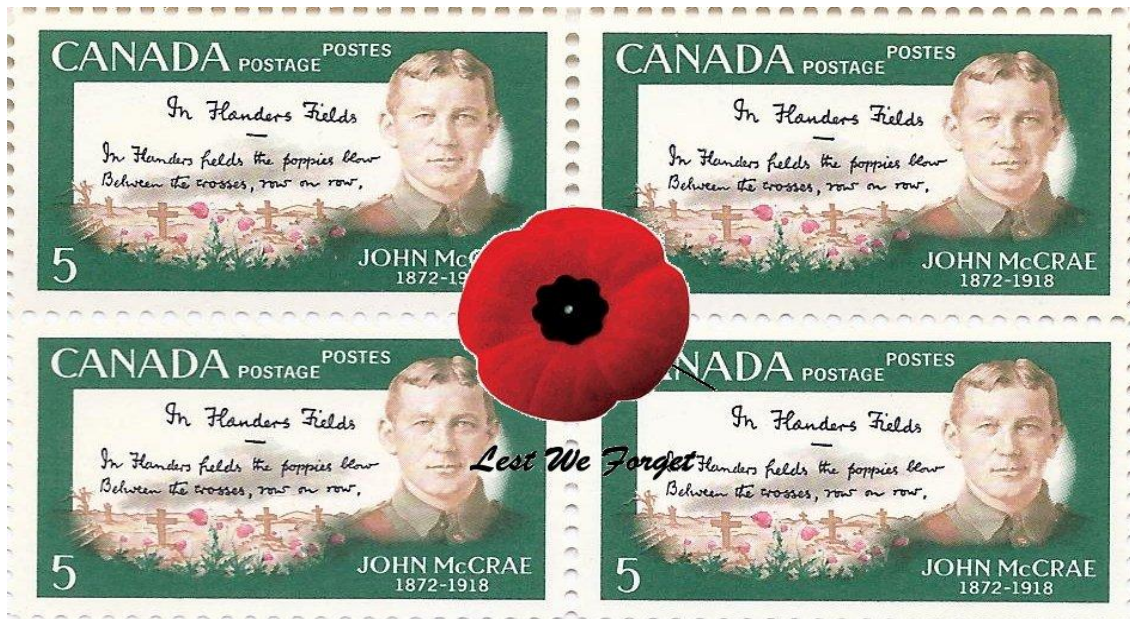


Happy St. Andrew's Day, Everybody:

Here we are again with our annual family newsletter, and we wish all of you the very best during the holiday season and the new year. Thank you for your continued support and interest in the Ross-ter and our ancestral history, but can each one of us do just a wee bit more to ensure the survival of our history and our heritage? There is no simple answer to this question. To suggest otherwise would be foolish. But, instead of listing the obstacles, isn't it preferable to look at the positive side?

In past issues of our Ross-ter, several ideas have been discussed . . . from having your DNA analysed to sharing the results within a group study, from attending family reunions or Scottish Festivals to belonging to a Clan Association, from supporting Scottish Studies in Canada to joining those who preserve the past in Scotland, and from enjoying one's hobbies to learning about new technologies. All of these things have an impact upon the preservation of our heritage in the future.

Please share this email with our friends and relatives, and don't forget to advise us about any changes in email addresses. Additional email addresses are always welcome.



Our Family Tree

Doug is pleased to announce that over 10,160 individuals have been recorded at the **My Heritage** website, double the number from last year. There are 99 members and almost 1500 photos. You are invited to become the 100th member! Let's invite your family as well. Hopefully you may add information to the family tree for those who can no longer speak for themselves: aunts, uncles or cousins. Family photos also make Our Family Tree more interesting. Keep in touch; we promise that there'll be more news for those who participate.

Our Own Family

Patricia, Doug and son Rob attended the 22nd Tartan Day celebration on April 5 at Massey College on the St. George campus of the University of Toronto. You may view this event at the Ross-ter Website: <http://www.ross-ter.com/Tales/BurnsNight/Tartan2014.html>. Patricia accompanied Doug on May 30 and 31 for his 60th anniversary of the 5T4 class of Victoria University (UofT), where Doug was invited to propose a toast to "Old Vic". Photos may be found at: <http://www.ross-ter.com/Favourites/OldVic/2014/5T4STRANDS-60th.html>. [Doug continued to follow a fairly strict diet at both events.]

Patricia's year continued much as last year – another year as President of the U of T Chapter of Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society, participating and doing well in road races, narrating audio books at the CNIB, knitting and stitching, and enjoying time with friends and family. Pat is also an associate in the Department of Natural History at the Royal Ontario Museum.

Jenn has been racing in sailboats in the Vancouver area during the last couple of years. She has numerous crew/skipper certifications including the ISAF Safety at Sea. Jenn is also a certified race manager. She has spent this year in Vancouver and the San Francisco Bay Area designing and programming an Internet marketplace named metropeer.com that will be launching in the next few months.

This year, Rob has continued his Pilates fitness classes and kept pace with his mother on the Inaugural Move Your Paws for the Polar Bear Cause 3km Run at the Toronto Zoo this past winter. He took full advantage of the fine winter day to practise his photography of the animals in the outdoor snow [See next page]. He returned to Cuba in the spring and has plans to leave the snow behind for 9 days and spend New Years in the Bahamas. Next year, Rob plans to attend the Clan Ross Association of Canada's AGM in Nova Scotia.



Our attendance at the Fergus Scottish Festival and Games for the weekend of August 8 to 12 went forward as planned, and we stayed at the Maplecrest Farm B&B with Dorothy Collin once more. Another Ross family from Sault Ste. Marie also stayed there, and they stood beside us in the following photo taken before the noon parade on Saturday.



The McGregor Story

Doug continues his work on the 3rd Edition of Henry Ward's *The McGregor Story*. As noted last year, the House of Glengyle leads directly to the first king to unify the kingdoms of the Scots and the Picts. Fellow genealogist, Richard McGregor of the UK, used my Family Tree DNA certificate to compare results with other MacGregors in the project and noted some similarities together with several mutations in specific markers. He estimated that a common ancestor (related to the main line) existed somewhere around 800 A.D.

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Scottish Studies Foundation

Doug continues to serve in the position of Director of the Scottish Studies Foundation, and he joins fellow members in welcoming Dr. James Fraser and his wife, Dr. Bronagh Ni Chonaill, and their two children back to Guelph. Dr. Fraser will be heading the Centre for Scottish Studies at the University Of Guelph next semester as the Scottish Studies Foundation Chair. James graduated from the University of Guelph with an MA degree in 1999, and comes to us from the University of Edinburgh where he has been a Senior Lecturer in Early Scottish Studies.

Through public support at the Sail Past, Tartan Day, and other events plus donations, the Scottish Studies Foundation (and Society) supports the Chair of Scottish Studies at the University of Guelph, the largest collection of Scottish reference material outside of Scotland, the purchase of rare books for the Archival and Special Collections Centre, a research and study room at the Library, and the digitizing of reference material (over 300 books thus far) in a variety of formats.

Digitized books are accessible for free, anywhere in the world, and encourage amateur and professional historians to readily incorporate Scottish material into their reading lists and writing.

The "Clan Passport" booklets, sponsored by the Scottish Studies Foundation, were a huge success with the children along the Avenue of the Clans, and Event Manager, Bruce Lloyd, has already promised to include a credit to the SSF sponsors in both the 2014 official programme and festival website.

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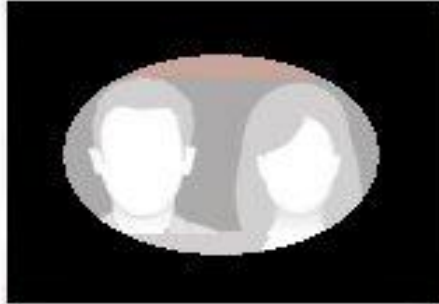
The Ross-ter

The following are updates of records which were received for "The Ross-ter" in 2014. We depend upon members of the surviving branches to supply the information about our extended family. We regret that some data may not be available at this time.

Births

{no data received}

Marriages



2013.09.21 - Andrew Marc Ross (G5D2A) and Elisha Ann Wade. Andrew is the son of Terrance John Ross and Barbara Rogers. He is the grandson of Jessie F. Ross (A3B5) and the late John Donald Ross (G5D) of Minto, ON.

Deaths We honour the names, the lives and the memories of our family members ... the flowers in our Ross-ter forest.



2005.02.22 - Robert J. McLaughlin (D1H1) of Gladstone, MB., husband of Vera Jean Porter, father of Terry and Glenda. Bob was predeceased by his parents, E. Jean Ross (D1H) and William Charles McLaughlin.

2013.04.05 -Carol Lynne Cunningham Wilkins (DxD1), daughter of the late Aubrey Boyd Cunningham (DxD) and Dorothy Spalding, "passed away peacefully" at her home in Winnipeg,MB, from cancer in the company of her family.



2013.04.13 -Robert Raymond Young (E6A3A4) husband of Cathy had one son, Brett. His parents were Ronald William Young and Sarah E. Griffeth.



2013.04.29 - Mark William Young (E6A3A4), husband of Sue Dionne and son of Ronald William Young (E6A3A) and Sarah Elizabeth Griffeth.



2014.05.19 - Warren M. A. Ross (G2A3) of Harriston, ON, husband of Janice Johnston and brother of Raymond Ross of Mount Forest.



2014.06.23 - Leslie William Shaw (G2F1), husband of Donna May Anderson, and son of the late Margaret Ellen Ross (G2F) and Chester Shaw..



2014.09.04 - Helen Gertrude Young (E6A4) of Petrolia, ON, predeceased by her husbands William Thompson (1979) and Ernie Napper (2006).

Special Occasions:

Once again, we acknowledge the continued effort of Suzanne Whyte (E3F2) with her exploration of Branch H (William Ross and Ann McDermid) in addition to other branches and her own ancestry in Branch E.

A Note of Appreciation

Thanks also to John Langston (A7D2A) for sharing family treasures with us. They include his mother's report cards from grades 5 and 6. He also sent his grandmother Wilson's Entrance Certificate (1901), her Commencement Invitation and Class List (1907), and her obituary and a note of thanks related to her passing. Photos included one of his mother Audrey Margaret (Wilson) Langston (A7D2) in Abbotsford BC in 1997, another of his mother and his aunt Dorothy Fern (Wilson) Larsen (A7D1) in their CWAC and RN uniforms post 1941, and also a photo of himself taken on the day before this newsletter was assembled. Notes were included with each item attached to the email dated November 28 at 1:49 PM.



Scratches were removed from the photo of his mother, and all photographs have been included in the *My Heritage* family tree. All of the items have been stored in the binder for Table A: Alexander Ross and Janet Jessie Fraser with credits to John.

This is an excellent example of the kind of co-operation that was mentioned in the first paragraph of page 2. John has ensured that they will be remembered.



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Here is a Christmas Countdown if you need one: <http://www.yourchristmascountdown.com/>
 Please let us know if you discover a new children's "Advent" Calendar on the internet for us to share besides <http://www.christmasfiles.com/advent/index.php>. And don't forget NORAD's traditional Santa Claus tracker for the kids on Christmas Eve at <http://www.noradsanta.org/>. There is also a fine assortment of games, puzzles and stories for kids of all ages at <http://www.electricscotland.com/kids/index.htm> thanks to our friend Alastair MacIntyre.

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Our very best wishes to everyone!

Sincerely,
 Doug and Patricia Ross

Sláinte mhòr!
 J. Douglas Ross, B.A., M.Ed., FSA Scot
 Director, Scottish Studies Foundation <http://www.ScottishStudies.com/>
 Seannachaidh, The Ross-ter <http://www.ross-ter.com>
 Past Webmaster for the Clan Ross Association of Canada