



Crest Badge of a
Member of Clan Hunter

hunters' halloo

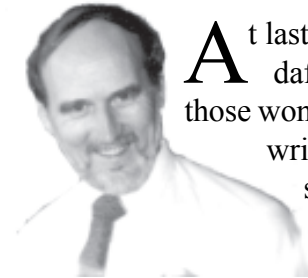
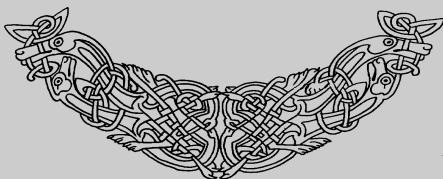
Newsletter of the Clan Hunter Association, Canada

April 1999

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At last spring is upon us and thoughts turn to warm days, daffodils and tulips, new buds on the trees and all those wonderful signs of new growth. Now, I realise that as I write, there are some parts of our wonderful country are still experiencing some snow, but it will be gone soon I hope. Soon it will be time for various Highland Games to begin and Christine and I hope to get to as many as we can. Certainly we will be at Chatham, Cambridge, Fergus, Maxville and Montreal. I hope many of you will take the opportunity to come and say hello and help me put a face behind the name on my mailing list.

In this issue of the newsletter you will find articles on old Hunters and one very much still alive and kicking Hunter, Tommy Hunter, our own Canadian Country Singer. Included is an article on the town of Durham and Archibald Hunter, the founding settler. My thanks to Don Hunter of Toronto who sent me the photographs that initiated this article. Members who intend visiting Hunterston Castle will find interesting information on page 6 of the newsletter in the advertising of rented accomodations. You will probably want to keep this info in a safe place for future reference. I would like to encourage everyone who can, to attend our annual gathering at Fergus on the 8th August, 1999. It is always great fun and a great chance to catch up on the latest news. Please take a moment to fill in the little insert which came with this newsletter to let me know me you are coming. Hope to see you this summer.

Tom

A Word From the Chief



Dear Clansfolk,

The New Year storms devastated Hunterston Estate and we are still counting the trees felled by the winds. The total up till now is around seventy trees according to my brother, Nigel, who now has the sad task of arranging the clearing up operation. Many of the trees lost were in the Big Wood which is between the Castle and the House. Fortunately the House suffered no damage, but the Castle has lost some lead on the top of the stairwell roof and a couple of slates. We are arranging to have it repaired using some of the money in the Restoration Fund.

Recently, Stuart Hunter, our UK Hunter Clan Officer, wrote to me with the request that we enrol as our Clan Chaplain the Reverend Alastair

The Chief

Continued from page 1

Hunter. Alastair teaches in a theological college in Glasgow and has agreed to become our Clan Chaplain. Stuart and I thought it would please many of you to have our own Chaplain, especially for our Gatherings at Hunterston. We shall be discussing his chaplaincy with him at the UK Annual General Meeting at the end of April.

Flight Commander Grant Mayler of 35 Flight, New South Wales Squadron Air Training Corps, which is based in the Hunter region, wrote to me asking if they could use the Hunter Tartan and the Clan Motto. I was intrigued by his request. By further reading of the research carried out by Bert Hunter, our Australian Clan Officer, a fascinating history unfolded concerning Captain John Hunter RN. He commanded the flagship of the “First Fleet”, which arrived in Australia in 1788 and later became the second governor of the newly formed colony of New South Wales. The name Hunter is also borne by the largest river in the region, and is included in many geographical and regional names. Today there are three commemorative busts of Governor Hunter, they are located in both Australia and Scotland. One is located in Scone in the upper Hunter region of New South Wales, another is located in Mosman Park in Sydney and the third is Leith Park Edinburgh, Scotland. It was from this intriguing information that I have given them permission to use the tartan, motto and Clan Crest of the Hunter Clan. For further information about John Hunter RN, please contact Bert Hunter.

Last summer I was approached by several Clan members to see if we could restore the front of Hunterston Castle to its original state and I am pleased to announce that Mel Hunter, the current Treasurer of your US Clan Association, has agreed to undertake the fundraising. I have met up with the Architect and am awaiting a costing of the project. The architect has been asked to undertake a full survey of the Castle and to list the other repairs that need doing. The Clan is very fortunate that we still have in our family the original Clan seat in good repair. As part of the changes I am converting what is currently the shop and was previously a library into a Clan room for visiting Clan members. In the future it will house all the Clan genealogy whether on disc, cd-rom or on paper and this library will be available to all Clan members for their searches. I hope you will all support the restoration project so that current and future generations will have the pleasure of knowing that their spiritual home will be around for everyone to enjoy knowing that they contributed to the Hunter Heritage.

This September I am to visit the West Coast of the US where I will be attending the Pleasanton Highland Games near San Francisco which should be a most enjoyable event and I am looking forward to gathering with the Clans people there.

Tommy Hunter Canada's Country Gentleman



Put him in front of an audience of strangers, and even the most stony-faced stoics will soon be clapping and singing along with his music. With his timeless appeal, Tommy Hunter is an entertainer with a long history of

involving people in his brand of country music. He's had them singing along on trains and in the finest theaters, and he's generated the same responses with TV audiences and even in people's living rooms.

Which is to suggest that the nickname “Canada's Country Gentleman,” bestowed on him by his fans, might be just a little bit misleading. As much as he's been identified with country music over the past half century, Tommy Hunter, like a great part of his loyal audiences, can't be pinned down to simply one genre of music.

Gentleman, yes, but the gentlemanly style and manner is not reserved just for the country music fan.

It's 1946, the first year after the end of World War II. A weary planet is trying to get back to some sort of normalcy after one of the most intense wars it's ever known. Meanwhile, in the young world of video technology, an infant industry known as television is struggling - vainly it seems - to gain a little respect as having at least some commercial possibility. And in Ontario, Canada, the nine-year old son of a railroad worker, who has been tormenting his father for want of a guitar like those of his country music-singing heroes, is receiving a hard-working, hard-pressed dad's compromise-. a dollar a week for lessons (and a rented guitar).

Continued from page 2

At the prime age of 28, Tommy got his own network TV show, and in 1965 he debuted The Tommy Hunter Show-a 30minute black and white program that would prove to be destiny’s child. Reigning for 27 years as a major force in Canadian television, before leaving the air in June of 1992, the production would make history as the longestrunning weekly show of its kind around the world!

When asked, at the outset, what visions he had for his brand new baby, he offered,

“I’m not sure what I want, but I know what I don’t want. I don’t want a barn and I don’t want bales of hay.”

From the very beginning his aim was to bring respect and credibility to an industry that, in his words, deserved more than just a barn and a “hayseed” image. During his record-breaking run he would make it a point to involve the best writers and production people available. Over the years the list of those he worked with included Norman Jewison, Chris Beard, Joan Tasoni, Les Pouliot, and Stan Jacobson, to name a few, all of whom helped him to set many standards for country music TV shows.

During its run The Tommy Hunter Show has been credited with hosting virtually every major country act in North America. And, maybe more importantly, it was a vital show-

case for novice artists trying to get a foot on the ladder, many of whom have gone on to major popularity in recent years, including such as Garth Brooks, Alan Jackson, the Judds, and Shania Twain.

Tommy Hunter can lay claim to a number of “firsts” in national broadcasting, including his well-known “road show” forays into the Arctic, as well as his entertaining of troops at every major military base in Canada and performing for U.N. forces all over the world.

He was awarded huge measure of respect from Nashville country television when he was asked to guest host TNN’s top-rated variety show,

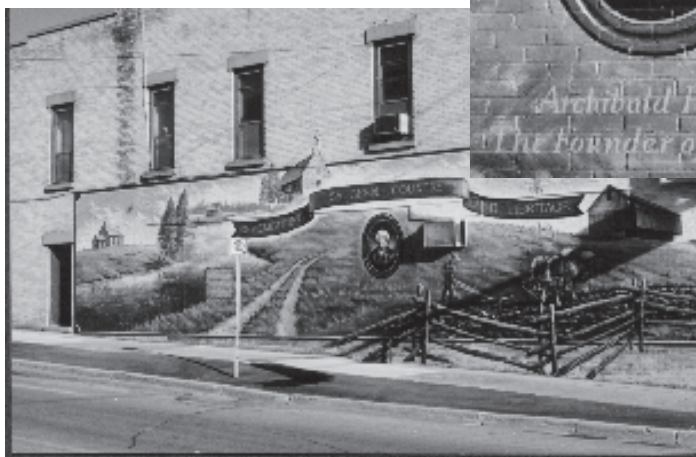
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Town of Durham

The town site of Durham was marked on early maps when Charles Rankin, P.L. S., surveyed the Garafraxa Road in 1837. In 1841, David Gibson, P.L. S. surveyed the site into streets and lots. The first settler was Mr. Archibald Hunter, a Scotsman who located there on May 1, 1842. After building a structure and spending a winter there, he went back to New York State in order to bring out his family to their new Canadian home. As there was no tavern

between Mount Forest and Owen Sound, the incoming settlers often asked the Hunters for food and overnight lodging at their home. Sometimes they had so many visitors that they had to be lodged in the barn, necessitating Mrs. Hunter to collect their pipes,

tobacco and matches beforehand to prevent a fire. It is no wonder that Mr. Hunter soon built a log tavern, and then eventually in 1854 had a stone hotel built, known as “The British Hotel”, on the corner of the Garafraxa and



One of the murals of The Town of Durham depicting Mr Archibald Hunter, the first settler of Durham



Durham Roads (situated in the Upper Village of Durham)

The Crown Lands office for the County of Grey was removed from Owen Sound to Durham and was operated by Mr. George Jackson, who named the village after his birthplace in England. The lands office attracted prospective settlers and greatly increased the importance of the village,

which also was a milling centre for the new settlers. In 1850 Durham vied with Owen Sound to have County Town status, but lost out. In 1871 Grey County was split into two divisions (north and south) and Durham became the locale for the South Grey Registry office, which was in operation until the 1990’s. In 1872 the village was separated from Bentinck and Glenelg Townships and became a town.

Tommy Hunter **Continued from page 3**

Nashville Now for several nights. And in 1990 he received one of the ultimate symbols of a country artist's "stature" and contribution to the genre, in the eyes of country music's capitol, Nashville - inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame "Walkway of Stars."

In March, 1997 he was the focus of a major black tie Tribute to Tommy Hunter at Toronto's world-famous Royal York Hotel, which celebrated both his 60th birthday and his 50th anniversary as an entertainer. Proceeds of the gala benefit went to one of his favorite charitable causes - the Sick Children's Hospitals in both Toronto and his home town of London, Ontario.

For the greater part of his career, Tommy has been involved with, and has used his talents on behalf of, those less fortunate. Over the years he has been involved with such charitable organizations as the Cancer Society and the Heart Fund. And from 1971-2 was the National Spokesperson for the Cystic Fibrosis

Foundation. For his efforts on behalf of the latter he was awarded the organization's prestigious Communications Award.

Now that his time has been freed up from the production of a network TV show, he has ample time to devote to the pursuit of his first loves - entertaining live music audiences.

During the TV days there was never enough time to give road performing his utmost attention. Since 1992, he has been touring about 70 days a year in theatres in Canada and the U.S. He is still dedicated to his fans. After every concert Tommy spends countless hours in autograph sessions - that is his way of saying thanks to his audiences for their loyal support.

1997 saw his extensive personal appearances billed as his 50th Anniversary Tour, with a winter segment Jan. 9 Feb. 10, a spring one May 2 - May 18, and numerous summer and fall appearances at Ontario's major fairs. Capacity crowds have been common for all his shows.

After an absence from network television for a couple of years, a recent Nashville Network appearance on "Music City Tonight" drew over 1,000 phone calls at Tommy's office from 49 states in just 3 days, testifying to his enviable solidarity with his audience.

If one is to judge by fan reaction to his appearances, then Tommy Hunter is about to embark on round two ... The second 50 years.

AWARDS:

- **Order of Canada** - his nation's highest civilian award, given for his exceptional public career and his exemplary family life - 1986.
- **Order of Ontario** - the highest award a province can bestow - 1996
- **Broadcasting Industry "Achievement Award"** from Canada's Broadcast Executive Society - 1977
- **Honorary Citizen of the State of Tennessee** - 1987
- **Kentucky Colonel** - 1987

ARCHIBALD HUNTER (FORWARD)



73 apps 42 goals

Born Village of Joppa, Ayr 23rd September 1859

Career - Third Lanark, Ayr Thistle, Aston Villa (August 1878).

'He came to Birmingham looking for the Calthorpe Club but ended up with Villa instead - and proved to be a grand acquisition to the Club. One of the great captains of Aston Villa and the first to lift the F A Cup in 1887, a clever ball-player, and individualist, robust yet extremely fair. In the early days with the Club he was forced to play under an assumed name in order to avoid unpleasant consequences from an employer who hated football. On the 4th January 1890 his career came to a tragic end, he suffered a heart attack playing for Villa

against Everton at Anfield, he was taken to hospital but never fully recovered, passing away at the age of 35 years. Hunter's headstone on his grave reads, 'This monument is erected in loving memory of Archie Hunter, the famous captain of Aston Villa, by his football comrades and the club as a lasting tribute to his ability on the field and his sterling worth as a man'. Hunter was born almost next door to the birthplace of the famous poet, Robert Burns, in Ayr.



Bert Hunter Clan Officer - Australia with his wife Claire receiving his award "The Order of the Royal Huntsman"

Clan Hunter - Canada Annual General Meeting

The annual gathering and general meeting of Clan Hunter will once more be held during the weekend of the Fergus Highland Games. The exact time and location is yet to be determined but it will certainly be on the afternoon of Sunday 8th August. One of the most difficult aspects of the gathering is determining where the meeting should be held and this is normally a factor of how many people we are expecting to attend. With this in mind I would appreciate if those expecting to attend would kindly let me know using the small form included with this newsletter. In addition items to be considered for the agenda should be included at this time.

Hunterston trees suffer in Wild Storm

A severe winter storm severely damaged over seventy trees on the Hunterston Estate. The total extent of the damage is still being calculated, but as the photographs on this page show, some of the trees were extremely large. The following is an account of the storm according to a local newspaper report.....

"The North coast is counting the cost of hurricane-force winds which lashed the area on Saturday night causing wide spread damage to property throughout the local area with prolonged power cuts lasting up to three days in some places. In one of the worst storms in 50 years, thousands of houses suffered structural damage with slates being ripped from the roofs, trees downed and reports of a fallen electricity pylon between Largs and Fairlie."

"Shopowners and some residents in Largs were left counting the cost of the fierce winds for the second weekend running but this time combined with high tides which flooded much of the main Street on Monday."



Corrections

Our last newsletter included a copy of the minutes of the 1998 annual general meeting. Unfortunately there were few errors and omissions. Please correct your copy of the minutes as follows.

First, both Marion Hunters' first name is spelled incorrectly. There were three other persons at the meeting:

member - Beryl M. Hunter

guests - Rilda Hunter

- Lynn Morrison

The reference in connection to Pauline's membership in the Trans Canada Trail Association should not be as "Charter".

Also, Pauline in her message to those present, thanked Catherine and Dave Elder for bringing her from Detroit to London to the Open House held at

the Clan Officer's home. Our apologies to those concerned and our thanks to Don and Marion Hunter for bringing these corrections to our attention.

HUNTER'S COTTAGES, WEST KILBRIDE, AYRSHIRE

These newly refurbished cottages are situated in the beautiful grounds of Hunterston Estate and Castle, seat of the Hunter Clan for 900 years. Decorated and furnished to a high standard, they offer excellent accommodation in a most interesting and restful environment. Visitors can have full access to the grounds which contain a lovely walled garden and woodland walks. Cyclists can make good use of the excellent paths which run through the estate and round the peninsula. The historic town of Largs is only a few miles up the coast with its recently upgraded promenade and wide range of visitors attractions. From here, take a ferry across to Arran, itself an excellent holiday location in its own right, or explore the lovely sandy beaches on this side of the Firth of Clyde. With its world famous Links Courses at Troon and Tunberry, the stunning scenery, the area is a haven for golfers, birdwatchers, fishermen and walkers of every ability. The cottages can be booked separately or as a whole and comprise:

2488

RUSH PARK COTTAGE
West Kilbride

Sleeps
4



Ground floor: vestibule, sitting room with door to garden and open fire in surround. Small fully fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms - both twin. Bathroom with 3 piece suite and shower over bath. Garden

High Season: £330 Mid Season: £255 Low Season: £190

2489

MURIE NEUK COTTAGE
West Kilbride

Sleeps
8



Ground floor: entrance hall, large sitting room with door to garden, open plan dining area/fully fitted kitchen. 4 bedrooms - all twin. Bathroom with 3 piece suite and shower. Separate shower room. Garden.

High Season: £450 Mid Season: £320 Low Season: £220

2490

HAWKING CRAIG COTTAGE
West Kilbride

Sleeps
6/7



Ground floor: entrance hall, sitting room, fully fitted dining kitchen. Bathroom with 3 piece suite and shower over bath. Courtyard with sitting area.
First floor: 3 bedrooms - 1 double+1 single, 1 with 3 single beds and 1 single

High Season: £380 Mid Season: £290 Low Season: £195

Facilities for each property: electric cooker with gas hob, fridge, kettle, toaster. Automatic washer/dryer. Colour TV. Gas central heating and all electricity included in the rent. Cot. Fuel provided for the open fire. Bed linen provided. Non-smokers preferred. Ample parking. Sorry, no pets.

To rent cottages contact **Nigel Cochran-Patrick**

Hunterston House
West Kilbride
Ayrshire

KA23 9QG Tel: 01294-823151

E-Mail Addresses

Do you have an e-mail address? Please send it to me as we would like to publish a list of addresses for members So that they might communicate with each other more easily. Watch out for this in our next and future newsletters.

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