



Crest Badge of a  
Member of Clan Hunter

# Hunters' Halloo

Newsletter of the Clan Hunter Association, Canada

Apr 2009 Vol 5,11

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## *From the Clan Officer*

*At last we can reasonably claim that Spring has sprung. I actually went out for a walk today without a jacket. It has been a long winter and my old bones are longing for some warmth..... OK I've got it out of my system, I'm OK now. Well, it's time to start thinking about the Highland Games route for the summer. Christine and I will be heading to Scotland this year for "The Gathering" in Edinburgh but we will still attempt to attend some of our regular venues. Of course we will be back in time for our annual get-together at Fergus where I hope we have a great turn-out of Hunters. In spite of the fact that we are a "small" clan we always manage to put on a good show at Fergus. We have once again booked a spot at the Holiday Inn, in Guelph, on 8th August for our meeting and dinner. Please plan on being there, it is always great fun. For those interested in what will be happening at "The Gathering" in Scotland there is a website listing all of the activities. You can check it out here....<http://clangathering.org/http://clangathering.org/events/content/programme-for-highland-games-and-scottish-festival-.html>*



*On pages 7-8, I have included an appeal from The Federation of Scottish Clans in Nova Scotia. Unfortunately some responses on the form are urged before 5th April 2009 but the appeal was not received until after that date so it is included for your interest.*

*Please pay attention to Christine's membership appeal and for those receiving this by e-mail you can print off page 9 for your convenience*

*My thanks to those who sent me something for the newsletter. Lizz Thibodeau with Connections Corner, Don Hunter with the Guiding presentation, Christine Hunter with the Membership info (I'm looking forward to that dance Don) and my old friend Bill Hunter in the UK with photos of Hunterston.*

*Tom*



Mum, Barbara Cridland, Grandmother Marion Hunter and daughter/ grand-daughter Heather Cridland, show off their Guiding certificates

## A Grand Affair

Recently in Kitchener, Clan member Marion Hunter of Toronto was awarded a certificate recognizing her 55 years in the Girl Guide Movement. This included her participation as a girl, group leader, committee chair and member, and as a retired leader in the Trefoil Guild.

At the same ceremony, Heather Cridland, daughter of Clan member Barbara Cridland, and grand-daughter of Marion, was awarded the Canada Cord, Guiding's highest award for youth members. This award requires the girl to complete many tasks and usually takes about two years. Barbara earned her Canada Cord as a girl in Toronto and grandmother Marion earned the Gold Cord (predecessor to the Canada Cord) as a girl in Oshawa. All three are proud of their work and time in the Girl Guide Movement and recommend it highly as a training and social activity for girls.

### *Hackle for Beret/Glengarry*

Robert Hunter O.R.H. has made enquiries regarding purchasing a Hackle in the Clan Colours, Green/Gold/Red. The cost would be £8 but he has to order 10 minimum. Anyone interested get in touch with him as soon as possible.

Address: Robert Hunter  
3 Tarbert Avenue  
Priory Bridge  
Blantyre  
G72 9PB

e-mail : robert.hunter2@btinternet.com  
Phone 01698 825804



### *What is a Hackle?*

**From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia**

The hackle is a feather plume that is attached to the headdress. In the British Army and the armies of some Commonwealth countries the hackle is worn by some infantry regiments, especially those designated fusilier regiments and

those with Scottish and Northern Irish origins. It was commonly attached to the feather bonnet worn by Highland regiments (now commonly worn by drummers, pipers and bandsmen). The colour of the hackle varies from regiment to regiment.

Send your submissions for the newsletter to  
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## 🎵 Connections Corner



*Lizz Thibodeau*

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## 🎵 We are Family, I've got all my cousins with me!

As well as helping out with genealogy for the Hunter Clan, my husband has also dragged me into the position of Membership Chair and Treasurer for Clan Ross. As such, my email address is available to all Ross members and anyone using the Clan Ross website. A few weeks ago, I received an email from a Ross who was looking for help with genealogy. Clan Ross doesn't have a designated genealogist in their association but with a stroke of luck he found me. This man has done a fair amount of research on his paternal line but was looking for help with his maternal line. In fact, more than help, I think he was looking for a miracle! He knew his mother and her father but really couldn't go beyond that. He did know his great-grandfather's name but not his date of birth, death, marriage or any locations. To start research just two generations back can be very tricky. Because of the privacy act, census records are not available until 92 years after they were collected. In fact, the 1911 census was held even longer than that and has only recently been made available to the public. This request for help was my first encounter with the 1911 census and I think some of you may be interested to know what I have found out.

The 1911 Canadian census covers all provinces except for Newfoundland since it did not join Canada until 1949. In 1955, the censuses were converted to Microfilm and the paper records were destroyed. I'm not sure whose idea that was, but they didn't check that all of the microfilms were easily legible before destroying the papers with the result that some records are, for all intents & purposes, lost.

When I started using the Canadian Archives site (<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/archivianet/index-e.html>), I was greeted by this warning: "This database of 1911 census data allows researchers to search by geographic location only. As this is not a nominally indexed database, it is not searchable by family name." I groaned inwardly when I read that because the Ross I was trying to help was not sure where his family had lived in 1911. He had a guess but that was all. So, I began reading line after line, page after page of often barely legible handwriting. After spending a considerable amount of time to get about halfway through the region I was targeting, I took a break for a few days to get caught up on the rest of my life – with two young children, I can't spend all my time doing genealogy.

When I started writing this article about the difficulties of research in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, I went back to the website to refresh my memory on what I had read about the census. Not immediately finding the information I remembered reading, I clicked on "Search Help". I started reading through all the information there and when I got to the bottom, I came across this message: "Volunteers with the Automated Genealogy project have completed a Canada-wide name index of the 1911 census." Below that was a link to the Automated Genealogy Index. I clicked on the link and was able to search for Ross in the 1911 Census and the 1901 Census. I could search all of Canada or each province individually. This is an amazing service and I am eternally grateful to the volunteers who have transcribed all those lines of Census. Each record is even linked to the census so that when I found the person I was interested in, I simply clicked on the link and it took me directly to that page of the census!

With this new resource at my fingertips, I was quickly able to find the family that my Ross friend was looking for on the 1911 census. One word of warning, however. Transcribers are not perfect and a lot of the handwriting that they are trying to read is barely legible. I was searching for a woman by the name of Jeanella. The transcribed form of her name became Jenelba. When I clicked on the actual census, it was clearly Jeanella to my eyes because I knew what I was looking for but I could not fault the transcriber for believing the scrawl to say Jenelba.

There are 6077 Hunters on the 1911 Census and 4955 Hunters on the 1901 Census. If you are looking for someone in Canada near the turn of the century, check out <http://automatedgenealogy.com/index.html>. Hopefully you'll have as much luck as I did. Of course, if you would prefer, you are always welcome to send your queries to me and I'll have a go at it.

## *Hunterston Banner*

Shown on the left is the proposed Banner to be shown in the Clan Hunter tent in Edinburgh this summer and then mounted in Hunterston Castle to represent the Canadian Branch of Clan Hunter. The banner shows an embroidered Clan crest approximately 10" dia surrounded by the 13 provincial Crests. In order to include our US members, of which there are quite a few, we have included the USA flag with the Canadian flag at the top. The banner is approximately 4' long and 2' wide. The banner shown here is a graphical representation and not the real thing

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Don't forget to bring us up to date if you  
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regular mail? Why not try the e-mail  
version in full colour? You can always  
change back if you change your mind. Just  
drop me a line at this address and ask me  
to change you over.***

**[thunter01@rogers.com](mailto:thunter01@rogers.com)**



## Membership Dues Report.

Here we are getting ready to start a new fiscal year in the Hunter Clan Association. I asked Tom to print off a listing of payments from last year – just to see how we are doing – and I want to congratulate you – we are doing quite well. 76% of our membership paid their dues last year. Oh we had to remind a few of you – but that is my job and if I didn't have to send out any wee reminder notices – what would I find to do with my time???

Of course that still means that 24% of our membership didn't pay their

dues. But we do admit that in these hard economic times, sometimes it is just another burden that you don't want to have to deal with. However – the government is telling us that we are coming out of this recession and that our future looks very rosy – soooooooooo, let's see if we can hit 86% payment this year. Do I hear someone mention 96% - well I could certainly live with that – and I think Don Hunter (our treasurer) would maybe do a wee dance to celebrate. Lets hear it from all who would like to see that broad smile and maybe

that wee dance at the Fergus Highland Games this August!

Yes folks, get your cheque books out and send off that cheque to Don for your 2009/2010 dues as soon as you can – and before the end of June if at all possible.

Sorry, Don, I can already tell that you will be dancing at Fergus this year! Maybe I should have checked with you first?

Christine Hunter  
Membership Secretary



**Left:** Early Spring at Hunterston, two little lambs check each other out.

*(What do you think they were saying?)*

"Hey, you got a number. How come you got a number? I didn't get a number. Did your Mum give you that? I want a number!"

**Below:** Hunterston shows off its colours with a beautiful show of Spring daffodils



*Hunterston photos by Bill Hunter UK*

### **The Daffodils**

W. Wordsworth

I wandered lonely as a cloud  
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,  
When all at once I saw a crowd,  
A host of golden daffodils,  
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,  
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine  
And twinkle on the Milky Way,  
They stretch'd in never-ending line  
Along the margin of a bay:  
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,  
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

### **The Stone of Destiny**

On November 15, 1996, the Stone of Destiny, on which Scottish kings had been crowned since time immemorial, was brought back to Scotland 700 years after the army of King Edward I of England carted it off to Westminster Abbey in London. Now safely ensconced in Edinburgh Castle, the 152 kg rock popularly known outside Scotland as the "Stone of Scone" has joined the other Scottish royal regalia -- crown, scepter, sword and jewels -- in a closely-guarded museum.

The origin of this famous Stone is shrouded in myth. According to legend, it came from the Holy Land, where Jacob supposedly used it as a pillow in Biblical times. Transported through Egypt, Sicily and Spain, it was taken to Ireland, where Saint Patrick himself blessed this rock for use in crowning the kings of the emerald isle. It is certainly possible that the Stone may

Christine and Lizz at the gates of Scone Palace



have been used in the coronation ceremonies of the Irish Kingdom of Dalriada from roughly 400 AD until 850 AD, when Kenneth I, the 36th King of Dalriada, moved his capital of his expanding empire from Ireland to Scone (pronounced "scoon") in what is now Perthshire, Scotland. The Stone was moved several times after that, and used on the remote, western island of Iona, then in Dunadd, in Dunstaffnage and finally in Scone again for the installation of Dalriadic monarchs.

The Stone was last used in a coronation in Scotland in 1292, when John Balliol was proclaimed King. Four years later, in 1296, the English monarch, Edward I (infamous as the "hammer of the Scots," and nemesis of Scottish national hero William Wallace) invaded Scotland. Among the booty that Edward's army removed was the legendary Stone, which the English king apparently regarded as an important symbol of Scottish sovereignty. The present Coronation Throne was made to house the stone in 1301. According to the treaty of Northampton of 1328, peace was restored between the warring neighbors, and King Edward III of England promised to return the Stone to its rightful owners forthwith. But somehow the English never got around to fulfilling their end of the bargain, and the Stone of Destiny remained in London until British Prime Minister John Major, with the approval of Her Majesty the Queen, arranged to right this persistent, historical oversight last fall.



*Lizz and Andrew sit on a replica of the Stone of Destiny*

But is the stone that finally rests securely in Edinburgh Castle the real Stone of Destiny? After so many centuries, it is impossible to know. According to one legend, the Stone never left Ireland at all. One tale suggests that the original Stone of Destiny was white marble, carved with decorative figures -- in no way resembling the plain slab of yellow sandstone with a single Latin cross carved on it that sat beneath the throne in Westminster Abbey for these past seven centuries. To make matters more confusing, there may have been several copies made down through the ages! It is entirely within the realm of possibility that some canny Scots fobbed off a fake on Edward I, seven hundred years ago, hiding the original coronation stone where it would never be found. One story particularly satisfying to Scottish nationalists with long memories claims that Edward actually took the rough rock used to hold down the cover of the cess-pit at Scone Castle, and that subsequent English monarchs have ceremoniously seated themselves on this medieval plumbing accessory for their coronations ever since 1308! At least one acknowledged copy of the "Westminster" Stone exists, on public display at beautiful Scone Palace in Perthshire, where it serves as a favorite roost for the elegant peacocks and camera-toting tourists who stroll the grounds.

Are there additional copies? On Christmas Day, 1950, four Scottish students, inspired by nationalist sentiment, heisted the Stone from under the Coronation Throne in Westminster Abbey, dumped it in the trunk of their car, and drove off with it. About four months later the rock was recovered from the Arbroath Abbey, where it had been deposited by the stone-nappers. Or was it? Rumours have always persisted that there was plenty of time for the students to fashion a replica to be "returned" to Westminster, while the original Stone was spirited north to a secret location in Scotland. One seemingly far-fetched theory even suggested that the actual stone was hiding in plain sight for decades -- that the purported replica on public display at Scone Palace was in fact the real Stone of Destiny!

Only the thieves would know for sure. Perhaps the evidence that the Stone was in fact returned to Scotland and eventually left in Arbroath Abbey to be returned to the safe keeping of the Church of Scotland is to be found in Ian R. Hamilton's book, *No Stone Unturned*, (London: Victor Gollancz Ltd., 1952). This is an autobiographical account of how, when and why the Stone was heisted.

Lingering doubts about the provenance of the Stone are unlikely to be resolved: fables are always much more fun than mere facts. But few would debate the symbolic significance of restoring what is at least presumed to be the original Stone of Destiny to Scotland. Most Scots were pleased, if somewhat bemused by this unexpected turn of events, although some express reservations about the legal niceties surrounding the return of the pilfered artifact. Technically, under British law the Crown still "owns" the Stone -- the assumption apparently being that, after seven centuries, possession is ten tenths of the law. However, Her Majesty has decided to lend it permanently to her Scottish subjects, on the understanding that it can be temporarily taken back to London whenever it might be required for future coronations.

The last time the Stone was used was in 1953 for the formal Coronation ceremony of Queen Elizabeth II, who had succeeded to the throne the previous year on the death of her father the King.



## FEDERATION OF SCOTTISH CLANS IN NOVA SCOTIA

DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

PO BOX 477

LOWER SACKVILLE, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA B4C 3G4

www.scotsns.ca president@scotsns.ca



### **Should Canada have a National Tartan Day? Does Canada deserve a National Tartan? We think so, too. The Federation needs your help.**

Dear Friend of Scottish Culture:

As many of us know, Canada has a long and rich history of Scots immigrating to this country, stretching from colonial times until the present. Much of the success of our treasured Canadian institutions in the areas of education, governance, finance, and jurisprudence were influenced by the advancements that came from the successive waves of Scottish immigrants, bringing with them culture, ideas and the fruits of the Scottish Enlightenment.

We must appreciate the tremendous role that the successive generations of Scots have made to Canada. We must take stock of their contributions to communities, great and small, located in every corner of this great nation. As Canadians, it is our duty to remember our collective Scottish heritage. We must commemorate how the Scots have made a difference.

#### **The United Council of Scots of Atlantic Canada**

The Federation of Scottish Clans, in collaboration with our counterpart organizations in New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland & Labrador, has sponsored a new initiative called "The United Council of Scots of Atlantic Canada." This new organization, the United Council of Scots, has been the result of many meetings. There is now open dialogue between four provincial Scottish cultural groups. We are looking to future as we celebrate our past.

Mr. Daniel Taylor, a long-time advocate of Scottish Culture, has been appointed Executive Director of the United Council of Scots. His organizational skills, dedication and contacts within the Scottish Community make him a natural fit for the task at hand. I encourage you to contact him in order to introduce yourself, your organization and your aspirations for Scottish Culture in Atlantic Canada.

#### **A National Tartan Day and a National Tartan**

The United Council's first action is to execute a long-desired goal of the Federation of Scottish Clans in Nova Scotia: national recognition by the Parliament of Canada of "Tartan Day" annually on April 6<sup>th</sup>, as well as recognition of the Maple Leaf Tartan as Canada's "National Tartan." Indeed, Scots and their descendants have been full partners and participants in the development of the Canadian Confederation.

As Nova Scotia Scots are aware, Tartan Day was first proclaimed in Nova Scotia in 1987 and the date of April 6<sup>th</sup> has since been adopted by Scots world-wide as a day to commemorate and

SE A TH'ANNAINN NA THAGHAS SINN.

*(We are whom we choose to be.)*

Incorporated 14 May 1982

celebrate their Scottish heritage. Tartan Day has been proclaimed as an official date of commemoration by nations around the world and many U.S. state legislatures. The culmination took place in 1998 when an Act of Congress of the United States gave federal recognition to the importance of Scots' contributions to that nation.

In Canada, each provincial legislature has named April 6<sup>th</sup> as "Tartan Day." Shamefully, Canada's national government has yet to give similar recognition. Federal recognition of Tartan Day (April 6<sup>th</sup>) and the Maple Leaf Tartan as "Canada's National Tartan" are long, long overdue.

### **How can you help?**

The FSCNS is urging all Friends of Scottish Culture in Nova Scotia to join the effort to have Tartan Day and the Maple Leaf Tartan recognized by Parliament.

In advance of this initiative, you are urged to contact Mr. Dan Taylor at the United Council of Scots. We know we cannot do this alone. For success, we will require coordinated and sustained support from Canada's Scottish cultural groups and communities, from sea to sea to sea. This will be an historic initiative of the Scottish Cultural community. We are committed to this task and the FSCNS and the UCSAC would like to hear from you with your ideas and your willingness to join this campaign. Please forward this letter to members of your organization that you believe may be interested in joining our campaign.

Once we are aware of your interest, we will inform you of the action plans and strategies that are being developed. Help us ensure that Tartan Day (April 6<sup>th</sup>) is forevermore on calendar across Canada.

### **What are the next steps?**

We need support from the grass roots. You, your family and your friends, as well as others you may know who share our vision are asked to contact Mr. Dan Taylor at the coordinates below. You may also contact Mr. Frank Logan, FSCNS 1<sup>st</sup> VP, no later than Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009, if you are willing to participate in this campaign to further Scottish Culture in Canada. The sooner, the better. We have much work to do.

Daniel R. Taylor, Executive Director  
United Council of Scots  
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New Maryland NB E3C 1J5

506-457-0310  
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Frank Logan, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
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Dartmouth NS B3A 3Y7

902-469-3989  
[clan.logan@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:clan.logan@ns.sympatico.ca)

As always, do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. I thank you in advance on behalf of the Executive and Council of the Federation of Scottish Clans.

Yours, aye.

*Tom Wallace.*

**Thomas E.S. Wallace, President**  
Federation of Scottish Clans in Nova Scotia  
Host of the 2011 International Gathering of the Clans  
<http://www.scotsns.ca>  
[president@scotsns.ca](mailto:president@scotsns.ca)



# Clan Hunter Association - Canada

Notice of Dues for July 1st 2009 to June 30th 2010

This is a gentle reminder that a new season is upon us and now is the time to renew your membership in the association.

If you have already renewed your membership, we thank you sincerely and please kindly ignore this reminder. If not

perhaps you would like to fill in this note, add a cheque for \$30 and pop it in the envelope provided.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Membership No. CHAC \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cheques should be made payable to Clan Hunter and mailed to the Clan Hunter Association treasurer at:

Donald R Hunter

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Toronto, ON M4A 1T9