



DUM SPIRO SPERO  
WHILE I BREATHE, I HOPE.

# CLAN MACLENNAN

NEWSLETTER  
CANADA

*Central Ontario Branch*

Clan MacLennan Canada Web Site: [www.clanmaclennan.ca](http://www.clanmaclennan.ca)

International Clan Web Site [www.clan.maclennan.com](http://www.clan.maclennan.com)

## From the President *Melanie McLennan*



Melanie McLennan

Old man Winter is being shaken off this week, with a warm sun and the Robin's arrival. It has seemed a long winter here in Southern Ontario, and we have certainly had our share of cold temperatures and snow. The East coast got

much of the same, with our West Coast dwellers getting off with a very strange winter indeed, with too wet, too warm and too mild for much of it. We Canadians have no end to the list of things to talk about when it comes to the weather.

It has taken quite a bit of time to compile this newsletter and I offer my apologies to all who thought we had fallen off the

planet. We were deeply saddened this fall with the news of several of our long time members passing away. It has taken many months to gather the details from bereaved families and although we have made every effort to present the news to the best of our knowledge, we apologize for any errors or omissions.

We have heard from Chief Ruairidh regarding the upcoming Diamond Jubilee Celebrations at the Fergus Highland Games this summer, and we are pleased to announce that the Chief and his sisters Kirsteen and Lorna are intending to join us for one week in August to be a part of our festivities.

Elizabeth and Robin have already reserved the Victoria Park Seniors Centre

in Fergus (where we had the last Ceilidh with the Chief in 2000) and the wheels are in motion for planning the details.

We are keenly looking for some extra hands to help with the Ceilidh and dinner event and the Chief's visit, as our executive team is less strong in numbers. Dr. Bill & Mona McLennan and Harold & Evelyn Griffiths have retired from our Board and we thank them for their many years of service.

We will be providing more details of our attendance at the various games, including the Fergus details, in the May/June Newsletter and full details for the Ceilidh in the July newsletter.

## News from the Chief *Ruairidh MacLennan*

We are still recovering from a rather hectic Christmas / New Year period which was fun. Kirsteen, Lorna and myself were home most of the holidays which was nice. The last week has seen a lot of storms and floods, our cellar flooded a little bit but didn't cause any damage. It is just something that we have to live with, just as well we have a cellar! I really must get out with my digital camera and e-mail some photographs across to you.

Both the girls are well, busy with work and boyfriends and I have settled well into the new job and life at home. Life seems to be less hectic and I am making good progress with work on the house. It has taken quite a while to settle down as I have been trying to do too many jobs at once. I'm starting to get the DIY out of my system and am taking a bit more time over jobs.

My diary for this year is starting to come together and I had meant to get in touch with you to discuss plans for Canada soon. I have

looked at TA commitments as well as work restrictions and realistically think that I will only manage to make one of the Games, most probably Fergus. I can come out for approximately 7 - 8 days in total which would not be long enough for both Maxville and Fergus. The main reason for this is that with the TA (compulsory military service) it is compulsory to do a 2 week camp and it looks very likely that this is going to take the form of 2 weeks piping at the Nova Scotia Tattoo with 51st Highland pipe band who I now play for. Bizarrely it looks like I will be in Canada twice in the space of 6 weeks. The Nova Scotia trip is late June / early July.

I think that there is a good chance Lorna and Kirsteen will make it over as well, at least for part of the trip. As with before, we arrange our flights discount rate through Kirsteen. I am happy to commit to whatever schedule you want me to do, obviously the Games and any other activities that you want to organise. It would be lovely to manage a short trip if time permits but I

understand that time will be the main restraint.

Please let me know your thoughts on this, it's a pity that I cannot manage Maxville but work would not allow me to be away for such a long time a couple of weeks after being away for 2 weeks with the TA, plus it would use up my entire annual holiday entitlement!

I have set up an AOL account which I am slowly transferring to as I can access it for as long as I want for a set cost each month. I have become involved in the Community Council for South Side of Loch Ness and have been given a computer and allowance for internet connection which works out quiet well. My email address is [chiefruairidh@aol.com](mailto:chiefruairidh@aol.com)

Anyway, better get going, please let me know your thoughts on the above.

Love to all the family,

Regards, Ruairidh

## Clan MacLennan Worldwide

<http://www.clan.maclennan.com/history.htm>

In 1645 on May 9th, King Charles' representative, the Marquis of Montrose, confronted an army of Covenanters led by Sir John Urray, near a village named Auldearn in Scotland. Rain was falling as the battle commenced and among the 3,500 foot and 400 horse assembled under Urray's command, was Ruairidh MacLain Domhnull Bhain MacLennan, Chief of the Clan, defending the standard of Lord Seaforth. A tall, rugged, red-bearded highlander, he fought savagely and desperately in the ensuing clash, during which Urray's forces were slowly overwhelmed by a flanking movement of the Gordon Cavalry.

Ruairidh and his two brothers were ultimately killed along with many more MacLennans in that segment of the battle. For the next 330 years, the Clan had no official Chief. During 250 of those years, due to pressures political and financial, many remaining Clansmen and their descendants were forced or chose to leave Scotland to seek survival in newly discovered lands. Many septs with names distorted by usage or altered for practical purposes have resulted.

In 1969, Ronald George MacLennan declared his intention to claim the position of Chief. Due to the tireless energy of this vital, proud Scot, the Clan recognized his right to the position. Thirty years of tenacious searches and researches were rewarded with the Matriculation of Arms - the acknowledgment of the Lord Lyon, King of Arms of Scotland - and his installation as Chief of the MacLennan Clan at a ceremony in Inverness in 1978, which was the first such ceremony to be performed for at least two centuries.

In 1989, Chief Ronald died of leukemia, and his 12-year-old son, Ruairidh Donald George MacLennan inherited the title to be the Chief of the MacLennan Clan, becoming the youngest Clan Chief in the world. Ruairidh, quietly proud of his heritage, knew throughout his childhood that he would be Chief one day and he is handling the position with dignity and due gravity.

The Chief's Coat of Arms, with the motto "Dum Spiro Spero" includes two pipers, because like the MacCrimmons, the Clan is noted for its piping. Ruairidh is a very proficient piper and was Pipe Major of the Pipe Band at Fettes College in Edinburgh. Early in 1995 he won the Scottish Schools Piping Competition. He is also a competent rower and sailor, sailing on a Tall Ship from the south of England to Ireland and Scotland as part of his school curriculum. During the summer of 1993 he, with others, did a solo row the length of Loch Ness for Scottish charities. In 2002 Ruairidh graduated from the University of Aberdeen with a Master of Rural Surveying Degree, and was re-commissioned into the Officer Training Corps at Aberdeen as a Piper in their Pipe Band.

Our Chief Ruairidh's home is on the shore of Loch Ness in the village of Dores, approximately 10 miles from Inverness. He is currently employed by Strutt & Parker at Banchory, in the northeast of Scotland close to Aberdeen, and he is currently involved with the factoring of a number of estates.

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This page maintained by David A Jones

## Member's News

David (Ottawa) sent in some suggestions on how we could share our resources with fellow Clan members.

### 1. Kin helping Kin.

As you know Robins' sister Eileen lives in Ottawa. We stay in touch on a monthly basis by phone and have gone to lunch to update each other. Eileen does not own a car and as such uses the bus frequently. We went to lunch with Mabel LeClaire nee MacLennan before Christmas. At that time I mentioned that I was retired and would be available to drive them if needed. The obvious reason is safety due to our winter climate. After making the suggestion I thought how great it would be for the older clan persons to have a phone net of individuals that would be there to assist them in their transportation needs. As it turns out Mabelle will be 80 years young soon and needed a drive to renew her license. So the suggestion has come to fruition and I can't be any happier. I thought the Association as a group could develop something from the idea.

### 2. Writing and Researching Your Family History.

I would be available to run a seminar on dealing with family

history. I could explain and illustrate what I have written and completed using the computer through the various research venues; ie; internet, LDS, national and provincial archives and a number of genealogical societies that I become familiar with.

**Note: Melanie and David are discussing an introductory session on this at Fergus in August. If you would be interested in participating in this during our Ceilidh, please write to Clan MacLennan Canada - c/o Melanie McLennan, 80 London Road W. Guelph, ON N1H2B7**

### 3. Clan Member Travel Notes.

I have always been impressed with the Australian Newsletters with their inclusion of members travels including their children. I think a section like this in our newsletter would be an added bonus for those that receive it. The members simply send a note to Robin or yourself on recent travels for themselves or their family.

## Flowers of the Field

### Donald "Smoky" McLennan

(Kelowna, B.C.)

Passed away on November 22, 2004 after a short illness, not long after losing his beloved wife, Mary, earlier in the year. Smoky will be lovingly missed by his children, James McLennan, Carolyn Crawford, Roy Phinney, Alec Phinney, Susanne Laperle; plus his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Born in Kelowna in 1923, Smoky served in the Royal Canadian Air Force, then moved to Middleton. He joined the Nova Scotia Branch of the Clan and became Chief Ronnie's Lieutenant there in 1985. On his retirement from a distinguished career as an officer in the RCAF, Smoky and Mary moved back to Kelowna in 1988, where both became active members of the community. Smoky celebrated his Scottish heritage as an enthusiastic member of Kelowna's Scottish Country Dance Group. Smoky and Mary joined the Central Ontario Branch of Clan MacLennan in 2002. They came to Fergus in 1987, for Chief Ruairidh's visit in 2000, and again in 2002. They were regularly in touch with Clansfolk in Canada and overseas. We are saddened by the passing of such an active, enthusiastic and respected member who was "a total Patriarch of the Clan".

(-Doug MacLennan, Delta, B.C.).

### Dr. Hugh McLennan

(Vancouver, B.C.)

Born October 22, 1927, passed away suddenly on 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2004.

I feel that the message from Max and Mary McLennan (Australia) best express the regard felt by the Clan for Dr. Hugh.

"Hugh was a highly respected member of our Clan and our Chief's Lieutenant for Western Canada. A man full of honesty, wisdom, sincerity and common sense; always ready and willing to support our Chief and the Clan whenever it was needed. We are sure that he will be sadly missed by you all, but never forgotten by our Clan."

Following are some credentials of his long and distinguished career and contributions.

- Graduated from McGill in 1947 with a BSc (Honours Chemistry)
- MSc Biochemistry, 1949
- PhD Neurophysiology 1951
- Post-doctoral fellowship at University College, University of London England
- employed at Montreal Neurological Institute
- employed Dalhousie University
- employed University of British Columbia
- Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1971
- Medical Research Council Ten year term
- Professor Emeritus of UBC
- Founding member of the Whistler Mountain Ski club

-Founding member of Clan MacLennan association

-Appointment by Chief Ronnie as Lieutenant for Western Canada

-Member of the Royal Canadian Legion

-Long association with the Charles Crane Library for the blind, UBC as a volunteer reader  
Hugh enjoyed feeding birds, growing herbs, cooking, single malt Scotch (on the subject of which he could speak with some authority), golf, and traveling to Scotland, Australia, and their tree farm in PEI.

Our sympathy goes out to his wife, Hilda (nee Connell) and their children Catriona, Neil and their families.

### Dr. John Edgar McLennan M.D.

Born February 7, 1922 in Oak Park, Illinois, passed away on August 10, 2004 in Sparks, Reno, Nevada.

He enlisted in the navy in 1942, served as Naval Aviator with the rank of Lt. Commander in Pacific Campaigns. In 1946 he enrolled in University of Illinois Medical School in Chicago graduating in 1950, Internship was served at Los Angeles County General Hospital. He opened his Private Medical Practice in Palo Verdes, California. He and his wife, Barbara moved to Reno, in September 1983 where he continued his medical practice. He became a Senior Medical Examiner for the F.A.A. and had served in that capacity till his final day. Dr. John is survived by his wife, Barbara and children Jon G. McLennan, M.D., James C. McLennan, M.D., Elizabeth Baltazar, Jan Johnson, and their children. A memorial celebration was held Tuesday August 17, 2004 at Calvary Chapel, Reno-Sparks Church, Reno, Nevada. U.S. (reprinted from Clan MacLennan Association Australian Melbourne- Newsletter March 2005)

### The following is from Leon Vance

(NSW, Australia)

Well known and respected, and proud of his heritage, Dr John is best remembered for his invaluable support in setting up our Clan MacLennan in Scotland, both in effort and financially, prior to and following the inaugural gathering in 1975. It is doubtful that the Clan would have survived without his generous input.

Always a man of his word and strong convictions, Dr John unfortunately fell out with our late Chief over statements made in various publications and later in claims made at the Court of the Lord Lyon.

He was particularly helpful to our late Chieftain Bill (Greg's father) and our NSW & ACT Association, as well as the setting up of the Clan MacLennan Association in Scotland and later the World Federation of Clan MacLennan

Associations.

Our sincere condolences have been sent to his family on our Clan Association's behalf.

### Bob & Betty McLennan

(Rexdale)

A brief notice in the Toronto Star, picked up by bob (Hamilton), advised of the death of our former Secretary/Treasurer on December 24, 2003. Bob served on the committee for ten years and was largely responsible for holding the Central Ontario Branch together through those early years. He resigned from the COB many years ago. After Bob's passing, Elizabeth sent a card on the Clan's behalf at the time and recently was in touch with the son of a late cousin of Betty's. Betty (Barbera Elizabeth) had spent the last few years in a long term care home failing from Alzheimers Disease.

Betty passed away November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2004. Bob and Betty had no children and the funerals were private.

### Ruth Catherine MacLennan

The following was sent in by Jean Rose (Peterborough) with the approval of her family: Ruth Catherine MacLennan, affectionately known as Mac, died peacefully on February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2005 at the Veteran's Wing of Sunnybrook Hospital, in her 91<sup>st</sup> year. After graduating nursing at Toronto General at age 25, she went directly into service. She was a Nursing Sister in WWII and received six medals including the Defense Medal, Star-1939-1945, Volunteer Service Medal and the African Service Medal. She served on five hospital ships toward the end of the war then became an Industrial nurse with Christie Bread. She leaves her sister Jewel McKerr, nephew Craig (Lynda) McKerr, niece Elouise (Tom) Perry, and great nieces and nephews. She was buried in Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Toronto, beside her Dad and Mother.

Her Dad, Rev. Kenneth C. MacLennan was born in Inverness, Scotland, 1882-1972. He attended Glasgow Bible Training Institute. After coming to Canada, he graduated in 1919 from Pinehill College Institute, Halifax, N.S. During the Halifax explosion of 1917, he worked with the rescue teams. From 1921 to 1927, he served various Free Churches in Scotland, then returned to this country. In Montreal, he became senior minister with Kydd Memorial Church, then served in Ontario in Creemore, Port Elgin, Westminster in Toronto, Fingal and Port Sydney before retiring in 1952. A year later he was appointed stated supply at Pickering and ministered there for five years. His wife, Louisa Jenkins MacLennan was born in Fort Augustus, Scotland, 1878 - 1974. They had two daughters, Jewel and Ruth.

## Updates for the Directory

We will be publishing a new edition of our Clan Directory at the end of the summer and sending it out with our September/October newsletter. Please submit any changes before the end of August 2005. Take note of the changes to date, and mark them in *your* Directory to keep it current.

<b>Balfe, Pearle &amp; Bill</b>	417-665 Oak St. E., North Bay, ON P1B 9E5
<b>Krucker, Mary &amp; Ed</b>	New email: <a href="mailto:krucker.mary@cogeco.ca">krucker.mary@cogeco.ca</a>
<b>MacLennan, Angus</b>	New email: <a href="mailto:angusmaclellan@hotmail.com">angusmaclellan@hotmail.com</a>
<b>MacLennan, David &amp; Kitty</b>	23 Main St.-#507, Dundas, ON L9H 2P7
<b>MacLennan, H. Doug &amp; Dorothy</b>	Summer in Kincardine & winter in Florida
<b>MacLennan, Donald</b>	phone 905-849-6356
<b>MacLennan, Dr. John &amp; Margie</b>	7 Springhill St., Dundas, ON L9H 4V3 905-628-6090
<b>MacLennan, Jessica</b>	phone area code 902 <u>not</u> 905
<b>MacLennan, Noreen</b>	New email: <a href="mailto:normac@nl.rogers.com">normac@nl.rogers.com</a>
<b>MacLennan, Peter &amp; Wendy</b>	5078 Cedar Springs Crt., R.R.#.3, Cambellville, ON L0P 1B0
	New email: <a href="mailto:petermac@bserv.com">petermac@bserv.com</a> 905-335-3299
<b>MacLennan, Dr. Ian B.</b>	Thomeloe College, 925 Ramsay Lake Rd, Sudbury, ON P3E 2C6
	phone 705-671-4744
<b>Prebble, Elizabeth</b>	New email: <a href="mailto:eprebble@cogeco.ca">eprebble@cogeco.ca</a>
<b>Ritchie, Mrs. Barbara</b>	phone no. 425 <u>not</u> 424



DUM SPIRO SPERO  
WHILE I BREATHE, I HOPE.

### CLAN MACLENNAN CENTRAL ONTARIO BRANCH

**Chief:**

Ruairidh Donald George MacLennan  
of MacLennan

**Chieftain:**

Gregory Scott MacLennan

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80 London Rd. W., Guelph, Ont.  
N1H 2B7 Tel: (519)-823-0003

**Vice President:**

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**Treasurer:**

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L7P 3M3 Tel: (905)-335-4199

**Secretary:**

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L9H 3P7 Tel: (905)-628-8740

**Committee:**

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L9H 3T4 Tel:(905)-627-0811

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Windsor, Ontario  
N8Y 5A2 Tel: (519)-944-4262

Karen Dunbabin  
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N4K 2N8

David MacLennan  
30 Sheahan Cres.  
Nepean, ON  
K2H 8M2

**Past Presidents:**

Doug MacLennan, Delta, B.C.  
Elizabeth Prebble, Burlington, ON  
David MacLennan, Dundas, ON

### C.O.B. Statement of Receipts and Disbursements February, 2005

<b>Receipts</b>			
Bank Balance May 23, 2004			2175.12
Members Dues 2002-2003	10.00		
2003-2004	80.00		
2004-2005	195.00		
2005-2009	90.00	375.00	
Ancaster Games Prize		25.00	
Clan Sales Cobourg	1.00		
Kincardine	4.00		
Maxville	6.00		
Fergus	77.00	88.00	
Fergus Draw		81.00	569.00
			2744.12
<b>Disbursements</b>			
Fergus Avenue of the Clans	55.00		
Newsletters & Directory-			
Copy	95.40		
Postage	108.88		
Envel.	9.19	213.25	
Service Charges		3.75	272.00
Bank balance as of Sept. 24, 2004			2,472.12
Update to Feb. 11, 2005			
Receipts Dues		20.00	
October GIC Interest		15.00	
Disbursements- Misc. Copy		31.30	
Service Charge		0.75	
Current Balance			2475.07
Royal Bank GIC			2000.00
Branch Total			4,475.12
<b>Current Member Status:</b>			
Paid 2004-2005	40	Unpaid 2004-2005	23
Paid 2005-2009	13	Complimentary	3
			<b>Total Members 79</b>

## From the Editor

Robin MacLennan - September 2004

*The following newsletter is a brief overview to let you know what has been happening since Fergus 2004.*

We have heard that Chief Ruairidh, Kirsteen and Lorna can visit for about a week in August, so we can start planning.

Here are short accounts of what we found at the various Games we attended :

**Kincardine-** Karen Dunbabin had her first foray as a rep. and had purchased a canopy. Unfortunately, some poles were missing from the package so she was delayed in setting up. There were very few Clans represented only later did she find out that the Clans do not set up on Sunday. She had gone through the names of people with our surname in the phone book before and did make a couple of contacts at the Games, but also heard that some others had prior arrangements. The Games, as such, were not very big and a more fruitful target might be during the band marches through the town, which take place reasonably frequently and are usually well attended. We will check this with Flora for next year.

**Maxville-** Eileen and I left Ottawa in the rain which continued until about 12.30. Some of the Clans had elected to set up outside, but had to come into the one reserved barn which resulted in quite a crush. It was touch and go that the whole day would be cancelled but the weather finally relented. The parade of the Clans was understandably not too well represented but there was a big turnout of dancers as the Guest of Honour was a long time teacher of Highland dancing in the area.

They managed to get the dance competitions in but the massed bands at the end had to be cancelled-it turned black again! Anyway, we saw Marilyn Lawler, Finlay and Rory Angus, as well as poet Rob. Finlay said Wee Donald is holding his own but both he and Dorothy can't get around much and even find carrying on a long conversation tiring. Understandably, we didn't manage to sell much, although we probably did better than the Concessions outside. We also saw Mabell in Ottawa and she is fine.

**Fergus-** This was perfect weather- sunny but not too hot, with only a five minute shower on Friday evening. The Tattoo went over time, as usual, and it was a wee bit chilly for August, so Eileen and I had Clan sweaters on as well as our kilts for the Lichtin. There were a lot of visitors at the tent and we mustered a goodly number for the Parade-even the commentator remarked on our numbers. The honoured clans this year were the Frasers and the Keiths, both being represented by their Chiefs. There was a massed bands show not long after the Parade this could be a good time to see them instead of waiting until 5.30. We had our AGM on the grounds see separate report.

We went to a new place Horizons, for dinner with 23 attending. Although we were spread around six tables, they were close enough to constitute a party. The meal was great, the service fast and cheery and the portions huge. Eileen ordered a Seniors portion, which was more than ample but cost much less. We even managed to complete the draw (Jean won the brick for Lois) and a wide variety of prizes were distributed before the closing time of 8 p.m. A most successful evening with our new members, Dr. John

and Margie(Dundas), his son Dr. Ian (Sudbury), as well as Ross Russell up from Tennessee for our first meeting. He had a long chat with Doug and Dave, discovering they had a common ancestor.

I joined Elizabeth at the Kirkin on Sunday, after delivering Eileen to an early bus in Guelph. The service was great, with singers from the Games and lessons read by the Chiefs of the honoured Clans. John Allan Cameron sang well but had some difficulty with the Gaelic and does not look too well this year.

A most enjoyable Games, with a beautiful day, good attendance and everything going according to plan. We hope more members will make it next year because it will be the 20th year for the COB, the 60th year for the Fergus Games and our Chief is coming.

Almonte also had a sunny day. These Games are on a smaller scale than Fergus but have a beautiful setting rather like Victoria Park Eileen was surprised to meet Ghislaine and Bill there I think they felt that Maxville was an expensive washout as they had bought advanced tickets. No other members appeared but there were a few visitors. The sun is certainly welcome there as any shelter is hard to find if it rains.

## Highlights from the AGM

- We had 18 at the meeting (14 last year)
- The 2003 AGM minutes and the Financial Statement to August 12,2004 were presented and approved. This Statement is included in this letter with a current update.
- A questionnaire was suggested for members to put forward ideas on the direction of future activities for the Clan, because the proposed workshop had to be cancelled.
- Our financial year, which used to end on May 31, is being moved to July 31. The May date reflected the start of the COB but moving the AGM to the Fergus Games has caused problems with dues. Starting next year, current memberships for 2004-2005 will expire on July 31,2005 and should be renewed at or before the AGM.
- New membership - \$25 with renewals \$10. If members do not renew for two years they will be sent a separate reminder. If this is not answered, their names will be deleted from the directory and re-admission will be treated as a new membership.
- We have heard that Chief Ruairidh's e-mail has been out of commission for quite some time. His new email is chiefruairidh@aol.com.
- He has changed employers and, as he has to do two weeks army service per year his holiday time is restricted.
- Requests for changes to the directory will be included in each newsletter. New member names will be sent on a separate sheet to make it easier to add to the directory.
- New committee members are urgently needed because Harold & Evelyn and Dr. Bill & Mona are retiring.