playing as though he would burst the bag, and, faintly through the roar of battle, we heard the mighty cheer his comrades gave as they swarmed after him. How he escaped I can’t understand, for the ground was literally ploughed up by the hail of bullets; but he bore a charmed life, and the last glimpse I had of him as we, too, dashed out showed him still marching erect, playing on regardless of the flying bullets and of the men dropping all round him.”

Of the two battalions 10 pipers were killed and 5 wounded, and Pipe Major Wilson and Piper G. Taylor both got the Military Medal. Many of these pipers, having played their companies up to the German trenches, took an active part in the fighting as bombers.

Again, at Longueval on 14th July, regimental pipers were conspicuous. As the 26th Brigade—8th Black Watch, 10th Argylls, 9th Seaforths, and 5th

Camerons—commenced their advance, they were exposed to frontal and enfilading machine-gun fire, and shrapnel mowed them down; but their pipers led the way, and the men followed cheering and shouting.

“Where we were the brunt of the action fell on two New Army battalions of historic Highland regiments. Their advance was one of the most magnificent sights I have ever seen. They left their trenches at dawn, and a torrent of bullets met them. They answered immediately—with the shrill music of the pipes, and, in-

different apparently to the chaos around them, pushed steadily on towards their objective.”

Describing the attack by the 10th Argylls, another observer writes:

“We came under a blistering hot fire, but the men never hesitated. In the middle of it all the pipes struck up “The Campbells are coming,” and that made victory a certainty for us. We felt that whatever obstacles there barred our path they had to be overcome.... The last fight was the worst of all. It was at the extreme end of the village, where the enemy had possession of some ruined houses. They had

a clear line of fire in all directions, and we were met with a murderous hail of fire. For a moment the men wavered. I doubted if they were equal to it. Then a piper sprang forward, and the strains broke out once more. The attacking line steadied and dashed at the last stronghold of the Huns. Their line snapped under our onslaught.”

On this occasion the Pipe Major, Aitken, a man of sixty, was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal. One of the pipers referred to in the above incident was James Dall, and his Commanding Officer considers his action in playing the regimental march at this juncture was the means of his company gaining

*Continued on page 23*



PIPER DANIEL LAIDLAW, V.C., THE KING'S OWN SCOTTISH BORDERERS  
At Loos  
From the Drawing by Louis Watier, R.E.A.

where to look for the rest.”

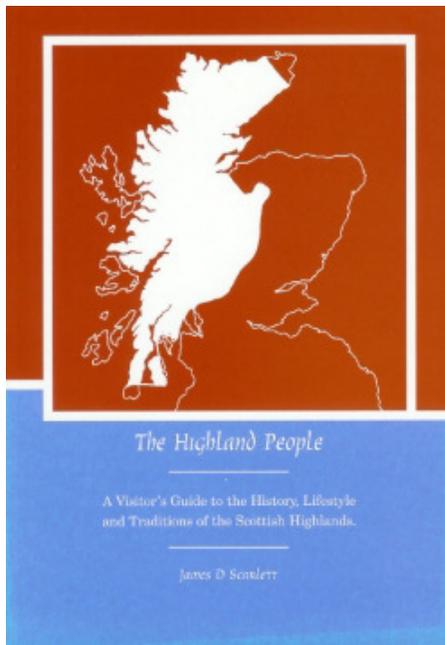
Meta would be proud of *The Tartans of the Clan Chattan* because she was passionate about Clan Chattan, having served as editor of the *Clan Chattan Journal* and enjoyed attending the annual meetings at Moy.

Keep in mind that this is not a history of Clan Chattan - the “Confederation of Cats”. It is the story of their tartans. My first reading of this book left me better informed by driving home the point that many of the Clan Chattan tartans are connected in one way or another to military tartans. You will become aware, if you are not already, that in the first part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, clan tartans “came as a great surprise to many of the Clan Chiefs, who often had no idea what their tartans looked like and had to accept what they were told or sold as their ‘true and ancient’ pattern.” I like it when he writes, “Although the idea put about in the *What Is Your Tartan?* lists that everybody of the same name is necessarily related is a nice friendly one, it is sadly flawed. I have never been able to persuade myself to believe that every Mac-Donald is descended from the same ultimate Donald.”

Although the MacBean’s can boast that their tartan has literally been to the moon and back, and a piece of their tartan is still up there, we are brought down to earth rather quickly when we learn “we owe the MacBean tartan to the artist Robert McIan...” Then there is a reference to “a piece of tartan reputedly worn at Culloden...” that Jamie has seen. The Mackintoshes, the Big Daddy of Clan Chattan, like all of us, are victims of the tartan trade association, as we learn that “the green Hunting Mackintosh (24) tartan is entirely a figment of the imagination of the tartan trade.” The 1822 jaunt by George IV to Edinburgh is expressed as “the Victorianising of the Highlands”. Also, “. . . much more was read into ‘Clan’ tartans than was there to be read and many a ‘true and ancient’ pattern was chosen from a catalogue.” Regarding my Shaw tribe, Jamie writes of the “McIan inaccuracy

and Logan’s failure to discover the second red line hidden in the pleats of the kilt gave us a dark tartan that was called Shaw (41) and worn by Shaws until it was supplanted by a new and more suitable design in the 1970s; there were not and never had been any grounds for calling it Shaw...” There! Put that in your pipe and smoke it!!

*The Highland People*  
By James D. Scarlett



At the Pleasanton Games in 1997, John Shaw of Tordarroch gave Susan and me this book. Our Chief penned these words - “To Frank and Susan Shaw, with much affection”. When I finished the book, I was acutely aware that it was I who should be writing a thank you note to our Chief “with much affection” and, I might add, “much appreciation”. I have bought a dozen or more of these books since then for my friends who are new to their Highland heritage. There are

many books out there that say the same thing Jamie does, but they take longer to say it and, in my opinion, they are not nearly as well written or clear or concise! Let’s get down to the nitty-gritty. While there may be a big pot of beans on the stove for consumption, this book is the bowl of beans in front of you on the table. Get a big spoon, for your bowl will run over with this brief but thorough history of our people.

If I were told at midnight tonight that I had to take an exam tomorrow at 8:00 a.m. on Highland people at St. Andrews College in North Carolina or the other university in Scotland, this book would be the **Cliffs Notes** I would turn to on *The Highland People*. Why? Because in the note to the reader in **Cliffs Notes** you will find this sentence - “These Notes present a clear discussion of the action and thought of the work under consideration and a concise interpre-

*Continued on page 24*

## The Pipes of War, *continued from page 21*

their objective; the other was D. Wilson, who was also mentioned in despatches with Dali.

Of the attack by the 9th Seaforths a wounded officer writes:

“We swept on until we finally carried the German trench with a rousing cheer to the strain of the pipes. The heroism of the pipers was splendid. In spite of murderous fire they kept playing on. At one moment, when the fire was so terrific it looked as if the attack must break down, one of the pipers dashed forward and started playing. The change could be felt at once, the sorely pressed men gave a mighty cheer and dashed forward with new zeal.”

North of Longueval the 1st Gordons made a furious attack, on the 18th July, and on this occasion they were led by their pipers.

“They were out of sight over the parapet, but we could hear at intervals their shouts of ‘Scotland for ever!’ and the faint strains of the pipes. Then we saw them reappear, and then came prisoners.”

Similar accounts were given of the 6th and 7th Gordons. In the 6th Gordons Piper Charles Thomson had his arm blown off while playing. “The gallantry of these men who wear the tartans of the old Scottish clans would seem wonderful if it were not habitual with them. Their first dash for Longueval was one of the finest exploits of the war. They were led forward by the pipers, who went with them, not only towards the German lines, but across them and into the thick of the battle. . . . In that September fighting the pipe major of a Gordon battalion played his men forward and then was struck below the knee; but he would not be touched by a doctor until the others had been tended. He was a giant of a man and so heavy that no stretcher could hold him, so they put him in a tarpaulin and carried him back. Then he had his leg amputated and died.” [Philip

Gibbs]

On the 3rd September the 4th Black Watch were played into action and had to capture a village. According to an eye-witness:

“It was magnificent to see these men charge up the narrow street leading to the second barricade. Amid the ruined houses on each side the enemy were posted. At the moment when it was hottest the strains of the pipes were heard. The men answered with a cheer and swept steadily on over the barricade and through the ruins; and the village was ours.”

Of a Seaforth battalion a similar story is told:

“The men simply raced into the storm of bullets. . . at last it became too terrible for any human being to stand against it. The attacking lines melted away, the men seeking what cover could be found. . . . It was here that the pipers of the Seaforth had their chance. They took it. As the men advanced again to the attack they were cheered on by the strains of the pipes, which could just be heard. The men dashed through, clearing out the enemy

as they went.”

During the attack on Beaumont Hamel in October, as in the earlier fighting at Thiepval, the pipers of the 15th H.L.I. lost very heavily when leading their companies.

Such instances of the bravery of pipers and of the stimulus afforded by the pipes to men in action became matters of almost every-day occurrence, and, though everyone recognised the tremendous losses that were the result of their exposure, there were occasions when those losses were more than compensated for at the time by the results obtained. Everywhere, at Containmaison, Martinpuich, Pzoires, Delville Wood, wherever Scottish troops were employed, their pip-

*Continued on page 26*



# Animal sporrans carrying- ons!

Inverness-shire business woman Kate MacPherson collects dead badgers, foxes and stoats from the sides of roads and, using her taxidermy skills, incorporates their heads into striking sporrans. In doing so, however, she has illogically, but predictably, attracted criticism from animal rights activists.

Kate's response has been . "If I didn't pick up these animals they would be rotting in a ditch. I'm creating something useful from them rather than allowing their beauty to be wasted."

A trained taxidermist of almost 25 years, Kate was inspired by seeing pictures of her army captain father wearing his Argyll regiment badger sporran. In addition to her road kill finds, Kate also uses discarded

*Kate MacPherson*

animal wraps - those strange Victorian artefacts. She transforms mothball scented heads into striking sporrans. In doing so however she has illogically but predictably attracted criticism from animal rights campaigners.

Kate's output of these unique sporrans is about 100 a year, with each one taking two weeks to make and retailing from 120 pounds to four hundred ninety-five pounds, the most expensive being a badger or fox with a metal cantle.

Duncan Chisholm of the Inverness kiltmakers of the same name, applauded her skills and said she was reviving a traditional Highland skill that used to utilise a great variety of smaller animals - pine martens, otters and wild cats. The Scottish sporran is already shrouded in controversy with the forthcoming EU-wide ban on the use of seal skins. However, common-sense seems to have tempered the initial draconian measures that would have caused traditional sporran makers a great deal of economic woe.

Even using road kill, Kate Macpherson has run into trouble with animal rights groups. At a recent Scottish Game Fair in Perth, one such member called the police under the mistaken impression that the sporrans were illegal.

If you would like to learn more visit:

<http://www.katemacphersonsporrans.co.uk>

With thanks to a *Scotsman* article of early August and also to the *Tartan Herald*, newsletter of the Scottish Tartans Authority.

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**Meta & Jamie Scarlett**, *continued from page 23*  
tation of its artistic merits and its significance. They are intended as a supplementary aid to serious students. . ."  
**The Highland People** by Jamie Scarlett would do the **Cliffs Notes** people proud! You can go to other, larger books for further study, but this is it in a nutshell! I've never said this about a book, but I can truthfully say that this wee 98-page book is a gem.

Other books by Jamie Scarlett:

*Tartans of Scotland*

*The Tartan Spotter's Guide*

*Scotland's Clans and Tartans*

*The Tartans of the Scottish Clans*

*How to Weave Fine Cloth*

*The Tartan Weaver's Guide*

*Tartan: The Highland Textile*

*Understanding Tartan*

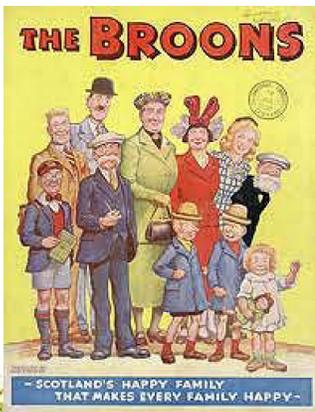
(7-14-03)

# Oor Wullie Going Global as 75th Birthday Approaches

Dundee publishing giant, DC Thomson, is to launch a global marketing campaign to cash in on merchandising opportunities during next year's 75th anniversary of *The Broons* and *Oor Wullie* - including the launch of an official Broons tartan.

The Sunday Post revealed yesterday: "The famous comic characters are getting ready to step out of the pages of *The Sunday Post* and into the hustle and bustle of the commercial world. Number 10 Glebe Street is officially open for business.

"Publisher DC Thomson is in negotiations to license the iconic characters across a range of goods including collectibles,



Wullie bronze sculptures. Originally drawn by Dudley Young, Oor Wullie's first appearance in *The Sunday Post* was in 1940.

DC Thomson continues to report, *Oor Wullie* is a Scottish Icon in a survey of 1000 people run by manufacturer, Halls.

Pointed out in the *Sunday Post*: "Companies have wanted to use the characters to promote and

endorse their products for years but until recently the only products outside the pages of *The Sunday Post* have been the annuals."

*The Broons* annual first appeared in 1939, followed by *Oor Wullie* in 1940. They combine to sell around 100,000 copies a year.

The real commercial potential of the characters was underlined three years ago when *Maw Broon's Cookbook* became a publishing sensation - selling more than 250,000 copies, followed by *Maw Broon's But An' Ben* which sold a further 150,000 copies.

DC Thomson licensing manager, Martin Lindsay, is quoted, saying, "We hope this will prove very appealing to businesses. It is a chance for them to become associated with these famous Scottish personalities. *The Broons* and *Oor Wullie* are part of the fabric of Scottish life and can be recognised by the vast majority of Scots. We expect to announce a series of deals over the next six months."

STA Director, Brian Wilton said: "We are very honoured indeed to have been asked to help with this project. As Martin Lindsay

said, *The Broons* and *Oor Wullie* have been an integral part of Scotland's 20th century heritage. Generations of kids have grown to adulthood continuing to enjoy the antics of both these iconic Scottish institutions. For so many they represent a warm and comfortable stability that increasingly proves elusive in the modern world."

With many thanks to *The Tartan Herald*, the newsletter of the Scottish Tartans Authority.

ers played their historic role, and, to quote Philip Gibbs, “over the open battlefields came the music of the Scottish pipes, shrill above the noise of gunfire.”

Nor were the pipers of purely Scottish regiments left to establish these records of bravery unchallenged. They had keen rivals in battalions of overseas Scots, notably the South African Scottish and the Canadians.

During the fighting for Delville Wood in July the South Africans were torn to pieces by shell fire. The remains of the battalion hung on for days, losing all their officers but the colonel. When relief came their pipers headed the blackened and weary warriors out of the wood of death.

Similarly, the 16th Canadian Scottish pipers maintained the fine reputation they had earned on the Ypres salient. When the battalion moved up to the attack on the Regina trench on 8th October, there was keen competition among the pipers as to who should be allowed to play them over.

Four pipers, Richardson, Park, M’Kellar and Paul marched ahead of the battalion with the Commanding Officer for a distance of half a mile under intense machine-gun fire and escaped scatheless. They could be heard clearly as they played ‘We’ll take the good old way,’ and, as they passed, wounded men lying in shell holes raised themselves on their elbows and cheered them. When they got near the German line the battalion encountered uncut wire which, being unusually heavy, took some time to cut. While this was going on Piper Richardson played up and down outside the wire for twenty minutes in the face of almost certain death. . . . Shortly afterwards a company sergeant major was wounded, and Richardson volunteered to take him out. After he had gone he remembered he had left his pipes behind. He left the sergeant major in safety in a shell hole and returned. He was never heard of again.”

This brave man was awarded a posthumous V.C., the second piper to obtain this coveted distinction. Piper Paul was subsequently given the Military Medal.

At the capture of the Vimy Ridge on 9th April, 1917, by the Canadians, the pipers of some of their battalions took a prominent part. On this occasion the 16th Canadian Scottish repeated what they had done in previous engagements, their companies being led by pipers. The pipers concerned were Pipe Major Groat and Pipers M’Gillivray, M’Nab, M’Ahhister, M’Kellar and Paul, and they advanced a distance of over a mile under heavy fire without any casualties. The Pipe Major was awarded the Military Medal.

Similarly the 25th Canadians had their pipers out in this action, and Piper Walter Telfer, who went on playing after being severely wounded, was given the Military Medal. Piper Brand got the same decoration.

Later on, in the fighting round Arras, a battalion of the Camerons was played to the attack.

“When the order came our men went over with right good will. It was a thrilling moment, especially when the pipes struck up the Camerons’ march. I believe it was that music, at that particular moment, which made it possible for us to go through the ordeal that followed.”

Once again “The March of the Cameron Men” was the undoing of an enemy which had to stand up against the Camerons; and in one part of the line, when the attack was most furiously resisted, the company piper changed his tune to the old’ Piobaireachd Dhomnuil Duibh “-

“Fast they came, fast they come,  
See how they gather!  
Wide waves the eagle’s plume  
Blended with heather.”

An account of the few minutes before “zero” by a piper of this battalion appeared in the *Scottish Field* (“Pipes of the Misty Noorland,” John M’Gibbon), and affords a good example of the steadying effect of the pipes in a period of great strain on morale:

*Continued on page 27*



## The Pipes of War, *continued from page 26*

“I looked down at the company and I could see they were shaken . . . I slung my rifle over my back and took up the pipes; that cheered them. I played through two or three tunes and then birlled up ‘Tullochgorum.’ They fairly hooched it and stamped time with their feet. It was close on ‘zero’ . . . when I changed to ‘The March of The Cameron Men.’ Our guns burst out with drum fire behind us. . . and the men jumped the parapet like deer and raced over the broken ground at the double. I kept up ‘The Cameron Men.’ . . . I reached the parapet of the first enemy trench, when I ‘stopped one’ with my leg, and down I went in a heap.”

The pipes were again to the front in the fighting for Hill 70 on the Lens- Loos line in August, 1917. It was surely appropriate enough that, in the advance over the very country in which so many Scottish regiments had fought, with only temporary success, two years before, the pipes should again be at the head of the units which recaptured those blood-soaked positions.

An officer, describing the advance of the 13th Royal Highlanders of Canada, says:

“Our advance was resumed and we swarmed over the top at three different points. Away to the left, which was the objective of our advance, the strains of the pipes could be heard, and across the hills, where so many Scottish lads had fallen two years ago, there burst a loud triumphant cheer as the Canadian Highlanders pressed on to complete their work.”

And so it happened that the gallant lads of the 15th Division were avenged.

Opportunities for pipers continued during the later fighting in 1917-18. Records of individual companies and platoons show that on several occasions the pipes encouraged the men to further effort. In one case near Albert, a company of the Black Watch was temporarily cut off from its supports after getting into a German trench and suffered heavily the men were crushed

by superior numbers, and the prospect was black until the piper, who was present as a stretcher bearer, started playing. This had a great effect on the company, which held on to the position until reinforcements arrived.

In the fighting about Albert in August, 1918, several instances occurred of pipers playing their companies to the attack.

On the whole, however, at this stage in the war, it was being found increasingly difficult to renew the depleted ranks of the pipe bands, and most regiments were simply driven to keeping their pipers out of action as far as possible, except on special occasions. But there were still enough left of them to lead their units ever further eastward as the tide of war rolled back. Incidents frequently occurred showing that their experience of four years’ fighting had not damped the ardour of pipers in action.

On one occasion a 16th Canadian piper went into action playing on top of a tank, and was killed. At Amiens, the pipers of the 16th and 48th Highlanders of Canada played the battalions to the attack in August, 1918.

As the German defeat became increasingly apparent and the British forces drove the enemy before them, pipers again got an opportunity of leading their companies to the attack. During the fighting about Albert- Arras in August, 1918, Scottish troops were heavily engaged. Lieut. Edouard Ross, of the French interpreter staff, describes an attack by a battalion of the Black Watch in which a detachment with a piper got into the German trenches; they were all wounded, and their position was dangerous, but the piper started playing, and the sound rapidly brought reinforcements, who captured the position



Read more about The Pipes of War at:  
<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/scotreg/pipesofwarndx.htm>



# The Whisky Column

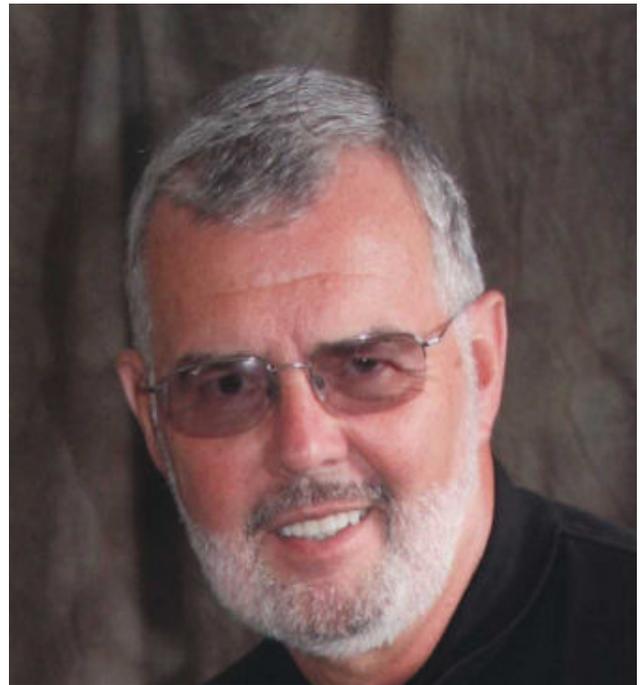
Ray Pearson,  
*The Whiskymeister*  
Anaheim, CA

## A Vacation With Friends, Scotch, and Beautiful Locations

The dirt washboard road leading to the cabin was as ripped as a body builder's abs. One and a half miles of chassis-wrenching, 2-miles per hour crawling brought me to Kendrick Cabin, and a cold beer with friends. A steak dinner, cooked cowboy style outdoors, and simple western hospitality around a picture-perfect fire ring rounded out a most magnificent day in Northern Arizona. Can single malts taste any better than when enjoyed in an environment like this? We enjoyed some heady whiskies from Islay and the Northern Islands (Lagavulin and Highland Park) and a few from the Campbeltown area (Springbank and Glen Scotia).



Kendrick Cabin is located off AZ Route 180, north of Flagstaff, and about 60 miles from the South Rim of the Grand Canyon. The cabin is one of about a dozen such rustic structures in the most beautiful landscapes of Arizona, with some of historical importance and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It has been made available for public use through the



*Ray Pearson*



Coconino National Forest offices.

Following the can't-be-beat bacon and eggs breakfast over the campfire, I left my friends and continued to Las Vegas for another adventure with other vacationing friends.

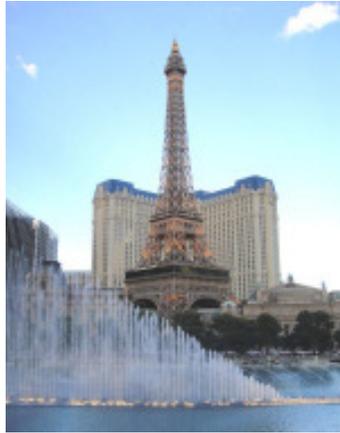


Spectacular new architecture, as well as some old favorite venues were what drew us to Las Vegas, despite the desert summer heat. For this visit, our head-

*Continued on page 29*

liners were all starring behind the bars, with not a tuxedo or sequin in sight ... it was all about the single malts, camaraderie and catching up.

Eiffel Tower Restaurant at Paris Resort and Casino has one of the most exciting and dynamic views in Las Vegas – overlooking the Fountains of Bellagio. At regular intervals throughout afternoons and evenings, the entrancing displays of water and light mesmerize. Nursing single malt Scotches from the bar’s impressive selection is a wonderful way to wait for



“show time”, then realize the next show is only 15 or 30 minutes away, and continue nursing. Our favorites on the last visit were Laphroaig 15, The Balvenie 12 DoubleWood, Oban 14, and Macallan 18.

Across The Strip from Paris is The Bellagio. To match the bright summer flora, both real and super-sized fantasy versions rendered in glass and other media in The Conservatory, our party of four chose light, floral single malts, perfect for summer – Glenfiddich 12 and 15, Glenlivet 12, and Dalwhinnie 15. The Bellagio Café looks directly onto the wonders of The Conservatory, so people watching was also a great past-time, as our conversations flowed.

Crown jewels of the newly opened City Center are the Vdara and Aria Hotels. From each venue’s lobby bars we enjoyed viewing and discussing pieces of The Fine Art Collection – grand displays of public art by foremost artists and sculptors. Older whiskies seemed to be the order of the day here, so Highland Park 18, Glenlivet 25, Macallan 18, and The Balvenie 21 were enjoyed as we discussed Big Edge by Nancy



Rubins (a colossal collection of about 200 canoes) and Silver River by Maya Lin (an 87-foot long depiction, in reclaimed silver, of the entire Colorado River.)

What better way to spend some summer vacation time than with great friends, fine Scotch whisky and beautiful places in which to enjoy both?



# The Clan Home Air Force WANTS YOU!

Membership is open to ALL clans! If you are the first to join from your clan, you become the Air Commander of the (Your Clan Name!) Squadron of the Clan Home Air Force!



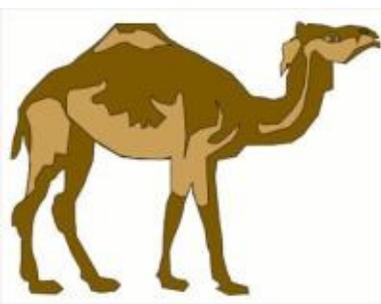
For complete info on CHAF  
email: aeaton@cfl.rr.com

With membership, you get a FREE Clan Home Air Force Certificate and a FREE Stealth Tattoo kit!



*T-shirt at left, the fashion for any and every occasion. The Wings above, are the same size as actual Canadian Air Force Wings (Our Air Marshal, Albert C. Eaton was born in Canada!) Wings are \$22.00 each.*

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# Tartan explained

Tartan refers to a pattern of inter-locking stripes, running both from the *warp* and the *weft* of the cloth (horizontal and vertical). Typically, one thinks of “clan tartans”. This was not the case in the past. Tartans have been found dating as early as 3000 BC, virtually everywhere there was woven cloth. Tartan can be dated in Scotland as early as the 3rd or 4th century AD. Yet only in Scotland has tartan been given cultural significance. Why?

Originally, tartan designs had no names or symbolic meaning. All tartan was hand woven and usually supplied locally. While certain designs were common in some areas and not others, there was no “clan tartan” system. Tartan in general did become extremely common in the Highlands. By the 17th century, tartan clothing was recognized as characteristic of Highland dress. It was so identified with the Highland Gael that after the Battle of Culloden in 1746 that the British government’s Act of Proscription forbade the wearing of tartan in the Highlands in an attempt to suppress the rebellious Scottish culture.

By the end of the 18th century, commercial weavers had taken up the production of tartan. Most notably was Wm. Wilson & Sons of Bannockburn. This firm began some time around 1765 and became quite successful primarily because they became the sole supplier of tartan cloth to the Highland “Watch” Regiments of the British Army. Because they were producing cloth in such large quantity, they developed standard colors and patterns early on. Initially the patterns were assigned number, but soon pattern names appeared. These not only included names of regiments and Highland clans but also names of towns. Some were just fanciful names. Names were much more appealing than numbers. In Wilson’s Key Pattern Book of 1819, some 100 tartans, of the 250 total, were named.

In the early 19th century, the idea that tartan names actually represented real clan connections began growing. Scots expatriates, who actually grew up outside the Highlands began to get interested in preserving Highland culture. In 1815, the Highland Society of London wrote to the clan chief asking for samples of their clan tartans. Many chiefs has no idea what

their “clan tartan” was supposed to be so either wrote of tartan suppliers such as Wilsons, or asked older men of their clans if they recalled any particular tartan being worn.

In 1822, King George IV visited Edinburgh in a veritable “tartan fest” partly organized by Sir Walter Scott. All the clan chiefs were asked to come out and greet the King in their proper clan tartan. Since many did not have a tartan, no doubt new ones were created for the occasion. From this point on, it became firmly established that to be a *proper* tartan, it had to be named. With the blessing of the clan chiefs, by the end of the 19th century the custom was firmly established that tartan was representative of the clan.

While clan tartans are the most well known, tartans can, in fact, represent many different things. Some represent families, towns, districts, corporations, occupations, individuals, events - you name it! What makes a tartan “official” is not age or antiquity, but whether it has the approval of the governing body of what that tartan represents. If a clan chief, or a state legislature, or the CEO of a company says this is the official tartan, it is so, whether it is brand new or 200 years old.

Therefore, there are no rules governing what tartan you may wear. However, since tartans today have meaning, when you wear a tartan, you identify yourself with what that tartan represents. Most select a tartan that identifies with some aspect of their heritage. If there is a tartan for your surname, that would be an obvious choice. But nothing is wrong with wearing a tartan from another branch of your family. Ultimately, it is a personal choice. Whatever you choose, you should know your tartan and your reasons for wearing it. Always be prepared to answer the question: “What’s your tartan?”

For more information go to: -  
www.scottishtartans.org -  
www.thescottishweaver.com or -  
www.tartansauthority.com/tartan-ferret

With thanks to the Scottish Tartans Museum in Franklin, NC.



## **Wales**

### **COBLYNAU:**

A mine goblin  
(notice the miner's lantern on his belt).  
The knocking sound of their  
picks and hammers  
is a lucky sign for miners –  
it means a rich ore vein is near.

Our Kids Coloring Book with thanks to Barb Ripple  
and Jude MacKenzie and the Northern Arizona Celtic  
Heritage Society.