

### **Happy St. Andrew's Day, Everybody:**

We wish all of you the very best during the holiday season and the new year. Thanks again for your continued support and interest in the Ross-ter and our ancestral history. This has been a very busy year, and our attendance at the annual family reunion had to be discontinued.

In past issues of our Ross-ter, several ideas have been discussed. We would like to hear from anyone who has had their DNA analysed; Doug was welcomed as participant number 791 in the R1b-L1335 SNP Project by Group Administrator Robert Hughes. He also intends to contribute some articles on our Ross Roots for the Clan Ross Canada newsletter. If anyone out there in cyberland is contributing to the preservation of our cultural heritage, please let us know so that it can be publicized in our next newsletter.

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. Please DO THIS NOW.

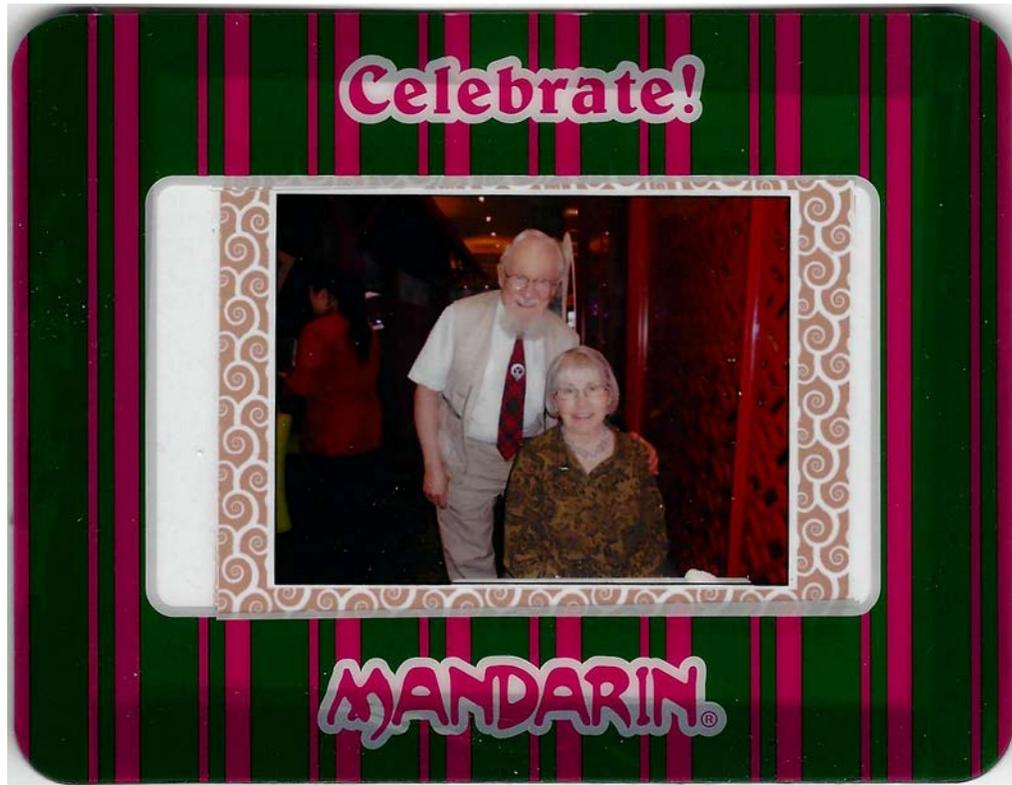
### **Our Family Tree**

Doug is pleased to announce that over 25,000 individuals have been recorded at the **My Heritage** website, more than double the increase from last year. There are 137 members (69 from our family) and over 2300 photos. You are invited to become a member. You may invite your family as well. I have a firm belief that all family members retain the absolute right to add facts to OUR family tree, which is free to use. Hopefully you may add information to the family tree for those who can no longer speak for themselves: whether aunts, uncles or cousins. Family photos also make Our Family Tree more interesting. A new **My Heritage** "Sun Chart" is now available for displaying three or more generations in a member's family. Keep in touch; those who participate will always be informed of the latest developments.

Family members who supported the production of the "Our Ross Family Story" manuscript have received information about a new online update if our files contain an accurate email address for them. The "new" version includes nine corrections to typographical errors, plus major revisions to include the immigration of Alexander's brother Donald in 1844 as the second family emigration. Additions of new material will make use of blank pages on the reverse sides of maps, etc. Pages in the Appendices, References and Index have been numbered or renumbered to make a total of 254 pages. If you "inherited" a copy, and did not receive the internet address of the update, just let me know the copy number so you may be included before the year ends. [Note: Donald Brown (D6B1) supplied information about our story on October 19, and changes were

subsequently made to pages 131, 132 and 181. This help was much appreciated, because accuracy must be our priority.]

### **Our Own Family**



Almost the very first event of the year was our annual visit to the Mandarin Restaurant in celebration of Patricia's birthday.

Patricia and Doug attended the Scottish Studies Society Scot-of-the-Year Award on May 13, 2016, at the Arts and Letters Club in Toronto. View this event at the Ross-ter Website: <http://www.ross-ter.com/Favourites/People/AliceMunro.html>. I recorded a video tribute by Doug Gibson, who was the publisher of Alice Munro's final short stories.

This year Patricia is past president of the University of Toronto Chapter of Sigma Xi, the Honour Science Research Society. She is still an Associate of the Department of Natural History at the Royal Ontario Museum and continues to narrate audio books at the CNIB (Canadian National Institute for the Blind). To take a break from knitting, she took quilting classes at Quilt Canada in June and at the Creative Festival in October.

Doug attended the Fall Colloquium of the Scottish Studies Centre at the University of Guelph, and Alastair McIntyre, manager of Electric Scotland, recorded the event on his website at the following location:

<http://www.electriccanadian.com/canada/fall2016.htm>. The speech by Professor Ted Cowan was most impressive.

Doug and Patricia enjoyed the opportunity of viewing the Scottish Diaspora Tapestry on September 24 and 25 during its exclusive Toronto exhibition at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Scarborough as part of the World Tour. Doug has posted a report on his website at <http://www.ross-er.com/Favourites/People/ScotDiaspora.html>.

CASSOC AGM - November 13, 2016



At the Annual General Meeting of the Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada on November 13 at the Fairview Public Library, Doug wore two hats. He delivered a report as a director for the Scottish Studies Foundation about the project involving the digitization of books and documents at the Scottish Studies Centre of the University of Guelph, and he plugged the Universal Clan Passport booklet for youngsters. As a member of Clan Ross, he thanked CASSOC secretary Jo Ann Tuskin for the sympathy card he received upon the death of the Ontario Commissioner for Ontario, Wendy Stuart Forbes Ross (March 3, 1933 – November 1, 2015).

Secretary Jo Ann Tuskin (left) had previously asked editor Alene McNeill of *An Drochaid* to send us the May 2012 issue, which noted the increased used of Clan Passport booklets and stamps at the Scottish festivals.

Jenn spent 2016 continuing to develop software for the Women's Print History Project at Simon Fraser University while also doing small web development projects. She spent the first half of the year in California and returned to Vancouver in July. While she hasn't been racing as hand and back injuries continue to heal, she volunteers to run races around Vancouver and has also received volunteer awards from the West Vancouver Yacht Club these last two years.





In February Rob and his mother completed the Metro Zoo “Move Your Paws for the Polar Bear Cause” 5K for the third year in a row. See photo to the left.

Rob has continued to serve as Vice President of the Clan Ross Association of Canada. He continued his travels, enjoying Cuba twice this year. Rob also successfully led a large, strategic financial sector initiative to help Canadian banks collaborate together to combat fraud.

Those who have read Doug’s book “EDUCATION IN OSHAWA – from settlement to city”, may have noted that the date 1962 in the chart on page 21 should have been 1862. That is an obvious error in proofreading, but he would readily admit to failing to follow a cardinal rule that words within a quotation should not be altered. Stephen Saywell was very helpful as a proofreader for much of the book, and he suggested that “calligraphy” would be a better substitute for the word “chirography” at the bottom of page 137; rather than referring Stephen to an Oxford dictionary, he found it more expedient to allow the change. Unfortunately, the word was misspelled. Well, nobody is perfect.

### **The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland**

New members are considered for nomination to the Society every year on November 30th. The Office Manager Jacqueline Clabby stated she would like to encourage more Canadians to become Fellows. There are more than 3000 people worldwide (including researchers, amateur enthusiasts, and heritage experts) who have become Fellows because of their commitment to the study and understanding of Scotland's past.

The office of the Society is in Edinburgh, Scotland, and you may learn more about their objectives at <http://www.socantscot.org/>.

. Details about joining are included on the website. You may include me as one of the two Supporting Fellows for your application. The next deadline for the completed application forms is October 1, 2017. Nobody will “Argue” about the identity of the young lady who was confirmed as a member at today’s meeting.



## Scottish Studies Foundation

Through public support plus donations, the Scottish Studies Foundation (and Society) funds 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 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.

<https://archive.org/details/guelphscottishstudies>



**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. Please consider sending us a picture of yourself and your family for our Family Tree if you have not already done so and if you are a member.

**Births** {no data received}

**Marriages** {no data received}

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

**Special Occasions:** Once again, we acknowledge the support of Suzanne Whyte (E3F2) as a co-administrator of our Ross Family Tree on the My Heritage website.



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