



# KINTAIL

The Newsletter of the Clan MacRae Society of Canada  
Volume 19 No. 4 Issue 39 Fall 2017



## CLAN MACRAE SOCIETY OF CANADA ANNUAL AGM & GATHERING



Guelph/Fergus, Ontario  
August 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018

In 2018 Clan MacRae Society of Canada will welcome MacRaes to our AGM Gathering in the beautiful, scenic area of Guelph & Fergus, Ontario. 2018 is the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the death of Lt Col John McCrae.

Our Planning Committee Barbara & John Duff, Owen MacRae and Linda York, are in the process of putting together a program filled with MacRae history, a Ceilidh and Banquet of fun & delicious food; and, some other adventures still in the planning stages. This will also be the weekend of the **73<sup>rd</sup> Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games**. [www.fergusscottishfestival.com](http://www.fergusscottishfestival.com)



Fergus is a quaint, historic town in Southern ON, which lies on the Grand River about 23 km. north of Guelph, ON, and will be celebrating its 184<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2018. Fergus is proud of its Scottish heritage; back from the days when Scottish settlers founded the town formerly known as "Little Falls".



It is now part of the Township of Centre Wellington [www.centrewellington.ca](http://www.centrewellington.ca) along with historic Elora and a small country area of Bellwood. The Fergus Scottish Festival has grown to proudly earn the title of the oldest 3-day Scottish Festival in North America, attracting over 35,000 visitors each year. There is something for everyone whether you are Scottish or not. There are no large hotels in Fergus, so we will stay at the **Holiday Inn in Guelph**.

Full details and more information along with the Registration Form will be included in the **2017/18 Winter edition of Kintail** published early January 2018. **"PUT THE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR"** To help organize the events and activities planned, please indicate now your interest in attending by emailing BARB DUFF [barbbduff@gmail.com](mailto:barbbduff@gmail.com) Any questions you have, Barb would be pleased to hear from you.

### **Tentative Gathering Outline:**

**Wednesday, Aug 8<sup>th</sup>** – Welcome Reception

**Thursday, Aug 9<sup>th</sup>** - Bus Excursion activities: **(1)** Guelph Civic Museum Tour and Statue of Lt. Col. John McCrae, **(2)** McCrae's newly renovated boyhood home McCrae House - Tour including Tea, **(3)** Woodlawn Memorial Park where John McCrae's parents and grandparents are buried, **(4)** University of Guelph where McCrae taught

**Friday, Aug 10<sup>th</sup>** - AGM Holiday Inn - Lunch Fionn MacCool's pub - Afternoon tour Scottish Archives at the Guelph University

**Saturday, Aug 11<sup>th</sup>** - Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games. Lots of entertainment and lectures. Barb & John will appreciate volunteers to help at the MacRae Tent. For those who would like to see the town of Fergus & Elora; a Free shuttle bus service travels between Fergus, Elora, Bellwood and Scottish Festival site grounds **6:30 pm** - Banquet & Ceilidh at the Holiday Inn, Guelph.

**Sunday, Aug 12<sup>th</sup>** - "Kirkin O' the Tartan" - St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church where Lt. Col. John McCrae and his family worshiped. Afternoon Highland Games – Supper in Fergus or Guelph to end the weekend.

### **Holiday Inn Guelph Accommodations:**

(519)836-0231 601 Scottsdale Drive, Guelph, ON, N1G 3E7 (**SEE email attachment for Reservations Instructions**) Reservations can be made starting now, be sure to give the password "CMS" (meaning Clan MacRae Society) to get the reduced group rate of \$124.99 Cdn which includes a very good buffet breakfast. Book the sooner the better, so we can all stay at the same place where the Banquet and our AGM will be held.

**NOTE:** Barb & John will work very closely with the President of the Fergus Festival to make your visit a pleasant one. **DO NOT** get your tickets on line until arrangements are setup with the President to get reduced rates for our group.

**Fergus Festival Grounds Camping:** available but bookings are not available until January. If camping, you must book early. For now, 2017 information is available at <https://fergusscottishfestival.com/registration/camping/> as a guide.



**Memorial Gardens beside birthplace of Lt. Col. John McCrae**



For those who would like to start the week earlier, we will meet in **Niagara Falls, Ontario** for some activities on Tuesday, August 7<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>; travelling to Guelph in the afternoon. We plan to include the famous Hornblower (previously Maid of the Mist) Falls **Boat Tour**; and experience the thundering roar, awesome power and amazing mist of the mighty Niagara Falls! For over 20 years, Niagara Parks has hosted Canada's longest running **fireworks** series; combined with the illumination of the Canadian and American Falls, it is spectacular. Full details in next edition of Kintail.




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## Guelph, Ontario

Guelph was founded on St. George's Day, April 23rd, 1827 with the ceremonial felling of a large maple tree. Guelph is considered to be one of the first planned towns in Canada and was chosen as the headquarters of a British development firm known as the "Canada Company". The location was picked by the Company's Superintendent in Canada, a popular Scottish novelist named John Galt who designed the town to attract settlers to it and to the surrounding countryside. Galt's plan was quite imaginative, based on a series of streets radiating from a focal point at the Speed River, and resembles a European city center, complete with squares, broad main streets and narrow side streets, resulting in a variety of block sizes and shapes. Galt chose the name "Guelph" for the new town because it was one of the family names of the British royal family, and it had apparently never been used as a place name before. Hence the current use of the term "The Royal City" for Guelph. Despite John Galt's grandiose plans, Guelph did not grow beyond village size until the Grand Trunk Railroad reached it from Toronto in 1856. After this time, many of Guelph's prominent buildings were erected, a number of which were designed by high profile Toronto-based architects, but most of which were the product of a talented group of local architects, builders and stone carvers who effectively used Guelph's locally quarried, warm-hued limestone which today gives a visual unity to the older parts of the City.

### Facts about Guelph courtesy of [Guelph Museums](#)

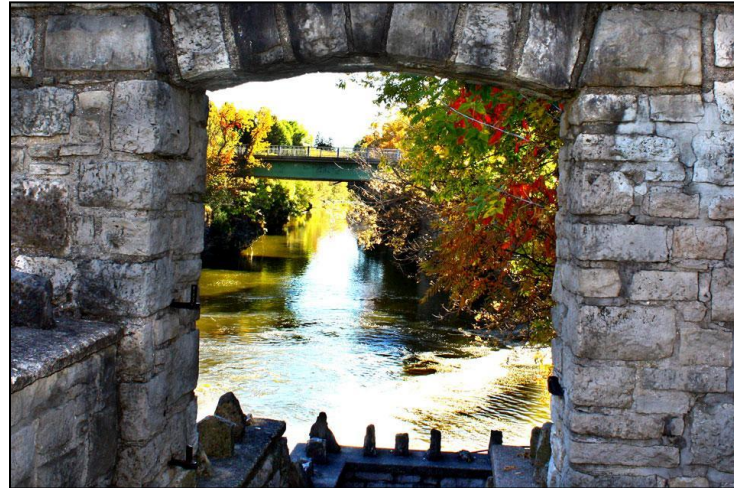
- Home of North America's first cable TV system.
- Police force had Canada's first municipal motorcycle patrol and first to have two-way car radios.
- City Council set up Canada's first city manager system. Conceived a way to easily convert units into condominiums.
- One of Canada's first militia units of gunners in 1866; home to Canada's first army cadet corps.
- Invented in Guelph: Five Pin Bowling, the jock strap, wire coat hanger,
- Canada's first high school lunch cafeteria. First Canadian radio station to have a call-in talk show.
- Guelph is the first and only municipality in the British Commonwealth to own its own railway line.
- The Ontario Veterinary College is the oldest school of its kind in the Western hemisphere (founded in 1862).
- P.T. Barnum's circus came to Guelph in 1879.

[Click here for more facts on Guelph](#)



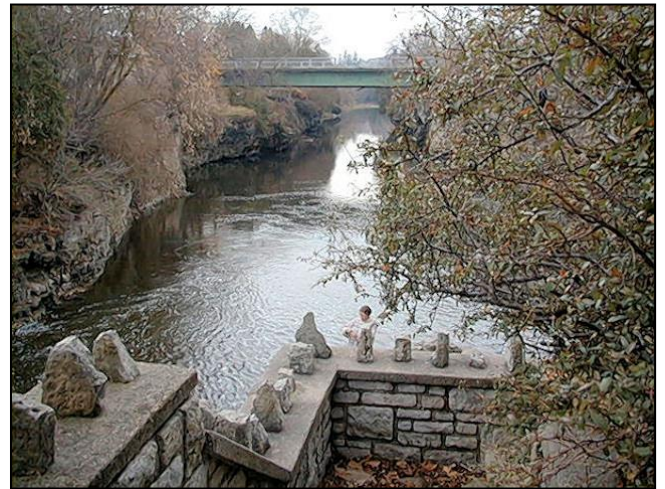
## Fergus, Ontario

Fergus is a beautiful little town with a population of 20,000. It is a twin town to Blairgowrie and Rattray, twin burghs in Perth and Kinross, Scotland. Traditional limestone masonry is abundant throughout the area. Used by Scottish settlers to build many of the heritage homes; limestone dominates the walls and park stairwells and the merchant buildings downtown. Many of the buildings from the 1800s are still in use today.



Garafraxa Township somewhere around what is now Scotland Street in Fergus. Another settlement was founded nearby in 1833 and was first called Little Falls because of the scenic (water) falls, now between the Public Library and the Fergus Market. The first bridge over the river in the heart of the settlement was built in 1834 by Fergusson.

The first settlers to this area were freed slaves who formed what was known as the Pierpoint Settlement, named after their leader, Richard Pierpoint, a United Empire Loyalist originally from Bondou, Senegal in Africa. Along with a half dozen other men, who had also fought with the British during the American Revolutionary War, Pierpoint was granted land in



**Historic Post Office (right)** built in 1835 by Thomas Young. Mr. Young had a frame, one story building which he used as a store and post office. This corner was the core of the settlement in the 1830's.

The first house was built in 1833, a hotel was built in 1844 and in 1835, a sawmill, grist-mill, church and school were opened. After 1938, Scottish settlers purchased the land in what was previously Pierpoint Settlement. James Webster was the one who opened the Fergus Mills and cleared a great deal of land for farming. Alexander Dingwall Fordyce joined Ferguson and they controlled all of the industry in Fergus until 1855. Until approximately 1850, an unwritten policy of restricted growth was implemented. Because Fergusson, Webster and some other Scottish emigrants owned the land, only Scots could purchase village lots. However, in order to accommodate Irish settlers, Webster founded the town of Arthur (just north of Fergus) in 1840. By 1846 the settlement had 21 businesses. The population was 184 mostly of Scots. In 1858, the settlement,





with a population of 1,000, was incorporated as a village called Fergus in honour of one of its founders, Adam Fergusson. By 1869 the population was 1,500. On November 29, 1890, electricity became available in the village through the efforts of Dr. Abraham Groves. More extensive provision of power, by Ontario Hydro, began in 1914.

The first library, built with a Carnegie grant, opened in 1911 and is in the register of Canada's Historic Places. In 1953, the village was incorporated as the "Town of Fergus" and in 1999 became a part of the Centre Wellington township.

**Footbridge (right)** Proceed west along the market and turn back north at the end of the building. Cross the parking lot to the footbridge across the river. The bridge is in the same vicinity as the old "pig bridge". Loose pigs had the run of the old settlement streets, causing much fuss. Village fathers ordered a bridge erected to enable the pigs to walk from their pens and across the bridge each morning to a clear grazing area. The original bridge was a narrow, spidery affair with room for one pig abreast only. The haunting cry of the bagpipes, a proud reminder of Fergus' Scottish heritage can be heard every summer on Fergus' footbridge. Every Saturday at noon during July and August the lone piper will let his notes add a touch of nostalgia to your stroll or perhaps rouse you to a merry jig.

### Find Your Scottish Side

The historic downtown of Fergus prides itself on its rich Scottish past,



nowhere more so than at [The Fergus Scottish Corner Shop](#). From custom kilts to parts for your pipes, from haggis to pork pies and more sweets than you can shake your sporrans at, this authentic British store is an education in itself. Visit the [Bookery](#), a treasure trove of Celtic books, literature and jewelry, the store also offers a regular schedule of highly popular gypsy fortune telling and tea-leaf readings.

The **Wellington County Museum and Archives** is a **National Historic Site**. It

is located in a building that stands as the oldest remaining House of Industry in Canada. It was built in 1877 as a "Poor House" or place of refuge for the poor, homeless, and destitute people in Wellington County. It operated as a Poor House and Industrial Farm until 1947 when it became a County Home for



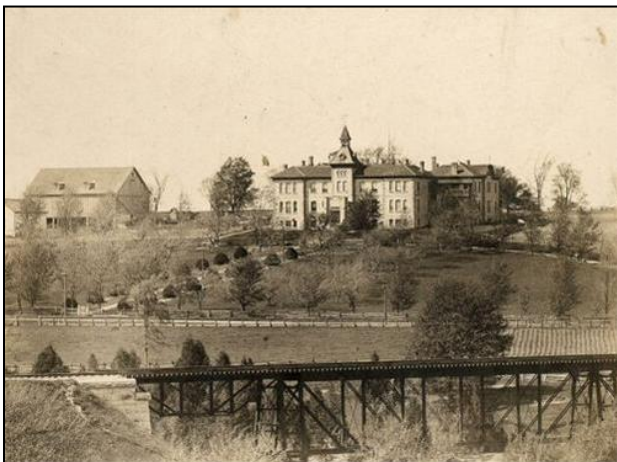
the Aged. In 1974 it was transformed into the Wellington County Museum and Archives. A new Archives wing opened in 2010. **Wellington County Museum and Archives is located on Wellington Road 18 between Fergus and Elora. 0536 Wellington Road 18, Fergus, Ontario, Canada** *Image of Wellington County House of Industry and Refuge from south side of Grand River, ca. 1907-1914, unknown photographer.*

<http://downtownfergus.com/>

[http://www.wellington.ca/en/discover/aboutus\\_museum.asp](http://www.wellington.ca/en/discover/aboutus_museum.asp)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fergus,\\_Ontario](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fergus,_Ontario)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blairgowrie\\_and\\_Ratray](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blairgowrie_and_Ratray)



# Announcements

## New Web Site for Clan MacRae Society of Canada

<https://www.clanmacraecanada.org/>

NEW! Members Only section:

Members can access and download: (1) Supplies: pamphlets, logos, forms, etc.  
(2) annual AGM Minutes

**NOTE:** Membership Dues must be paid-up-to-date for access to be approved

Membership Application Form with new web address is available on Membership Page to download  
As new features become available we will include in the **KINTAIL** newsletter

If you have any comments or suggestions for our Web Site, please contact us at

[clanmacraecanada@cogeco.ca](mailto:clanmacraecanada@cogeco.ca)

Currently the web site is best viewed on a desktop computer rather than on a mobile device

Please Note: All NEW materials designed, created and produced must have the Clan Logo and new web site address included on them - please forward a .jpeg or .tiff file of any new created materials to

[clanmacraecanada@cogeco.ca](mailto:clanmacraecanada@cogeco.ca)

Logo & examples:



*Our sincere condolences to our Gracious Lady of Eilean Donan Castle, Marigold MacRae and her daughter Baroness Miranda van Lynden.*

## Lieutenant Commander James Parker-Jervis, Royal Navy (Ret.)

**PARKER-JERVIS** James (Jim) died peacefully, aged 91, in Nairn, on 24th September 2017, husband of Marigold and of the late Anne. Much-loved father of Harriet and Andrew and stepfather of Mary. Service on 13th October, at 3pm, at St Columba's Episcopal Church, Queen Street, Nairn. Family flowers only, and donations, if desired, to the Royal Navy/Royal Marines charity ([www.rnrmc.org.uk](http://www.rnrmc.org.uk)).

*From the Editor: We have a new email address for the Editor of our KINTAIL newsletter - [EditorKintail@cogeco.ca](mailto:EditorKintail@cogeco.ca) You can still contact me at my personal email as in the past. Thanks, Linda York*



## Ontario Highland Games of 2017 – Barb & John Duff

From pipes and drum sound offs, Highland dancing, Irish dancing, Heavy Competitions on beaches and in the parks, experiencing many weekends filled with the Scottish and Celtic traditions, and we can't forget all the wonderful Ceilidhs with their wonderful sounds. It was great to see how these events bring families together far and wide.

This year, **Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> year of Confederation** (our sesquicentennial year), John and I opened our Games season with the **Georgetown Highland Games** on June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 on the Georgetown Fairgrounds in Georgetown, Ontario. This is the earliest game in our area of Ontario. It was a beautiful day for the 42<sup>nd</sup> annual event with good attendance. Drop-ins were steady and we had a few MacRae families dropping by with promises to check out the Fergus Games for our MacRae AGM next year in August.

*78<sup>th</sup> Highlanders Pipe Band (right)*



*Massed Bands closing ceremonies*

Next Game was the **Cobourg Scottish Festival & Highland Games** in Victoria Park, Cobourg, Ontario on June 17<sup>th</sup>. These Games

represent the tradition of the first settlers of Cobourg and to celebrate the love of music, dance and competition in this historic downtown. The bandshell was one of the first in Ontario in 1934. The day started out wet and cool but the rain stopped, and the weather held for most of the day; although we quickly had to pack up early to avoid an impending storm. Drop-in traffic was good, and we had many MacRae and MacFarlane families stopping in asking questions. One MacFarlane was Erin who is a member of Erin's of Erin's Marlore, an all-female Celtic trio entertaining that evening in the beer tent, so we went later that evening to watch them perform. [http:// www.erinsmarlore.com](http://www.erinsmarlore.com) We also had a very interested young teenage girl and her parents stop at the tent with lots of questions for us about the festival, Scotland, clans, customs in general and Scottish heritage. This was the first Scottish festival the family had ever attended since immigrating from Russia to Canada and it was gratifying to see this young girl interest in the event. Check out her photo.





*Guelph Pipe Band practicing - they wear the MacRae dress tartan*



pipe bands, so as a result Kinmount had lower attendance numbers. The day started out damp but improved as it progressed and only two clans were represented. There were questions from many different clan names but we only had one MacRae family that registered. Our most rewarding part of that day was being able to help educate many of the teenagers from Camp Wanakita (who was running the Children's Activities) on some of their clan and family history. Most were not very aware of their Scottish Ancestry and family heritage nor had they seen pictures of their tartan and clan crests. Once they told us their family, mother's family and grandparent's family names, it allowed us to show them their tartan, crests and the locations on a map of Scotland and Ireland of their ancestral lands. It was great to see young faces light up with their smiles. We heard them later boasting to their friends about their history, tartan colours or sometimes infamous clan history. Hopefully, these young people will remember some of this information in the future and seek out more while conversing with their families when they return home.

*Clan MacRae tent at Kinmount*

**The Cambridge Scottish Festival** on July 15<sup>th</sup> in the Churchill Park in Cambridge, Ontario we hosted the Clan MacRae tent. This is the closest festival to our home so it was only about a 40 minute-drive each way. It turned out to be a beautiful day and busy with lots of people dropping in for information. Again, there was a great view of the Heavy events going on behind our tent. We have to mention that the festival volunteers remained very supportive and helpful in the "Avenue of the Clans" throughout the day by dropping off snacks, water and also offering to help set up. Volunteers were even dispatched by organizers to keep an eye on clan displays during the Opening Ceremonies while the hosts were away

Our next Game was a new one that had just started a couple years ago but this was the first year that they included "Gathering of the Clans". We decided to try it out and so we hosted a MacRae tent at the "**Kinmount Highland Games**" at the Kinmount Fairgrounds, in Minden, Ontario on July 8<sup>th</sup>. Dates changed this year and it was held the same weekend as Kincardine Scottish Festival which historically has been one of the favourite events for the





from their tents. We enjoyed a return visit from the teenager who had numerous questions for us at the Cobourg Games in June. We both enjoyed visiting with this young person for over an hour because she showed so much interest and had such a list of questions for us to answer about all things Scottish. Even more surprising is the fact that her family are recent immigrants from Russia, but perhaps they may have some Viking ancestry as do many Scottish and Irish people.



*Massed Bands at Cambridge, Ontario*

In August came the **Glengarry Highland Games** on Aug. 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> in Maxville, Ontario near Ottawa. This was their 70<sup>th</sup> year and they always host the North American Bagpipe Championships. They had for entertaining the crowd the next generation of the “Leahy” family from the East Coast of Canada as well as the famous fiddlers. This year being the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Confederation for Canada they had the Military re-enactors recreate Canada’s and Glengarry’s past battles and their life along the lines. Also, they had a person dressed as Sir John A. MacDonald remarking how things have changed since Confederation.



I would like to take this opportunity to send out a great big “THANK YOU” to Anne Brand and Cynthia MacRae for helping me at the Clan tent. It was so greatly appreciated. You were such a help Anne with the connections that you have in Maxville and knowing the history there.

*Anne Brand, Isabel MacRae her daughter Cynthia and son Doug MacRae*



We had a lot of MacRaes visit our tent/stall. Also, thanks to you and Isabella's family for being troopers and walking in the Clan Parade to represent our MacRae family.

*Jack MacRae & Anne Brand*

*Kelly MacRae and her father  
Archie MacRae.  
Porter is hanging onto  
Grandpa and Avery in front.*

*Rob, Doris & Jessica McRae  
from Ottawa (left)*



On Aug 10<sup>th</sup> - 13, was the **Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games**. The

weekend began Thursday evening with the Plaids and Pageantry Parade in downtown Historic Fergus, Ontario which ended at the Legion Hall on St. Andrew's Street.

The anticipation and excitement of the "Red Hot Chile Pipers" from Scotland grew intense but their performance never came

about as the dark clouds and an electrical storm rolled in. The main performance, the opening ceremonies, Lighting of the Hearth and the Fireworks were all called off by the officials for the safety of everyone. The visitors were ready to kick up their heels and go crazy for a couple hours to let off the energy build up; but the disappointment was felt by all.



*Our littlest Pipe Band Leader.*



It was a beautiful day for the Clan Parade on Saturday, which I have to say was much better weather than last year. Our war cry was not loud enough, so next year we better make up for it. We need more of the MacRaes here with me.

The rest of the week went great with lots of visitors to our tent. Elliot MacFarlane was next to the MacRae tent giving a lesson on how to make Haggis. He had Stuffed sheep to demonstrate to the children (not the one on his shoulder). It was a little bigger than that. He has a group of re-enactors called the MacFarlane's Group where he travels all over the place to do it. He also spends a lot of time in Scotland teaching them over there how to properly do the re-enactment of Culloden and other Battles. Sunday continued with "Family Day" at the Games. Stamping the Children's Passport book kept us pretty busy, and even some of the grown-ups were joining in the fun. The Passports were great this year. With the Fergus Games over for another year, the ones staying to do Niagara-on-the-Lake gathered for supper at "McCool's Pub" in Guelph and had a chance to chat a while about the weekend.



The last Games of the year that we hosted was the **17th Niagara Celtic Heritage Festival & Highland Games** on September 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> this year. It was a lovely warm weekend with no rain and only a slight



breeze which is a change from the last two years. It is held in Krull Park with its tall trees and the beautiful Lake Ontario beside it. We really like this festival because of the variety of all the Celtic Nations represented with its Medieval themed atmosphere. The people play out their fantasies in dress, songs and stories. There is always something for everyone to enjoy or do on this weekend such as music, dancing (Irish & Scottish), clans avenue, Heavy events competition, the Massed bands, re-enactors, craftsmen, artisans and performers. The Tree came to visit our tent.



*The 13th Realm - Armour - Re-enactors.*

There always lots for children as well, such as animals, kid's games, a play area for them and a puppet show. John and I never have time to really go around and listen to all there is but I did take time to visit the Re-enactors area this year and it is quite impressive. At the closing ceremonies, they have a Sword Memorial which pays tribute to the ones who have gone but have contributed to the Niagara Celtic Heritage Festival, each in their own way. Come and join us one year, we would love to have you. I am sure you will love it as much as we do. By the way, John made it into the program booklet this year under Festival Participants & Activities in the Clans part.



*Vendors under tall trees*

*"Clans Torch Lighting Ceremony" is where one person from each clan lights a torch*





## Torchlight Ceremony

### "Raise the Clans"

The expression "raise the clans" has a slightly archaic sound to our ears. It is surrounded by an aura of some long-forgotten appeal to support noble causes or high ideals. From a historical perspective, it was used to summon the clans for battle. We have chosen to transform the ancient act to symbolize a different kind of call to the clans.

The saltire cross is recognized as Scotland's ancient symbol. A living cross of light is made up of a representative from all the clans and families who have come to participate. They come from the compass points to indicate the widespread migration of Scots. The Clans give voice to their origins and take their place as part of the gathering on this magnificent mountain.

Together they share remembrances and offer thanks. As torches burn brightly together in the gathering dusk, the haunting sound of pipers is carried into the night. The clans have come again to celebrate who they are.

The Torchlight Ceremony was created by Larry Long, the 1995 recipient of the Agnes MacRae Morton award.



*96th Highlanders Pipes & Drums of Jamestown, NY.*



*Bard of Basswood, Story Teller's Tree, visitor and Leprechaun*



*Irish Dancers so cute and championship dancers at that*



*MacGregor descendant putting his kilt/wrap on the proper way*



"Rush The Growler"- name comes from a term used about buckets(growlers) that workers filled with beer at the local tavern as they rushed home from work. They sang songs and told stories, which were not always for the children to hear.

On Sunday at 5:00 pm. they have a sword ceremonial & Memorial service to remember those who have passed in the last year.



## **In the Footsteps of John McCrae Tour 2018** - April 27, 2018 - May 5, 2018



Honour Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, 100 years after his passing, by participating in a guided tour tracing his overseas service, and paying your respects during a memorial service at his gravesite.

Don't miss this exclusive opportunity to follow in the footsteps of Canadian soldier, doctor and poet Lt. Col. John McCrae, exploring sites where he tended to the wounded and wrote *In Flanders Fields*, and visiting

important First World War landmarks and historical sites, including Essex Field Dressing Station, the Somme battlefield, and the Canadian National Vimy Memorial. Something all Canadians should experience at least once in their lifetime.

Lt. Col. John McCrae scholar Bev Dietrich will escort the tour group, and provide on-site interpretation. Dietrich was special guest in Belgium in 1995 for the 80th anniversary of the writing of the poem *In Flanders Fields*.

The trip departs Canada on April 27, 2018 and returns May 5, 2018. The cost is \$3,895 per person based on twin/double occupancy. A \$750 deposit is required at time of booking. Reserve your place by December 15, 2017. To register, contact Scott Allen at Frederick Travel, [scotta@ftwaterloo.com](mailto:scotta@ftwaterloo.com), 519-745-1860 extension 303, or 1-800-578-8958. Further details at <http://worldwide.on.ca/MCCRAE18/>.

**BUY TICKETS**

AT <http://guelphmuseums.ca/event/footsteps-john-mccrae-tour-2018/>

## **2017 Highland Games, Calgary**

**– Doreen Powell & Darrell MacRae**

Darrell reports:

It was a lovely day, at the 104th annual games. We have now enjoyed our fifth year of participating with our Clan MacRae tent at the games. There were six other clan tents alongside of us. It was a lovely day, a little windy but warm and slightly smoky.

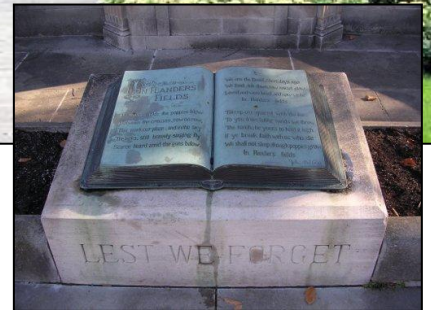




## McCrae House



McCrae House, 108 Water Street, Guelph is the birthplace of John McCrae (1858-1918). It features permanent exhibitions about John McCrae's life in Guelph and his medical, military and artistic pursuits. In 1966 a group of Guelph citizens purchased the building with the intention of preserving it as a museum. This group formed the Lt. Col. John McCrae Birthplace Society and began raising money for its restoration. That same year, the federal government through the Historic Sites and Monuments Board designated the house a place of national significance. In 1983 the operation of the museum was transferred to the City of Guelph, and along with the Guelph Civic Museum was merged under the name Guelph Museums. McCrae House was renovated in 2015. Beside the house is a Memorial Garden and cenotaph.



For a virtual tour go to:

<http://www.gotyoullooking.com/1mccraehouse/mht.html>

be sure to click on each view (6) at the top of the picture



Just down the street McCrae Blvd and Water Street cross. McCrae Boulevard, named in 1956, crosses the Speed River via Gow's Bridge





This stone bridge continues to serve both vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Gow's Bridge has been designated by the City of Guelph as having historic and architectural value. This stone arch bridge remains as the only surviving example of several stone bridges which once crossed Guelph's rivers. The bridge was built in 1897 by Daniel Keleher, a local contractor. It replaced a wooden bridge constructed at this site in 1852 to circumvent the toll bridges on the Guelph and Dundas Roads. Today this unique remnant of Guelph's stone heritage lends considerable charm and character to one of the city's largest public parks.



Another interesting web page to visit:

[Man Behind the Poem](#)

<http://www.historicplaces.ca/en/rep-reg/place-lieu.aspx?id=5518>

<http://www.guelphheritage.ca/places/bridges-and-other-structures/gow-s-bridge-mccrae-blvd>

<http://weait.com/content/remembrance-day>

## John McCrae's Family

Excerpt from: *Valuing Our History* by Stephen Thorning

### Father and grandfather of Colonel John McCrae were prominent

Col. McCrae's father and grandfather are both deserving of recognition as well. The first of the family in Guelph, **Thomas McCrae (1820-1892)**, was a Scottish immigrant. Though his formal education was minimal, he achieved recognition during his life as a farmer and cattle breeder, and especially as a proponent of the Galloway breed. He also had some involvement in some of the industrial enterprises that dot the early decades of Guelph history. Thomas McCrae came to Canada with his father, and the family settled in Eramosa Township in 1849. In 1850 Thomas moved to Guelph, and engaged in a series of menial jobs during his first year in the Royal City. In 1851 the Wellington Foundry hired him as its bookkeeper. That position, which put him in contact with various Guelph businessmen, was the real start of his career. Soon he was involved as a partner in several ventures, including a sawmill. In 1863 he acquired a large farm south of the city. The farmland is now part of the city, but at that time it was far in the country. The McCrae farmhouse, which he called Janefield after his daughter Jane, is on College Avenue near the Hanlon Expressway. Tom McCrae became a serious farmer. He bred cattle, and soon was the top breeder of Galloway cattle in North America. He also set himself up as a drover and cattle exporter, building a sizeable trade with Great Britain.

**David McCrae (1845-1930)** was a son of Thomas, and in the early years a partner with him in several business ventures. In 1860 Thomas formed a partnership with members of the Armstrong family (prominent in 19th century Guelph business ventures), establishing Armstrong, McCrae and Company, a knitting and weaving business. Their timing was perfect. The new firm conducted a lucrative trade with the United States during the Civil War. In 1867 the firm opened a new plant at the corner of Wyndham and Surrey Streets. The main building, constructed of stone, measured 83 feet by 34 feet, and was three storeys high. Employment, initially at 30 hands, was modest by later standards, but in the 1860s it was a major Guelph employer. David McCrae replaced his father as the manager of the firm, and the Armstrongs eventually exited the business and started what became the Guelph Carpet Company. Under David's direction, the knitting mill grew in size and employment, with 250 names on the payroll by 1885. David McCrae, in addition to his business ventures, had two pet interests: education and the volunteer militia. In the late 1850s he joined the Mechanics Institute, a volunteer group whose main activity was their lending library. He remained with the group for decades, and in 1883, when the Guelph Public Library took over the Mechanics Institute library, he was a member of the first public library board. David McCrae attended Guelph's public and grammar schools. In 1862 he attended the Ontario Veterinary College, then still located in Toronto, and graduated from what was then a one-year course, earning the prize for general proficiency.

McCrae became involved with the volunteer militia from his adolescence. He joined the militia about 1865, during the period when there were threatened invasions of Canada by Fenians and the American Army. On graduation he worked in the offices of his father's lumber and woolen mills. By 1870 he was largely in charge of the businesses, while the father devoted his energies to his cattle business. After his father's death in 1892, David took over as a major breeder of Galloway cattle. He retired from farming in 1910, but kept himself busy with a number of public and business activities. David McCrae was a regular contributor to various agricultural journals and papers. He was also one of the Guelph men who strove to have the Provincial Winter Fair moved permanently to Guelph.

A lifelong supporter of the Liberal Party, he frequently spoke on behalf of the party at rallies. He never sought higher office himself, but did serve for years as a member of Guelph Township council. David McCrae also sat as a director of the North American Life Assurance Company and the Mutual Fire Insurance Company. McCrae's military career spanned 65 years. From the start of his military activity in 1865 and 1866, when he helped organize Guelph volunteers to repel the Fenians, he remained a leader and advocate of the militia. During that time he rose from Second Lieutenant to Lieutenant Colonel. The Fenian threat soon ended, but the volunteer militia remained active. It soon evolved into a largely social organization. The men enjoyed the annual training sessions each summer, which took them from their families for a welcome respite. The annual militia balls became the social events of the season. Though he enjoyed the decades of social activity surrounding the military, David McCrae was quick to step forward with the declaration of war in 1914. Though he was 69 years old, he volunteered for active service. He supervised the recruitment of the 43rd Battery, and after training, he took that unit to England in 1915. He was very disappointed that senior officers would not permit him to go to France with the unit on account of his age. Senior officers sent McCrae back to Guelph, and retired him from the active militia. But he remained involved in military affairs when he was named to the board that operated under the Military Services Act, supervising the recruitment of younger men into the military.

It does not appear that David McCrae was on close terms with his son John, the author of *In Flanders Fields*. Still, the death of John in 1918 certainly affected him. David McCrae suffered from deteriorating health through the 1920s, especially in the later years of that decade. He died at his home in October of 1930 at the age of 85. Though he was in poor health, there was no indication that death was imminent.

In addition to Dr. John McCrae, David had two other children. Another son, Thomas, pursued medicine, and was president of the Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia at the time of his father's death. A daughter, Giells, was the wife of J.F. Kilgour of Winnipeg, the Chief Justice of Manitoba. Their granddaughter, also named Giells, married John Turner, the federal Liberal leader and briefly, Prime Minister of Canada. The McCrae name is significant in the history of Guelph and Wellington County. Everyone knows about Col. John McCrae and his poem, but far fewer know that he was also a highly trained doctor and pathologist who did much to advance his specialty. His brother Thomas achieved fame as a doctor in the United States. And his father and grandfather did much for Guelph and its industries and public institutions.

<http://www.wellingtonadvertiser.com/comments/columns.cfm?articleID=1000001581>

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## 2017 CLAN MACRAE USA GATHERING

Over 53 people registered for this event with MacRaes coming from 14 different states and two other countries. Our Gracious Lady of Eilean Donan Castle Marigold MacRae Jervis, and her daughter Baroness Miranda MacRae van Lynden attended; and, were given the honor of "Chiefs" of Clan MacRae for the weekend. Owen MacRae, Joanne & Lorne Monahan represented Clan MacRae Society of Canada. Denver is known as the "Mile High City" because it is exactly one mile high in altitude. As reported by Owen,





unless you are coming from a high-altitude area, it is best to take it easy for the first 24-48 hours.

The Gathering began with two days in the Golden/Wheat Ridge/Denver area. From the Denver Marriott West hotel in Golden, MacRaes had a variety of sights and activities to choose from.

#### **Coors Brewery -**

<https://www.millercoors.com/breweries/coors-brewing-company/tours>

**Lookout Mountain** - gravesite and museum of Buffalo Bill Cody - <http://www.buffalobill.org/>

**Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum** - [http://www.mines.edu/Geology Museum](http://www.mines.edu/Geology_Museum)

**Dinosaur Ridge** - <http://www.dinoridge.org/visit-us.html>

**Colorado Railroad Museum** - 100+ locomotives cars cabooses on 15 acres -

<http://coloradorailroadmuseum.org/>

**Lariat Loop Natl Scenic Byway** -

<https://www.lariatloop.org/>

**National Renewable Energy Lab** -

<https://www.nrel.gov/about/visiting-nrel.html>

**Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum** -

<http://www.rmqm.org/location-and-hours.htm>

#### **Red Rocks Amphitheater -**

<http://redrocksonline.com/the-park/dining/ship-rock-grille>



At Wednesday evening's banquet there was a "Silent Auction" which included MacRae Tartan apparel. Thursday morning started with breakfast and then the drive to **Estes Park, CO** - gateway to the Rocky Mountains. One way to reach Estes Park from Denver is the scenic route through Boulder and Lyons, Colorado. Estes Park is surrounded by mountains.



**Tattoo Estes 2017** was that evening; as is the custom, dignitaries rode in horse drawn carriages. (left Owen MacRae, right Baroness Miranda, Bruce & Judy McRae)





Elk are often seen in the town of Estes Park, but visitors are warned that it is dangerous to approach any of the wild animals and illegal to try feeding them. Sunday morning Brunch & AGM was at the historic Stanley Hotel where beautiful views of the mountains were seen.

Friday & Saturday included **Longs Peak Scottish-Irish Festival** celebrating over 40 years; and touring the **Rocky Mountain National Park**. As Clan MacRae was one of the Honoured Clans, they were at the front of the parade. Saturday evening included a Ceilidh and Celtic Rock concert.



Thanks to Judy & Bruce McRae and Clan MacRae Society of North America for inviting their Canadian cousins.

## Guelph Civic Museum

The Guelph Civic Museum showcases Guelph's history through permanent and changing exhibits, a fun and interactive families' gallery, and special events and activities. Located in the recently renovated Loretto Convent, atop the hill at Norfolk Street and beside the landmark Church of Our Lady, the museum is home to a collection of over 30,000 artifacts that bring Guelph's past to life.

In the 1960's members of the Guelph Historical Society began to collect artifacts and displays were mounted in store fronts and community centres. The Museum opened in its first home in the horse stables during 1967 Canada's Centennial Year – that is now the Farmer's Market. In 1980 Guelph Civic Museum opened at 6 Dublin Street South, a commercial limestone building built c.1855. The building had many uses over the years but was most recently known as the Knights of Columbus Hall. The year 2000 saw the "Growing Up in Guelph Children's Museum" open at the Civic Museum. The popular children's gallery attracts many visitors. 2012 brought the Museum to its current location.

The archives include articles about McCrae and his family, versions of his poetry, personal papers, photographs and scrapbooks. Objects include furniture, jewelry, silverware, china, personal possessions like John McCrae's pocket watch and family and individual photographs. There are also textiles like fabrics from the woolen mills, blankets and table cloths. The archives are actively sought out by the public, Wall said, noting 183 requests on a wide range of interests regarding the McCraes and the famous poem. Gems include a 1918 to 1922 scrapbook McCrae's father kept about his illustrious son's exploits.

<http://guelphmuseums.ca/venue/civic-museum/>

<https://www.guelphmercury.com/news-story/5560146-guelph-museums-possess-trove-of-mccrae-items/>





## Captain William McRae by Daniel Boudreau



Some genealogy experts say there are at least three good stories in a family tree. One of mine is how my great-great grandfather was a posthumous awardee of the Carnegie Medal for Bravery. William McRae was the manager of the West River Transportation Company. He was the captain of the *Strathgartney*, a boat that carried passengers and freight from Charlottetown to Westville, PEI.

On August 16<sup>th</sup>, 1920 a man was measuring the depth of the river off the side of the boat. The man fell off the side and into the swift current. McRae jumped from the boat and swam toward the man in an effort to save him. Neither of the men were seen alive again. William left behind 11 children and his widow, Florence.

After the tragic loss, Florence was informed by mail from the Carnegie Foundation that William was going to be posthumously awarded the medal for bravery. Along with that award came a monthly stipend that was

paid to the 9 children living at home, and one for Florence until her death. Florence made monthly reports to the Carnegie Foundation. They told her what crops she could have planted, they gave her guidance on the upbringing and schooling of the children, and they even offered advice on her daughter Inez's medical care. It may have seemed to some people that they were strict, but without this fund our family would not have been able to survive.

William's name has been carried down through several generations of the family. His son, William Milton MacRae, and then down to his grandson, (my grandfather) William Owen MacRae. Following the death of the family member who held the medal in the 1990's, it was decided the medal should go to my grandfather, William Owen MacRae as he was named after his grandfather. That's how my grandfather became the curator of the Carnegie Medal for Bravery.

Who knew that a medal I saw when I was a kid on a shelf had so much significance? I'm glad I asked about it, and I'm glad someone told me the story.



***Daniel Boudreau & William Owen MacRae at the gravesite of Capt. McRae***



### Balmorals Off!

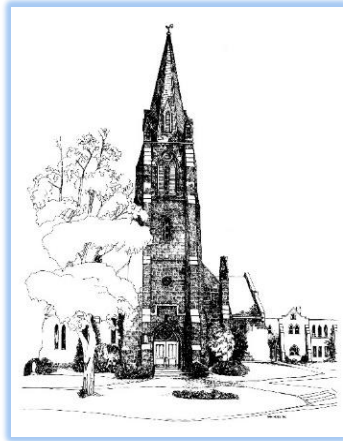
As we express our thanks to **Doreen Powell & Owen MacRae** for generously sponsoring this issue of Kintail.



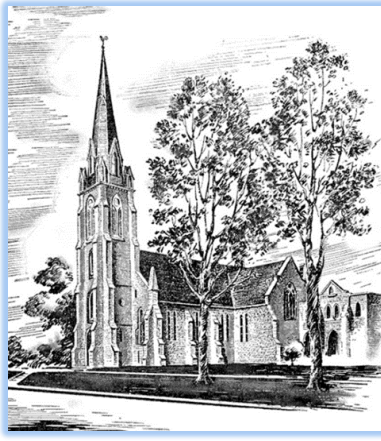
## St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church



The church began operation sometime in 1828, about one year after John Galt founded Guelph, with the original location at the current city hall. St. Andrew's has since become a distinct part of the city's rich history, noted for being Lt. Col. John McCrae's childhood church. Being the oldest congregation in the city, they are celebrating 189 years and continuing to celebrate into their 190th year. The Rev. Dr. Peter J. Darch Memorial Archives is a unique collection of records which date back to 1827, one year before the church was officially founded. The purpose of the archives is to collect and preserve the documented history of the church. The archives consist of the noncurrent records of the church which have been selected and maintained because of their continuing administrative, legal, or research value.



by Nan Hogg, 1986

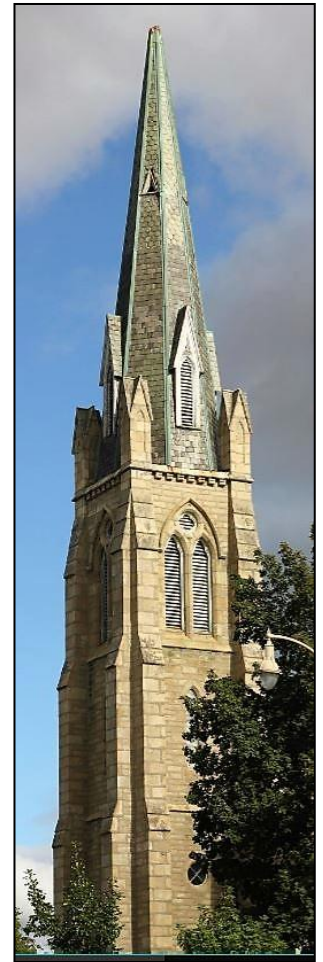


by Janet Dalglish, circa 1993

**Drawings of St. Andrew's by local artists, are featured on commemorative plates, pewter medallions etc.**



**Poppy window on Office door**



There are a number of beautiful stained-glass windows in the church. Check out their pamphlet **Walking Tour of Stain-Glass windows Sanctuary of St. Andrew's** at

[http://www.standrewsguelph.com/walking\\_tour\\_st\\_andrews\\_guelph\\_5-pages.pdf](http://www.standrewsguelph.com/walking_tour_st_andrews_guelph_5-pages.pdf)

<http://www.standrewsguelph.com/>

## McCrae Statue, Guelph

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church can be seen in the background. Lt. Col. John McCrae's statue in the foreground with Poppy like figures in the turf. The statue sits on a hilltop, so that John McCrae looks out over the city of Guelph.





## My MacRae / McRae Research Part 3 by Joanne Monahan

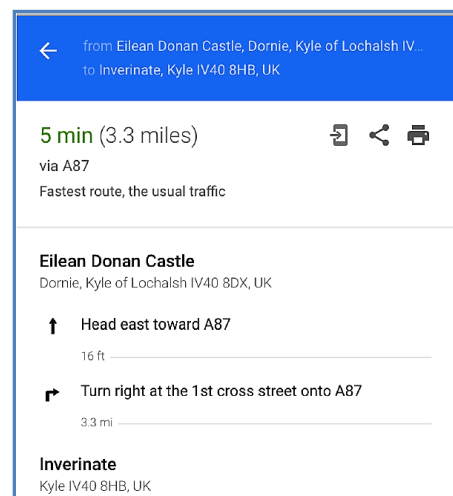
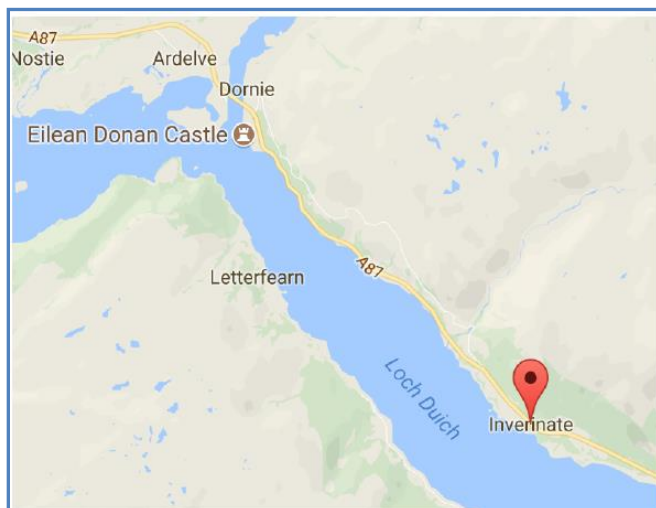
This third article describes my progress tackling the second question I asked in my first article, simply put - were my grandfather's paternal grandparents, Christy MacRae and Duncan Ban McRae, cousins?

What did I already know? My knowledge of Christy's line was quite extensive (note 1.). I knew that one of her 5G grandfathers was Rev. Farquhar MacRae (b. 1580 in Kintail, Scotland), and that his son, Alexander of Inverinate MacRae, was one of her 4G grandfathers, but how could I discover whether she and Duncan Ban were cousins when I couldn't even find the names of his parents? I decided to try DNA.

Since the Y chromosome passes almost unchanged from father to son, I enlisted my mother's first cousin, D.A. "Bruce" MacRae, and my first cousin, James MacRae, to take the 67 marker Y-DNA test with Family Tree DNA (FTDNA). The results were amazing. Their Y-DNA matched with a zero step difference the DNA of four other MacRae males. Moreover, all of these matches' earliest known ancestors had emigrated to North Carolina from Scotland, and one of them, Scott Colin McRae, had listed Rev. Farquhar MacRae (b. 1580 in Kintail, Scotland) as his earliest known ancestor. But did I believe that Scott Colin was really descended from Rev. Farquhar MacRae? Actually I did, because I had read on page 70, Appendix A in the book *From Kintail to the Carolinas* (see a.) "... it can be said without doubt that practically all of the MacRaes who left Kintail for the Carolinas during the second half of the eighteenth century are the descendants of the Rev. Farquhar."

Therefore, when I applied the FTDNA single generation tip function to discover the odds of D.A. Bruce and Scott Colin being related within 10 generations, and found the likelihood to be 98.96% (note 2.), I knew Rev. Farquhar was their approximate 10th generation male ancestor. With three generations between D.A. Bruce and Duncan Ban, Rev. Farquhar was Duncan Ban's approximate 7th generation ancestor (i.e. 5G grandfather). Since I already knew Rev. Farquhar was Christy's actual 7th generation ancestor, I now knew that she and Duncan Ban were approximately 6th cousins, depending upon generational spans, and of course the possibility of a closer relationship.

Speaking of the possibility of a closer relationship, Tina Glen-Riddell, my FTDNA Family Finder (autosomal) Scotland DNA match, reminded me mid January that the record of Christy's marriage to Duncan Ban McRae, on page 449 bi.3 in *The History of the Clan MacRae with Genealogies* (see b.), refers to Duncan Ban as "*Duncan MacRae, Inverinate*" (note 3.). Rev. Farquhar MacRae and Christina of Park MacCulloch's son, Alexander of MacRae, Constable of Eileen Donan Castle, who was Christy's 4G grandfather, was also identified as Inverinate. This small word *Inverinate* identified not only a location in Scotland, but also a particular MacRae branch that was associated with Rev. Farquhar's son, Alexander and his descendants, many of whom lived in Inverinate. If Duncan Ban





was part of this branch, he and Christy may be closer cousins than 6th. I won't know the whole story until I find Duncan Ban's parents, and work my way further into the past, but isn't this the mystery with which I began?

Before I conclude, have a peak at the following. Here's Tina Glen-Riddell's complete and enticing message which I mentioned earlier. She wrote me because I had mentioned that without proof our family's belief was that our Duncan Ban's father was an Alexander McRae. *"I was going to add my thoughts about your Duncan MacRae's parentage. It would be expected that his (i.e. Duncan Ban's) father would be Alexander as he named his first son this (i.e. Alexander). The report of his wife (i.e. Christy) in the History of Clan MacRae book names her spouse as Duncan MacRae, Inverinate. In the 1841 census for Inverinate there is an apparent family headed by Alexander MacRae age 70, Janet 60, Duncan 30, Flora 20, plus Alex 25 who may or not be family as he is out of age order. Ages are rounded plus or minus 5 as you know. Duncan age 30 is a likely candidate I feel. ... Just a thought, Tina"* Could Tina be right? Is this 1841 census Duncan Ban's family? He was probably still living at home in 1841 as he and Christy weren't married until 1846.

Duncan Ban and Christy's children in order of their birth were: **Alexander, Catherine "Kate", Jessie Janette, Christina "Christy, Donald and Ellen Flora**. As you can see below, they seem to have been named according to the Scottish Naming Pattern if we accept the above 1841 census as being Duncan Ban's family before marriage.

- a) First born son - named after his paternal grandfather (his father's father, **Alexander**)

**BINGO - Alexander**

Variation - named after his maternal grandfather (his mother's father)

- b) Second born son - named after his maternal grandfather (his mother's father, **Donald**)

**BINGO - Donald**

Variation - named after his paternal grandfather (his father's father)

- c) First born daughter - named after her maternal grandmother (her mother's mother **Catherine "Kate"**)

**BINGO - Catherine "Kate"**

Variation - named after her paternal grandmother (her father's mother)

- d) Second born daughter - named after her paternal grandmother (her father's mother, **Janet**)

**HALF a BINGO Jessie Janette - Janet is right, but who is Jessie?**

Variation - named after her maternal great grandmother (her mother's maternal grandmother)

- e) Third born daughter - named after her mother, (her mother, **Christina "Christy"**)

**BINGO - Christy**

- f) Fourth born daughter - named after her mother's oldest sister (Did she have an older sister?)

**Ellen Flora Perhaps an Ellen died and she was given that name as well as the name for a fifth daughter - see below**

Variation - named after her maternal great grandmother (her mother's maternal grandmother **Christina**)

- g) Fifth born daughter - named after her father's oldest sister (his sister, Flora)

Variation - named after her paternal great grandmother (her father's maternal grandmother)

I'm not sure what progress I'll make with the above, so my next article may attack the following question. You'll have to wait and see.

Christy and Duncan Ban McRae's son, Donald McRae, married Marianne McRae (nee McRae), daughter of John Red McRae and Margaret Cameron. Old letters stated that John Red McRae was somehow related to Christy). IF SO, HOW?



*Notes:*

1. *Kintail 38, Summer 2017, Part 2, Joanne Monahan's Research - Christy MacRae's ancestry was traced back to Rev. Farquhar MacRae, his wife Christina of Park MacCulloch, their son Alexander of Inverinate and his wife Mary of Dochmaluag Strathpeffer MacKenzie.*
2. *I used 10 generations on the Y-DNA tip function since D.A. Bruce's 7G grandparents via Christy MacRae were Rev. Farquhar MacRae and Christina of Park MacCulloch. Depending upon generational gaps, D.A. Bruce's relationship to Rev. Farquhar on his paternal DNA side would likely be a similar distance.*
3. *Inverinate is a small village on the north shore of Loch Duich in Kyle of Lochalsh.*

*Bibliography;*

- a. *MacRae, Donald, From Kintail to Carolina A CLAN HISTORY, Printed by Angus McPhee & Son, Glasgow, Scotland*
- b. *MacRae, The Rev. Alexander M.A., History of the Clan MacRae With Genealogies. Dingwall George Souter, 1910. Large Print Edition. Reproduction of an original work published before 1910. Large Print Edition. Reproduction of an original work published before 1923 that is in the public domain.*



## **DNA Notes from Laurie: Part 1**

Laurie Simms <sup>left</sup> (descendant of Glencoe, Ontario McRaes) and Joanne Monahan <sup>right</sup> (descendant of Stormont, Ontario McRaes/MacRaes) can offer the following advice concerning autosomal DNA testing. We have a bias in favour of testing by a company called FTDNA.

### **Beyond Y-DNA:**

Although Y-DNA testing is fine for males, it offers little value without the companion autosomal test on FTDNA called the Family Finder test. For best results, these DNA tests should be paired. The maternal test is still a fuzzy test resulting in minimal practical genealogical value. It will be more advanced in several years.

Try to arrange to do your Autosomal testing on FTDNA (from Houston) for the best access to “tools” with which to analyze your matches. Although Ancestry and 23&me offer more grandiose TV ad exposure, serious genealogists use FTDNA from Houston, Texas for its opportunities to evaluate matches, to join projects and for the best response rate. Watch for sales. If you have tested on Ancestry you can upload your raw data to FTDNA for greater specificity. And, remember...test your elder family members first.

### **What's in a name?**

Once you have tested on FTDNA, do construct your name using up to three surnames for the best chance to connect with those who may match you. For example, my uncle Robert Leslie Tripp is listed as Robert Campbell McRae Tripp in order to maximize his exposure to those testers who may do searches for one of those surnames looking for cousin matches. Although my own name is Laurie Lee Simms, I am listed as Laurie Campbell McRae Tripp...since Simms is a name borrowed in marriage, not my maiden name. Matches do not want to connect to your married name or your middle name – they want your hereditary surnames. If you have a common name use a couple of initials, such as John C. A. McRae Cameron McDonald and, try to drop those formal prefixes such as Mrs. or Mr. in posting your name. They have no genealogical value. If you use an alias, fewer people will engage.

### **Don't forget Gedmatch!**

Upload your raw data from any testing site to Gedmatch – a free community site – to amplify your results and unlock more sophisticated tools.



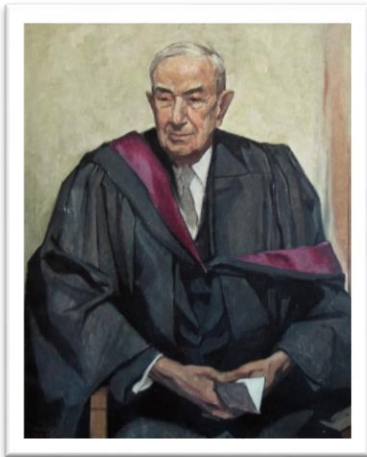
### Watch for seminars:

Seminars and webinars by such presenters as Roberta Estes and Blaine Bettinger are terrific learning tools. The Legal Genealogist (a free newsletter) by Judy Russell is wonderful. And, Kitty Cooper operates an excellent DNA blog.

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### *2<sup>nd</sup> instalment from Charles MacRae*

**Donald Alexander MacRae M.A. Ph.D. LL.D. Q.C.**, was born in 1872, on the south shore of Prince Edward Island near the village of Canoe Cove – a child of Scottish immigrant farmer Finlay McRae and his wife Anne MacNevin, and grandson of Farquhar McRae, a Kintail herdsman who journeyed to North America with his family in the summer of 1840 from West Inverinate, arriving in Charlottetown that September aboard the *Nith*.



In a previous instalment, Donald's schooling ended – not unusually for a boy who grew up on a farm – well before matriculation, but once employed in his Uncle John McRae's store up the road in North Tryon, the elder McRae's influence inspired him to resume his studies on his own. Seven years later, having petitioned Prince of Wales College for permission to sit the matriculation examinations, he took the highest mark in the Province. Admitted to Dalhousie College on scholarship, Donald continued to excel academically, graduating in Classics in 1898 as the winner of the university medal in that subject. And it was while a

student at Dalhousie that he adopted the spelling of his surname as it appeared, perhaps only accidentally, on his 1875 baptismal certificate.

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While in Halifax, Donald had met and become engaged to Laura Geddes Barnstead, a daughter of John H. Barnstead, Deputy Registrar of Births and Deaths for the Province of Nova Scotia<sup>(i)</sup>, and herself a graduate of Dalhousie.

The two were married at Christmas in 1901. By then, Donald was studying at Cornell University in Ithaca New York where he'd earned his M.A. in Classics in 1899. Over the ensuing years he taught Greek there, and in June 1905 he was awarded his Ph.D. – although he missed his own convocation to be at his wife's side at the birth of their daughter Jean Creelman MacRae (1905-2013)<sup>(ii)</sup>.

That fall MacRae moved to Princeton University as an assistant professor and preceptor in Greek under that institution's then-president J. Woodrow Wilson, later Governor of New Jersey and subsequently America's wartime President from 1913 to 1921. On at least one occasion, the university President's concern that the professor was working too hard led to the young Jean being cared for by the Wilsons for the evening so that the young professor and his wife could have a night out together.

But Wilson's influence ran much deeper than that. MacRae was impressed with the dedication to internationalism he saw in the U.S. President-to-be. The impression would have an important effect on Donald's subsequent commitment to public service.

MacRae continued teaching at Princeton until 1909, but now at the age of 37, he decided to pursue a law career, and he returned to Canada to become an articled student 'reading law' at Toronto's Osgoode Hall. Years later, he confessed to having found the law a sort of hocus-pocus science, observing that the common law follows logic until logic collides with expediency, at which

time it follows expediency<sup>(iii)</sup>. It was a view that would in some ways explain much of what he would later try to do to change legal education.

MacRae was admitted to the Ontario bar in 1913, and began to practise law with Bicknell Bain and Co. in Toronto, concerning himself with railway freight rates, municipal laws and bond issues. A favourite story recalled the day senior partner James Bicknell asked him to draw up the prospectus for a million-dollar issue. "Late in the afternoon, as Mr. Bicknell was shown the papers, he took in hand his customary stub of pencil to make the inevitable changes. A few minutes later he slowly put the stub down, looked up and congratulated the neophyte on drafting a perfect set of papers."<sup>(iv)</sup>

But after only a short time in practice, the accomplished teacher was asked to consider becoming the second Dean of the Dalhousie Law School in Halifax. Mr. Bicknell's advice was to take the job, but to limit his commitment to a year. As it turned out, MacRae gave the Law School ten.

A teacher once again, the new Dean immediately went to work to re-invent the way the law was taught in Canada. For the first time in a Canadian law school, he introduced a course in the History of Law. A course on Agency<sup>(v)</sup> followed. The number of lectures offered increased by the hundreds. MacRae became Chairman of a committee to develop ways to standardize Canadian legal education, and the curriculum at Dalhousie developed into a model for law schools across Canada<sup>(vi)</sup>.

But it would not be easy work.

[Next up: The debate over legal education, plus the Fourth Object of Rotary]

(i) John Henry Barnstead, descended from a British soldier who died of wounds suffered at the Battle of Bunker Hill at Boston in 1775, would oversee the recovery of the victims of the sinking of the Titanic in 1912, and in so doing, develop practices still in use today to help identify the dead in such disasters.

(ii) Jean was featured in a 2005 edition of Kintail when she joined the Clan MacRae Society of Canada at the age of 100 in 1905. She remained a member until her death in 2013 at 108.

(iii) J.A. Seed in *Obiter Dicta*, Volume XVI, April 1943, Osgoode Hall Legal & Literary Society, Toronto

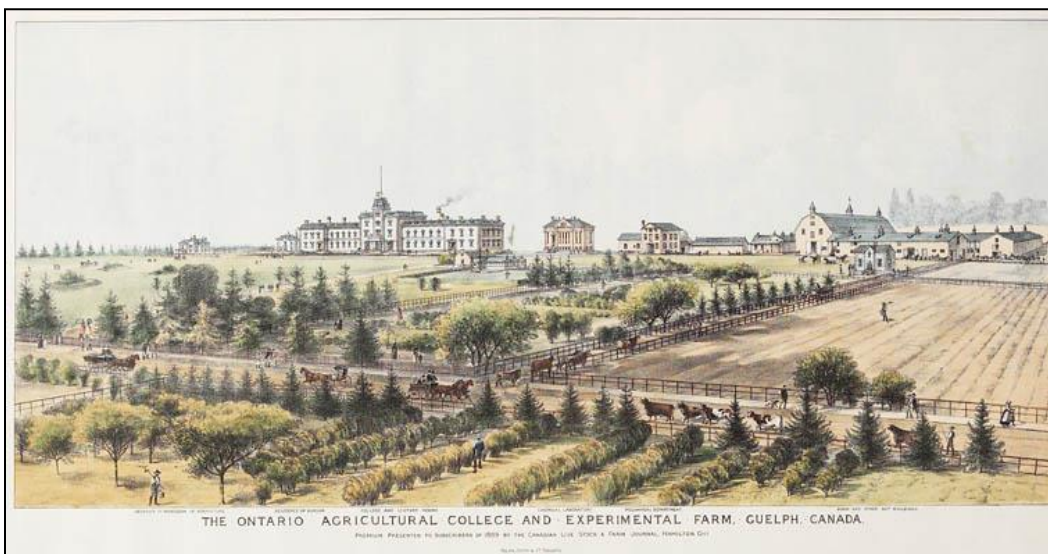
(iv) *Ibid.*

(v) An area of commercial law involving relationships of trust that call for the highest standards of care

(vi) *The Fiercest Debate: Cecil A. Wright, the Benchers, and Legal Education in Ontario 1923-1957*, C. Ian Kyer and Jerome E. Bickenbach, The Osgoode Society 1987, p.51

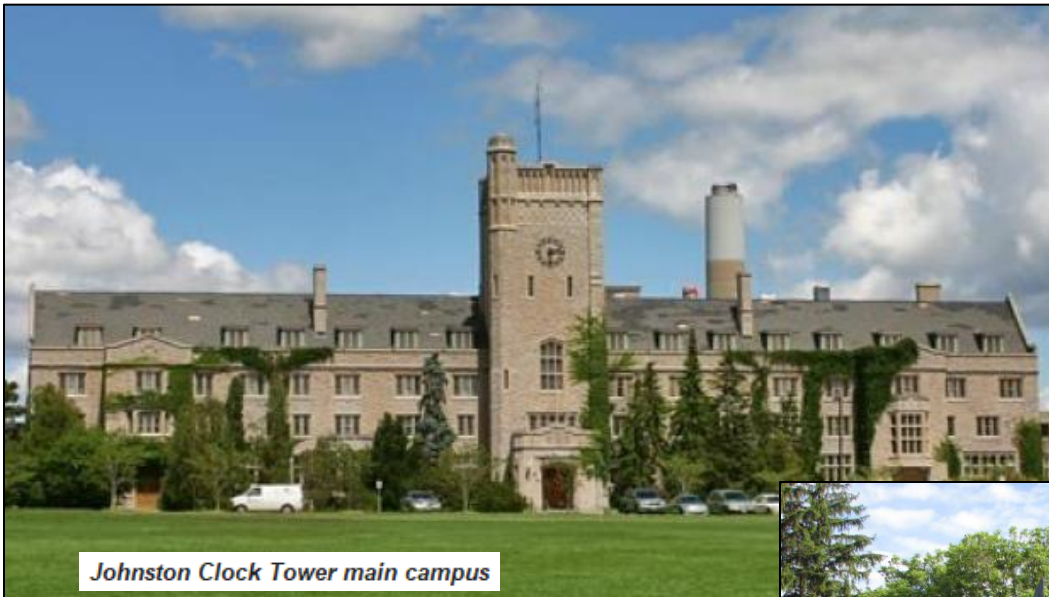
## University of Guelph, Library Scottish Studies

The University of Guelph traces its origins back to when the Ontario government bought 200 hectares (500



acres) of farmland from Frederick William Stone and opened the Ontario School of Agriculture on May 1, 1874, which was renamed the Ontario Agricultural College (OAC) in 1880. The main university campus spans 1,017 acres, including the 408-acre University of Guelph Arboretum and a 30-acre research park. The campus is characterized by green lawns. The site features Victorian turrets, modern





*Johnston Clock Tower main campus*

The Gryphon mascot and their athletic teams name, is portrayed as half lion and half eagle; indicating the combination of intelligence and strength. The statue stands nearly five metres tall, weighs 4,000 pounds and is made entirely of bronze. A nearby streetlight illuminates the structure.

The campus features a blend of modern and traditional architecture. The Rutherford Family Conservatory consists of a glass greenhouse, built in 1930, containing a variety of exotic plants. The building incorporates limestone blocks from the foundation of original barns on campus to accent the various plants.



concrete, glass and steel, hand-hewn century limestone, brick walkways, landscaped plazas. With over 5,000 students in single and family residences, Guelph has one of the largest and well-established university housing systems in Canada. The Veterinary medicine program at the U of G has ranked 4th in the world.



Thornbrough building (housing the School of Engineering)



## U of G Library Scottish Studies

The University of Guelph Library is well known for its extensive Scottish Studies Collection that is the largest in the world outside the United Kingdom. Encompassing both Scottish and Scottish-Canadian history, these collections support many areas of research. The special collections and archives, which comprise part of the overall library collection on Scottish Studies, include thousands of rare books, manuscripts, atlases, travel guides, diaries, letters, newspapers and magazines, pamphlets and burgh records. Archival and special collections cover many Scottish topics such as topography, rural and agricultural studies, business, chapbooks, family and clan information, emigration, the Jacobite rebellions, local history, and church and religious history (especially the

ARCHIVES  
LIBRARY

Disruption). Archival materials in the Scottish Collection consist of a variety of formats that include diaries, letters, legal documents, photographs, scrapbooks, clippings and genealogies.

The earliest items in the collection are Campbell of Monzie land charters which date forward from c.1330s. The largest archival collection, the Ewen-Grahame papers, covers the period 1732 to 1892; it contains personal and business correspondence with people concerned with art, politics, and commerce. Many collections pertain to Scottish emigrant families, such as the Lizars Collection, an Edinburgh family that settled near Goderich, Ontario. An original collection of Jacobite works purchased in 1975 has been greatly augmented to become one of the best in the world. Manuscript letters and editions of sympathetic tales of the "Young Chevalier" often include flattering portraits of Bonnie Prince Charlie while other works, such as the curious Collectanea, a collection of English newspaper clippings from 1745 to 1747, present anti-Jacobite views **continue at** <https://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/find/find-type-resource/archival-special-collections/scottish-studies> For those tracing their Scottish ancestry, there are many useful circulating handbooks and a large collection of family histories in Guelph's open collections. See also: <http://scottishtour.lib.uoguelph.ca/>



War Memorial Hall, built in 1924

The Library holds a John McCrae Collection of articles, photographs, postcards and newspaper clippings concerning John McCrae and his birthplace in Guelph. Includes a copy of "In Flanders Fields" from an original written by John McCrae in his own hand, 100th anniversary of the writing of "In Flanders Fields" newspaper supplement. On hundred maquettes (scale model) of the Lt. Col. John McCrae Statues unveiled in Ottawa and Guelph in 2015 sits in the chapel in War Memorial Hall, along with an illustration of the statue, a print of the poem and a copy of the book, The World of John McCrae.

Figure 1: By Unknown - Canadian Livestock and Farm Journal, Public Domain, War Memorial Hall, built in 1924 By JustSomePics - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=34649625>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University\\_of\\_Guelph](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_Guelph)

<https://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/find/find-type-resource/archival-special-collections/scottish-studies>

## Correction 2017 Summer Edition

Page 10 - News from the 2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING June 17, 2017 Truro, NS

Item 1 - Incorrectly stated that the Society Logo was the design of Tina Graham.

**The logo/design was the result of collaboration among Robert MacRae, Anne Brand, and Elizabeth Dungate.**

## Acknowledgements and Appreciations

Photos throughout: [Barbara Duff](#), [Owen MacRae](#)

### REMINDER:

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORMS FOR CLAN MACRAE SOCIETY OF CANADA ARE AVAILABLE ON**

[HTTPS://WWW.CLANMACRAECANADA.ORG/](https://www.clanmacraecanada.org/)

**IF YOU ARE NOT SURE WHEN YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES CONTACT GAIL MCRAE.**

Individual/Family: \$20 for 1 year, \$50 for 3 years (One household + minor children)

Life Time 70 Plus: \$100

Mail Application and Payment to:

Gail McRae, Membership Secretary,  
18028 58<sup>th</sup> Ave., Surrey, BC V3S 1M1

**Please Note:** Send name, address or e-mail changes to Gail McRae [pipermcrae@shaw.ca](mailto:pipermcrae@shaw.ca)





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18028 58<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Surrey, BC V3S 1M1  
Telephone: 604-574-1533  
[pipermcrae@shaw.ca](mailto:pipermcrae@shaw.ca)

Application for Membership  
**The Clan MacRae Society of Canada**  
<https://www.clanmacraecanada.org/>

**Name/s:** (Please list all names of family living at the same address (ie., minor children)

.....  
.....

Address .....

City/Town, Province ..... Postal Code .....

Email Address ..... Tele ( ..... ).....

**Membership Dues:**

**Membership No.:** .....  
(Completed by Membership Secretary)

Individual/Family \$20 for 1 year \$.....  
(One household + minor children)

Individual/Family \$50 for 3 years \$.....

Life Time 70 plus \$100 \$.....

My Gift to the Clan Society \$ .....

Total Enclosed \$ .....

**Today's Date:** .....

**Clan MacRae Official Variants and Septs Names**

(Includes all combinations of Ra/Rae/Rath with or without "Mc" or " Mac")

Crae, Cree, Macara, Macarra, Maccra, Maccrath, MacCrae, Maccraith, McCrady,  
MacCraw, MacCray, Macrae, MacCrea, Maccrath, Maccree, Maccree, MacKereth  
Macrath, Maccroy, Macgrath, Macgraw, Machray, Macra, Macraith, Macrach,  
Macray, Macrie, McRae, McCrae, McCrea, Rae, Raith, Ray, Rea, Reath