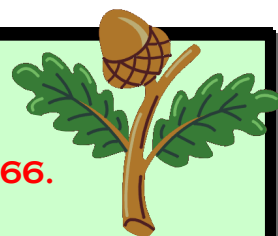


“THE GUARDIAN”

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SPRING 2010

VOL 44, NO 1

From The President: The word “milestone” is defined in one dictionary as something being a significant event. We passed a milestone with the winter edition of our newsletter. Perhaps more correctly, we passed two milestones with the winter newsletter. Based on that event, we need to acknowledge and thank two individuals.

Andrew Wallace, Younger of that Ilk, agreed to write a Hogmanay letter for the winter issue of this Society's newsletter, doing so in spite of time constraints put upon him both by his professional position and his private life. His article covered a number of subjects that, personally, I found most interesting, in particular students in an English school who were well versed in their knowledge of Sir William Wallace. On behalf of the Society, my thanks to Andrew for his contribution to our winter newsletter, and an invitation for future writings as his time may permit. We must thank immediate past president Bill Wallace for initiating the “conversation” that opened the door.

Our winter newsletter brought to a close editing of “The Guardian” by Marcus J. Wallace following five years of effort that allowed Clan Wallace Society to continue an award-winning newsletter each of those years. Generating a newsletter sounds relatively easy on its face, but does take a concerted amount of time and effort to get such a task completed in a timely manner. Encouraging our Executive Board and Society members to get their information and pictures sent in by the deadline four times each year can and will take its toll. Add to it the occasional special issue – our Scotland trip in 2005 comes readily to mind – that puts additional pressure on all involved to get it done. Again on behalf of the Society, my thanks to Marcus for his contribution in keeping everyone informed as to what was going on around the Society by publishing both text and photos as it was made available to him by a number of contributors over those five years. Taking his place as our editor is Dick Wallace of Little Rock, Arkansas.

This new year of 2010 is off to a reasonably good start, all things considered. Given several weeks of blustery winter weather stretching all the way to the southeastern states, it takes very little to understand why Clan tents do not go up in the central belt of the U.S. until spring arrives. The first Clan tent of this year was put up at the Central Florida Games over the weekend of January 16-17. One week later came the annual Burns Dinner, celebrating the birth of Scotland's greatest poet with Scotch tasting, and haggis, tatties and neeps on our dinner plate. We attended in Reno, Nevada, that evening's festivities hosted by the Nevada Society of Scottish Clans with some 375 guests suitably attired for the event. By the time this newsletter reaches you, additional Games/Festivals will have taken place in Arizona, Florida, North Carolina and Texas.

Many of our conveners are aware already that Clan Wallace will be the Honored Clan at two events this year. First of the two comes at the Triad Highland Games in North Carolina April 30 and May 1, the second coming just one week later at the Prescott Highland Games in Arizona on May 8. Society members are encouraged to attend events such as these as one way of supporting local conveners and the Society. In addition to the two events noted, Clan Wallace will lead the Parade of Clans at Grandfather Mountain Highland Games by virtue of having won the “Clan of Excellence” award at last year's event. For our conveners, as Games and Festival dates become known for events later in the year, be sure to advise Jean Wallace, Convener Chair, and Jim “Bowie” Wallace, Webmaster, of those changes. Should the Society be fortunate enough to be named the Honored Clan at any of those events, advise us as soon as you become aware of that information.

NEW MEMBERS

On behalf of Ian Francis Wallace of that Ilk, 35th Chief of Clan Wallace, the President and the Board of Directors welcome the individuals listed below to the fellowship of our Society.

Annual Members

Tamira Grabowshi, Greenville, SC
Edmond Bart, Franconia, NH
Kim Routt, Elkland, MO
Valerie Andrews, Altamonte Springs, FL
Bryon Ringer, Ridgway, PA
Thomas Burton Wallace, Jacksonville, FL

Photo Right—Estes Park, Colorado
See article on page 6

2009 INTERNATIONAL GATHERING



Burns Night

Captain John Wallace Installed as Board Member of the Scottish Society of Charleston at 2010 Burns Dinner

Current Director and Past President of the Clan Wallace Society Worldwide, Captain John R. Wallace, was elected and installed as a new Member of the Board of Directors of the Scottish Society of Charleston, South Carolina, on 23 January 2010. The ceremony took place after the annual celebration of the 251st Anniversary of the Birthday of Robert Burns and during the festivities surrounding the 40th Anniversary of the Scottish Society of Charleston. Approximately 80 Society Members were present on this formal occasion held in the Ball Room of the Marriott Charleston Riverview. Present to do the Tribute to Robert Burns, Poet Laureate of Scotland, was noted Celtic Entertainer Alex Beaton. The highlight of the evening was the "Ode to a Haggis" excellently performed by Mr. Beaton, after which the audience was served a delightful Haggis.



Oregon Scottish Society—Burns Night

The 2010 Burns Night Dinner presented by the Oregon Scottish Society on January 22 was attended by Norma & Bill Wallace, Ada & Bill Wallace, Susan & Will Vollmer and Mary Wallace Kelsey. All had a good time. The traditional Burns dinner was carried off in an excellent manner. The evening's fiddle entertainment was the highlight of the event. Rebecca Lomnicky is a name you should be seeing quite often. She was the International Fiddle Champion in 2009 when she went to Scotland. In addition to the title she was given a compliment by a Scotsman: 'she played the fiddle without an American accent.' Rebecca is 18 years old, has a fantastic personality and is a great entertainer.



Group photo caption: Pictured, left to right are: William S. and Ada Wallace, William J. and Norma Wallace, Will and Susan Vollmer, Mary Wallace Kelsey

ONE EXCITING TIME IN OREGON— OUR FIRST CLAN WALLACE GATHERING

Last year held many firsts for us. We became active members of Clan Wallace by attending for the first time as many Games as possible and helping convene at the Wallace tent with William and Norma Wallace of Bend, Oregon, and Robert and Lois Wallace of Dayton, Nevada.

We convened for the first time at the Games in Madras, Oregon with the help of Terry Eastman of Portland, Oregon.

The highlight of firsts was the Clan Wallace Gathering in Estes Park, Colorado. We enjoyed visiting and getting acquainted with Clan Wallace members from near and far at the hospitality suite. Lots of good food, good drinks and tons of fun.

We got to be near the beginning of the parade of Clans since we were one of five honored Clans, instead of near the end. Marching the one mile parade route was an emotional experience. The streets were lined several rows deep with cheering, "FREEDOM" yelling smiling faces enduring cold and rain as we passed by them. We

had goose bumps on top of cold bumps. It was the largest Wallace group we had ever marched with and everyone was so excited.

Sunday morning brunch was Clan Gathering meeting. Awards, recognitions, and passing of the Wallace sword from President to the newly elected President. Awesome food, good drinks and lots more fun.

It has been a pleasure to have the opportunity to get to know and work with such great people. It's like finally meeting members of a large family you never knew you had. We learned that everyone you meet at the Games and Gatherings has a story to tell, some sad, some funny, but all of them interesting and we want to hear them all.

*Bill and Ada Wallace
Gresham, Oregon*



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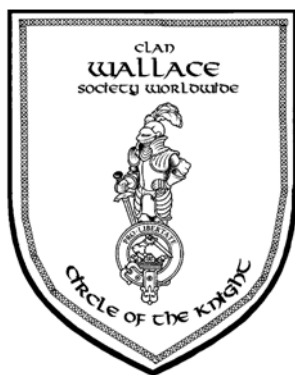
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CWSW REWARDS PROGRAM

March 2010

Since the last report in the Winter 2009 CWSW Newsletter, there has been a lot of Rewards participation. It is most gratifying to see the number of donors leap to 26 persons and the total donations to rise well above \$ 25,000 since the program start in 2005. With this publication, the President and the Board of Directors are proud to congratulate two new entries into the Circle of the Knight and two new entries into the Circle of the Thistle. Their details are presented below.

The Circle of the Knight



**Council and Board Member
James L. Wallace
Of Bowie, Maryland**



*Circle of the Knight James L. Wallace (L) and
Director, Captain John R. Wallace*

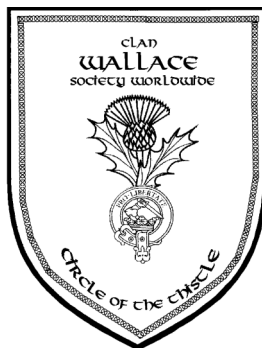
This prestigious Reward, A Knight's Medal and Framed Certificate was presented to Jim at the Central Florida Scottish Highland Games, Winter Springs, Florida on January 16, 2010

by Director and Past President Captain John R. Wallace. Jim's accumulated donations have exceeded \$1500 since his entry into the Program.

And Posthumously to Council Member James A. Schmelzer

A long time active Mid-Atlantic Region Member, Jim passed away in March of 2009 of cancer. When his estate was settled, we were informed that he had donated to the Society \$ 1000 for use in our programs. For this he has been elevated to The Circle of the Knight, for which he would have been most proud.

The Circle of the Thistle



**To
Council Member
Thomas Bernard Wallace
Of Tucson, Arizona**

And To

**Life Member James B. Dewey
Of Seattle, Washington**

It is further recognized that the Society Rewards Program received an additional and most appreciated donation from

**Circle of the Knight Life Member
Marcia Harper of Lewisville
Of North Carolina**

Marcia's total donations since her entry in the program in 2005 are \$ 1200. Well Done, Marcia!!!

Join with the CWSW Board of Directors in extending a sincere congratulations to these Loyal and Dedicated Donors, who wear the distinctive medallions and pins of this important program, whenever you see them at the Scottish Festivals and Games this season. Consider joining them by sending your contributions (checks made to Clan Wallace Society Worldwide) to the Rewards Director at:

John R. Wallace
CWSW Rewards Program
110 Azalea Drive
Walterboro, SC 29488-2605
843-782-4480
JohnRWallace@comcast.net

Cooking Corner ~ By Lisa Donant

This has become a staple to take to Tailgates, Festivals and Roadtrips ... enjoy!

White Trash

2 cups Mini Salted Pretzels, bowtie
2 cups Rice or Wheat Chex Cereal
1 cup Dry Roasted Peanuts
1 cup Caramel Bits, found in the baking section
1 cup Cranraisins
½ package White Almond Bark, found in baking section
Cookie Sheet / Wax Paper

Lay wax paper over cookie sheet and set aside.

Combine all ingredients but Almond Bark in large mixing bowl. In a microwave proof bowl, slowly melt Almond Bark in microwave in 1 minute cycles, stirring between each cycle. When bark is smooth and of pouring consistency, pour over dry ingredients carefully mixing together with large spoon.

Carefully spoon out and spread the coated mixture onto the wax paper and cool. Break apart and store in air tight container.

Convener's Coffee St Board

By Norma Wallace

Lois Wallace hosted the convener's coffee in her fifth wheel having a nice fire and hot coffee. Jean Wallace, Director of Convener Affairs discussed how she would continue conveners sharing ideas in the newsletter and the web.

Why didn't we take pictures at the First Convener Coffee? After all, the participating conveners are the most important part of our program. Perhaps it was because we were so happy to be out of the rain and cold at Estes Park, we just got down to business and sharing ideas. Conveners from 8 states and 2 provinces discussed their convening experiences.

The experiences distill down to: 1. having fun, 2. helping others join in the fun. (e.g., ask them to join in the parade), 3. Don't reinvent the wheel (use the Convener's Handbook and share ideas with other conveners), 4. Setting up the tent (an inviting tent facilitates the achieving CWS goals and helps increase Society membership).



Clans Crawford & Wallace At Cortland, NY

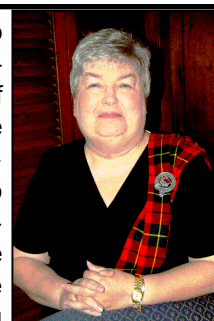
During August 2009 the Society's newest convener represented us at the Cortland, NY Celtic Festival held at Courthouse Park 21-23 August. The Crawford, and Wallace tents were side-by-side. Chip Crawford is a Crawford who not only shares the hundreds of years old Crawford – Wallace connection but who has a more recent family connection. Because of those connections, Chip hosts Clan Crawford Association and Clan Wallace Society tents in New York State.



Photo caption: Chip Crawford's costume and medieval weapon display draw visitors to the CWS tent in Cortland, NY.

CONVENOR'S CORNER

We should all be in the festival mode as the games are getting ready to start. Our first one was the end of April and I made sure that we had everything we needed to take with us by copying or printing out clean copies of everything we usually have on our table (all about Wallace, of course). I hope the rest of you are in the same preparation mode. Remember for prospective members and current members we are, at times the only representatives of Clan Wallace they will ever meet, so put your best foot forward and set up a great tent. Be sure to send in photos and an article to the newsletter editor so that your festival can be published. Getting new members, being one of our main focuses of being conveners, means helping others to find out about their heritage and to which Clan(s) they may lay claim. You do not have to be a Wallace to join Clan Wallace like some of the other clans require. It's time for all of us to start convening, so let me hear lots of interesting stories after you finished your games. See who shows up when you convene, p.s., see inside.



FROM OUR CANADIAN ADVISOR DOROTHY KNIGHT

Tartan Day: Canada, April 6

And what is Tartan Day, you ask? It is the day all Scots celebrate their heritage.

April 6th will see many communities celebrate their Scottish roots. There will be simple gatherings in church and community halls; others gather in homes with family and friends for a ceilidh. Almost all will wear tartan. The kilts and pipes will be out in splendour!

The credit for establishing Tartan Day, Canada goes to Mrs. Jean Watson of Nova Scotia for her untiring efforts to establish recognition of the contributions that the Scots made to Canadian history. It was officially recognized when the Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada supported her ideas. Legislation was passed on the 19th of December 1991 to adopt Tartan Day in Ontario. Other provinces and the Yukon Territory passed similar resolutions and by 2000, all except Quebec and Newfoundland had adopted April 6th as Tartan Day.

Why was April 6th chosen? On that date in 1320 at Arbroath Abbey, under the direction of King Robert the Bruce, the nobles, barons, and freeholders, together with the "community of the realm of Scotland," signed a letter addressing Pope John XXII, asking him to recognize Scotland's independence from England after the Battle of Bannockburn in 1314.

Interestingly, one of Simon Fraser's ancestors, Sir Alexander Fraser, who in 1316 married King Robert I's widowed sister, Lady Mary, was appointed "Chamberlain of Scotland" in 1319 and his seal appears on the document now known as the Declaration of Arbroath. It was from this Declaration that the American Declaration of Independence was formulated.

Dorothy Wallace Knight
Commissioner for Canada,
Clan Wallace Society Worldwide.

Canadian Burns Night

St. Andrews United Church held its first ever Burns Dinner. Rev. Colin Swan welcomed all to the traditional supper. The haggis was piped in by Pipe Major Brian Knight and the address was given by Angus MacCrae. Entertainment followed a dinner of taties meat pie haggis and neeps. The toast to the lassies was given by Murray Stewart and the laddies response was given by Dorothy Knight.



L to R: Murray Stewart, Rev. Colin Swan, Dorothy Knight, Angus MacCrae and Pipe Major Brian Knight

The 33rd Annual Central Florida Scottish Highland Games

In spite of the cooler temperatures than normal and the blustery winds that occasionally tore across the site, the 2010 CFSHG came off with a flourish. Over 30 Clan and Scottish Societies filled the Clan area providing bright coloring, an air of Scottish Heritage, the sounds of pipes and drums, and generally good times. This full service Festival and Games had something for everyone; from the deep guttural drums of *Abannach* to the Celtic Rock sounds from *Rathkeltair*; from the shrill notes of the competition Bag Pipes, to the high stepping of the Highland Dancers; from the antics of the Border Collies to the cheers for the Haggis Hurlers; this games gives you great return for your admission. Clan Wallace, who has not been represented at this venue for several years, was back with gusto this year. Board Members Jim "Bowie" Wallace was down from Maryland and Larry Slight from St Augustine to assist Convener, Director and Past Presi-

dent Captain John Wallace for the two days of activities.

21 Wallaces visited the Clan Tent during the weekend. Of particular note was the attendance of Life Member Wallace Cady from Towanda, PA. Interestingly, Wallace was not in a Wallace Kilt, but rather he was decked out in his Clan Claus Society regalia. Wallace, with his long flowing white beard, spectacles, red bonnet, and wildly beautiful and dramatic Claus Society Kilt looked great. Clan Claus Society is a worldwide family organization dedicated to the preservation and perpetuity of the history, ideals, traditions, family values, and heritage of the Scottish Santa Claus persona. Needless to say, his presence at the tent made for a truly interesting weekend.

The Honored Clan for the event was Clan MacGregor. Clan Chief Sir Malcolm and Lady MacGregor spent considerable time at the Wallace Tent paying respect to Sir William Wallace and congratulating the CWSW for its many good works in Scotland with our International Projects Program.

During the day on Sunday, Captain John took the opportunity to present to Jim Bowie Wallace his Circle of the Knight Rewards elements. For more, see the Rewards Report elsewhere in this newsletter issue.

All in all, the Festival and Games was a wonderful and rewarding experience. Come visit our tent next year in Winter Springs, FL.

See Photographs on Page 7

Clan Wallace Gathering Longs Peak Scottish /Irish Festival Estes Park, Colorado September 10-13, 2009

The Clan Wallace Society - Worldwide hosted its bi-annual Gathering and Annual Directors Meeting at Estes Park, quaint little city nestled in the foothills of Rocky Mountain Park, Big Thompson Canyon and Longs Peak Mountain. This is the home to the 33rd annual Longs Peak Scottish/Irish Festival, a wonderful area for activities of a highland festival. Clan Wallace was one of five honoured guests at the festival. Other honoured Clans were Buchanan, Lindsay, Graham and Kennedy. Clan members came from across the U.S., Canada, and the U.K.

Plans were made for Gathering participants to be the guests of the Lake Shore Lodge, where we were greeted with exceptional hospitality. CWS members from South Texas to Canada and all regions in between attended the 2009 International Gathering. Friendships were renewed, made and strengthened by this Gathering and the Society's continued efforts to promote clanship.

A tattoo on Friday evening introduced the honoured clans, and each was escorted to the tattoo in a landau, drawn by a team of beautiful Clydesdale horses. The tattoo was a tremendous success, featuring pipes and drums, mounted colour guards, comedian Eddie Divine, songstress Isla St.Clair, Celtic cannons and fireworks and much more.

Saturday morning, pipe bands, 75+ clans, Scottie dogs, children, horses and jousters marched down the mile long parade route, lined with cheering, enthusiastic crowds.

Back at the field, visitors had a difficult time choosing which venue to take in first! Sheep herding; dancing; piping and drumming competitions; Celtic concerts; heavy events, featuring U.S./ International Professional Athletes including Ontario's Warren Trask and Neil Lowery. International jousting championships, of which Canada took the honours in 2008.....so much to see and do.

A light Scottish mist began to fall, and in the Clan Wallace tent, hospitality was the order of the day. Our tent was hosted by Mr. and Mrs. R. Tomlin, and was tastefully decorated with tapestries depicting the Wallace Monument and Stirling Castle. Information and memberships were readily available. Clan Wallace was presented with a hand-tooled leather wall hanging, featuring the clan crest and motto, by the High Desert Pipes and Drums of Albuquerque,



que, New Mexico, for their continued support. This is the only pipe band in the U.S. to wear the Wallace tartan.

The festival didn't lack for the want of evening entertainment as Ceilidhs and concerts were on going around town.

During the International Gathering Sunday Brunch several ceremonies were conducted. Most importantly, was the passing of the sword from President William J. Wallace to President-Elect, Robert Bruce Wallace. This sword is an exact replica of Sir William Wallace's Sword that is located at the Wallace Monument in Stirling, Scotland. This has become an honoured tradition within our Society. Also participating in the ceremony was Past President Capt. John R. Wallace, USCG (Ret) our current Rewards Chairman. (See picture)



Several Society awards were also presented during the brunch. The Circle of the Knight was presented to Life Member Marcia Harper of Lewisville, North Carolina; The Circle of the Saltire was presented to Council Member James L. Wallace of Bowie, Maryland; The Circle of the Cross was presented to Council Member Dorothy Wallace Knight of Ontario, Canada; and The Circle of the Thistle was presented to Life Member Mary Diane Wallace of Glendale, Arizona. Also a generous donation to the Awards Program was received by Life Member Virginia Ann Wallace Porter Niece of Tustin, California.

We greeted old acquaintances, made new friends and took home a wonderful feeling of Clan family togetherness. In our hearts, we sang "Auld Lang Syne."



FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

Alta MacIntosh Bearman, 92, born on Dec. 15, 1916, died peacefully with daughter, Linda Bearman; son-in-law, John Glesby; and Sparky by her side on Nov. 7, 2009. Alta was born in Henryetta, Okla. and attended the University of Oklahoma where she received a BA in Music, followed by a Master's Degree in Music Education.

Alta joined the U.S. Navy and trained as a Radioman First Class. After receiving an Honorable Discharge, she was employed by the United States State Department and was stationed overseas. It was in Austria where she met and married her husband of 52 years, Leonard Charles "Chuck" Bearman, and where they adopted their only child, Linda. Alta began teaching music in Italy and later, stateside in Fairfax County, Va.

Alta and her husband retired to Florida where they became active in the Broward County Coast Guard Auxiliary assisting in search and rescue missions in their Cessna airplane. They also traveled frequently to Scotland and throughout the states participating in various Scottish organizations. Alta served as Secretary and Program chair of the Clans of Scotland USA in the Washington, DC area and South Carolina. She also served as Vice President of Clan Mackintosh of North America for 3 years, and served 4 years as President. Alta was also a member of the Clan Chattan Association of Scotland, Clan Chattan USA, Clan Morrison, Honorary member of Clan Farquharson, life member and advisor with Clan Shaw Society and a Council member of the Clan Wallace Society Worldwide. Alta also served as Past Registrar of the Tartan Educational and Cultural Association, International Association of Tartan Studies. She was also elected Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. Her husband Chuck was a past president of the Clan Wallace Society Worldwide.

Her involvement with other civic organizations included Eastern Star, DAR and the Creek Indian Nation. Their next move took them to Valdosta, Georgia where they enjoyed a relaxed lifestyle and new friendships. After the loss of her husband, Alta moved to southern California to be closer to family. Alta's kindness, enormous generosity, wisdom, and sense of humor will be missed beyond measure. Alta and her husband will rest in peace at Arlington National Cemetery.

Richard Andrew Wallace, 87, of Marysville, CA passed away peacefully with his wife Janice and family by his side on March 25, 2010. Born in Philipsburg, PA he was a Yuba City, (Sutter), CA resident since 1964. He was retired from the Air Force with 26 years of service in 3 wars; World War II, Korea and Vietnam. His passion was his family and his wife Jan of 56 wonderful years of marriage. He and Jan had three children; Joanne Wallace and husband Rick, Andy Wallace and wife Pam and Priscilla Wurm and husband Vint. Grandchildren; Lee Foster IV and wife Heather, Richard Foster, Logan Wurm, Casey Wallace, Tyler Wallace and Andrew Wallace. Great grandchildren; Levi Foster V, Georgia Foster, Kayla Wallace and Lexi Wallace. Dick enjoyed his retirement while doing woodworking, dutch oven cooking, promoting Clan Wallace activities and traveling. Richard served proudly on the Clan Wallace Society Board of Directors for many years.



ARIZONA



FLORIDA Highland Games



"Captain John and Jim Bowie"



Clan Chief Sir Malcolm and Lady Malcolm



Wallace Cady

ALAN FLIES THE FLAG FOR SCOTIA FAIR

By Duncan Bick *Published: 27 January, 2010*

A FORRES-born man is flying the flag for Scots in his adopted country of Canada - and is helping others around the world do the same. Alan Wilson (63), of Richmond Hill, near Toronto, Ontario, became a loon in a land of Canucks when he left the burgh and crossed the Atlantic in 1966. After a career which has seen him work there and in South-east Asia, the Middle East and South America, a recent trip back home inspired him to embark on his latest venture, manufacturing and selling flags based around Scottish clans. Mr Wilson - one of four children - was born at Mosset Terrace in 1946, the son of blacksmith Colin Robert Wilson and his wife, Mabel. In 1961, he became an apprentice in his father's business. Five years later, a visitor to the shop had a profound effect on him. "An older gentleman wandered into the Smiddy one day, he may have come from Forres originally, and started to talk about Canada," he said. "He had lived there and it just seemed like a great place to go. So, with three friends, I upped sticks and headed West. None of us probably thought that we would stay, it was just a grand adventure for a bunch of young guys. "While one of the four headed back to the UK, the others stayed, and Mr Wilson got a job with the Ontario Electric Board. In 1977, he packed his bags again and headed to Indonesia, where he was employed as a trainer at a copper mine. After four years there, he moved on, this time to Venezuela to work in an alumina processing plant. Three years later, he found himself in Saudi Arabia, training staff at Jeddah's international airport. He returned to Canada in 1988, where he found employment in one of the country's largest banks and stayed there until he retired in 2008. "The motivation to travel was just to see more of the world and this seemed to be a good way of doing it," he said. Fittingly, for someone who has travelled so widely, Mr Wilson's family is also comprised of several different nationalities. His wife, Margaret, whom he married in 1969, is from Guyana, while his two daughters, Brooke and Lauren, were born in Australia and Canada respectively. Mr Wilson said that he makes regular trips back to Forres and, despite his long time away from the burgh, still regards it as home and has several relatives in the town.



Forres-born Alan Wilson, with his flags at home in Richmond Hill, near Toronto, Canada.

"My accent thickens up after I've been back a couple of days," he joked. "My wife can tell if I've been home for a while." It was on one such trip home in 2006 that he came up with an idea for his new business. "I was wandering through Cawdor Castle, where I had worked as an apprentice blacksmith, with my daughter in 2006 and saw the laird's flag flying over the castle ramparts," he said. "I thought I'd like to have a flag for my home and only planned to go back and make one flag." "I knew that I could not use the laird's heraldic banner, but had the idea I could create a variation using the tartan and crest found on other Scottish memorabilia," he added. "Then I thought I should create one for Munro and it all snowballed from there." Mr Wilson now has flags for 31 clans, and says he would like to have standards for the 50 most common clan names. So far, the flags have been popular in Canada, USA, Australia and New Zealand, but not so much in Scotland. "I've found that Scots are much more patriotic after they leave Scotland," he added. "I have also sold quite a few in England." He said they have been popular in some rather more unusual locations, including Germany, South America, the Far East and Iran. He hopes to expand his business into South Africa and cities such as Singapore and Hong Kong, both of which have significant Scottish communities. He described one rather unorthodox technique he uses when finding new markets for his product. "I look for Scottish country dance classes," he said. "If you can find those in a place, there are normally Scottish people there." Anyone interested in finding out more about the flags can e-mail Alan at alan@highlandline.com