



# Hunters' Halloo

Newsletter of the Clan Hunter Association, Canada

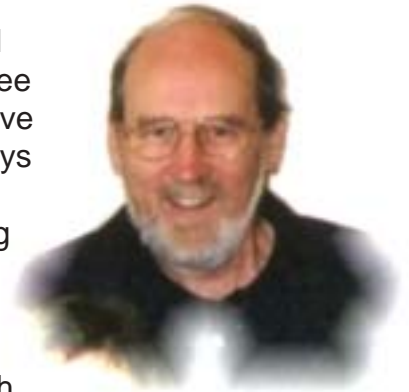
Spring 2015

Crest Badge of a  
Member of Clan Hunter

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Greetings fellow clansfolk, Summer is approaching and so too is the Highland Games season. Although as you can see below, the Victoria Highland Games have already come and gone. They are always held on the Victoria day weekend, I believe. Christine and I will be attending the Georgetown Games on 13 June, the Embro Games on 1st July, the Maxville/Glengarry games on 1st Aug and of course the Fergus Games on 7th, 8th and 9th Aug. It is always wonderful to meet clansfolk at these games so if you are out and about in any of these localities please make yourself known to us. There are some interesting thoughts from Lizz our Genealaogist on how your lineage can sometime take an unexpected turn through your maternal line and Christine has graced us with the recipe for her "High Dumpsie Dearie Jam" (try it you'll like it) and lots of other, we hope, interesting stuff. Please read through the information on the Fergus Games and AGM and please consider joining us. As is always the case " The more the merrier"



**Tom**



*Allan and Christina Hunter visiting from UK and John and Lianne Hunter from Victoria, hosting the Clan Hunter Tent at the Victoria Highland Games, May 2015.*



Lizz Thibodeau

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When people look at their genealogy, they are often interested in getting as far back as they can on their paternal line – they want to trace their family name back into history. But how reliable is that really? When tracing father to father to father, we are relying very heavily on the honesty of our ancestors. We are trusting that they were honest when filling in the records and we are trusting that the women, the ones carrying the children, were honest to the men in their lives about who the father really is. And, an argument could be made, that the more noble the birth of the people involved, the more incentive there is to hide an inappropriate relationship.

Suppose for example, that a young noble girl became pregnant by a peasant boy from the village. It would be well worth it to her to cover that up and quickly marry someone of her own station. Her parents may even be involved in the cover up. Someone tracing their genealogy would trace the name back to this important family, when really their paternal blood-line is manipulated (and a complete lie). Another example

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

that came up recently in some research was a young servant girl who became pregnant. She gave the baby her own surname. Now what could be the reason for that? The most we can do is speculate about what happened, but the child received the same first name as the master of the house she worked in. Did she become pregnant by the master and have to hide the true identity of the baby, and she did so by using her own surname? Or did she become pregnant through some horrible circumstances which led her either to loath the name of the child's father or not



even know the identity of the child's father, but because of the kindness of her master she gave the baby his name? Genealogy does not give us these answers. And the answer could be, in fact something totally different. But we can be fairly certain that the name of the mother is true. So perhaps when we are studying

our history, we should focus a little more on our maternal line. Many cultures have done this historically. Prior to 2000 BC, all property in Egypt was handed down the matrilineal line and marriages were initiated and terminated by the woman. In Greece, property also belonged to the women. In fact, the word "heir" comes from the Greek word for a female landowner! In the Bible, we can also see evidence of matrilineal inheritance. "Jewish-ness" was based on the mother's line, not the father's. In Genesis it says, a man shall "leave his father and his mother, and cleave unto his wife" (note that it doesn't say that the woman shall leave – it is the man who goes to the woman). In the book of Ruth, Naomi told her daughters-in-law to "return each to her mother's house" not her father's home. And many native tribes, of North America and Africa, were matrilineal, and some still are. The Picts and the Celts also followed matrilineal lines. So when we look at genealogy, go ahead and study the paternal line – because of the way records are written, it's much easier to follow – but don't forget about the risk involved, and give the maternal line some attention too. It may, in fact, be a much truer line.

## **Things to Remember for this year's Fergus Highland Games** *(This is a repeat from last year, but a worthwhile reminder)*

1. Book your room at the Holiday Inn Guelph Hotel and Conference Centre. Clan Hunter members get a special room rate if they say they are with Clan Hunter when booking. <http://www.higuelfh.ca/guelph-hotels/>

2. Buy your Fergus Games tickets in advance and save. They have many options including single day tickets, weekend passes, and family passes for Sunday. <http://www.fergusscottishfestival.com/>

3. Use the Clan Tent! In addition to the public tent with display tables and information stands, Tom and Christine set up a tent for Clan use. They have a few extra lawn chairs and snacks, but you can leave your own lawn chairs and picnic lunch while you walk around, or just come in to get out of the sun or rain for a while.

4. Bring your talent! Early Saturday evening we have our Annual Clan Meeting, followed by supper and entertainment. Do you play a hammered dulcimer? Does someone in your family take highland dancing lessons, or play the bagpipes? Did you hear a funny poem at a Robbie Burns night that you'd like to recite for us? Contact the editor if you can help with this year's entertainment!

*Jane Ann Dale-Hunter*

## **Membership Report**



I do not really have a membership report for this Newsletter. We have had no new members since January! But I would like to just thank all those who have taken the time to catch up on their membership dues. We have had 75% payment this year which is a bit better than previous years, and that is definitely a step in the right direction. Thank you, thank you!

It is now time to send out a payment notice for the year 2015-2016, and I would just gently suggest that you consider sending your payment for this year's dues as soon as you receive the notice. It is so easy to forget ..... I have been guilty of that myself, but the dues help us to keep the newsletters and other information coming to you regularly, they help us have a presence at about 5 Highland Games each summer, and part is sent to Scotland to help keep the castle open to Hunter Clan members.

I hope you enjoy reading this Newsletter, and hope you are able to attend a Highland Games in your area this summer, and celebrate your heritage. Think about taking some photographs and sending them to [tomhunter@rogers.com](mailto:tomhunter@rogers.com) to be included in the October Newsletter.

**Christine Hunter**  
**Membership Secretary**

## ***Did you Know That....***

While there is no longer a coin called a bawbee in circulation in Scotland, the picturesque word has become so well used and identified with Scotland, it is still used by many people who do not know its origins.

The word probably derived from the title of Alexander Orrok of Sillebawby, a 16th-century head of the Scottish Mint, known as the Master Moneyer. It was originally a coin worth six Scots pennies, but as the value of Scots currency became less, relative to English coinage, the name was later given



*The successor of the "Bawbee" - the bronze "half penny".*

to a halfpenny (when there were 240 pennies to the pound). While it was not the smallest value coin in the realm (the farthing or quarter penny had that distinction) its lowly status meant that it was (and is) used to describe something of low value as "not worth a **bawbee**".

*(Editors note: The halfpenny is no longer in circulation since the UK reverted to the metric system for their monetary needs. But I still remember 12 pennies in a shilling, 20 shillings in a pound, 240 pennies in a pound, 2 shillings in a florin, 2 shillings and 6 pence in a half crown as well as a 3 penny piece and a 6 penny piece. We thought nothing of this strange monetary system.)*

# Clan Hunter Association - Canada

Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games

**Aug 7 - 9 2015**

Preliminary plans include

- Fergus Tattoo & Lighting 6.45pm Friday 7Aug 2015 Fergus
- Fergus Highland games 7.00am Saturday 8Aug 2015 Fergus
- Clan Hunter AGM 5.00pm Saturday 8Aug 2015 Holiday Inn 601 Scottsdale Dr., Guelph
- Supper 6.00pm Saturday 8Aug 2015 Holiday Inn 601 Scottsdale Dr., Guelph

*[\$32.00 Adult - \$29.00 Seniors - \$16.00 children (5-12) 4 and under free]*

- Kirkin' o' the Tartan 10.00am Sunday 9Aug 2015 St Andrew's Presb. Church Fergus
- Fergus Highland games 12 noon Sunday 9Aug 2015 Fergus

Why not plan to attend this special gathering

Stay over in the Fergus area

Enjoy the Games - Hang out at the Clan Tent

Join in with other Hunters in the Clan Parade - 11.30 am on 8th

Enjoy the fabulous Celtic Music

Meet some old and new Clan friends

Attend the Kirkin' of the Tartan

in St Andrews Presbyterian Church, Fergus

10 am Sunday morning

Share your genealogy with other clan members

Check out the Fergus Highland Games website

for up to date information

<http://www.fergusscottishfestival.com>



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## Clan Hunter Association - Canada

Annual Clan Gathering 7 - 9th August 2015

Yes I/we will be attending the Tattoo & Lighting on Friday 7th August

Number in Party \_\_\_\_\_

Yes I/we will be taking part in the parade on Saturday 8th August

Number in Party \_\_\_\_\_

Yes I/we will be attending the dinner on Saturday 8th August

Number in Party \_\_\_\_\_

Yes I/we will be attending the Kirkin' o' the Tartan on Sunday 9th August

Number in Party \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

## So what was Ian Hunter doing behind Paul Franklin at the Oscars?



By Mike Seymour

February 23, 2015

Last night Ian Hunter jointly won the VFX Oscar and rightly so, the film *Interstellar* was remarkable and a large part of that was the brilliant work done at New Deal Studios in LA. For example The Endurance, The Ranger, and The Lander were all constructed by New Deal Studios under the supervision of Ian Hunter, and overall vfx super Paul Franklin speaks very highly of their work and contribution.

vfxguide covered New Deal's work in a recent article and yet when Paul Franklin started to speak, we could not help but notice Ian doing something behind him...but what was so important??

For a start Ian dropped something as he walked up on the stage trying to pull this thing out of his pocket - hopefully it was not the valet parking docket. Then he can be seen writing something. We assumed it was a note to thank his business partners Shannon Gans or Matthew Gratzner...or perhaps the great crew at New Deal...but no.

Ian was reaching for a copy of the LA Times! Or rather the page with the Oscar bingo sheet so he could tick off another "Yeah I got that category right box!". He was literally marking off:

### *Interstellar VFX Oscar .....TICK*

Yeah - in front of a billion people, he was crossing off an Oscar bingo card! And in case you were wondering if he was drunk (which he completely was not )...at the end he yelled out over the play off music...Latin!

What one can just hear over the music is the Hunter clan motto "***Cursum perficio***" which means "*I accomplish the hunt*". Ian says that his father used to say it and the meaning in his family was "*I stay in the hunt.*" Ian loved his father very much and the scarf he wore was a gift from his father. Sadly his father Alex passed away the year the team started the company, but it was indicative of Ian's strong sense of family and his good luck charm for the evening. Luckily, it worked.



*Ian checking out his Oscar Bingo Card complete with his Hunter Tartan Scarf.*

*Ian the morning after*

## ***From the Life and Times of Leith***

by James Scott Marshall

When the first omnibus appeared in the summer of 1833 it was a great novelty, and the stagecoach was quickly abandoned. Roads by then were far superior to what the eighteenth century had known, and the omnibus was welcomed for its speed, and moderate fares, which averaged a penny a mile. The first service in Leith ran from Edinburgh High Street to Seafield Baths.

This new form of transport called for a new code of manners, and *The Scotsman* listed some basic rules:

- Being seated, keep your knees close together... If you don't you thereby occupy the space of two people... Besides, it is a very unpicturesque attitude, and displays a susquepedality of paunch to great disadvantage.
- Never stare the women out of countenance... If you must stare, stare at a man
- Don't intrude your talk on those who don't want it...
- Don't bring brown paper parcels with you into an omnibus -- nor bundles of any sort. An omnibus is not a van.
- Never turn up your nose at your fellow passengers; but whenever you feel your gorge rising at their humble condition, recollect that they pay the same fare as you do...
- Don't spit upon the straw -- and take care never to blow your nose with such energy as to startle your fellow travellers.
- When you are about to alight, have your money ready in the exact coin; the conductor is not a banker, that he should give you change.



*Typical Omnibus of the period*

## ***Do we have your current e-mail address?***

Whenever I send out a mailing via e-mail I can be sure of 1 or 2 addresses which fail because they are no longer valid. Unfortunately many of our members forget that when they change their e-mail address or service provider they need to send us a change of address just as



they would for their regular mail. Please don't forget to bring us up to date if you change your address (e-mail or postal) Even if you have your newsletter sent by regular mail we would appreciate having your e-mail address so that we could keep you up to date with information that can't wait till the next newsletter.

Are you still receiving your newsletter by 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.

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## **Summertime Jam Making**

I like to make Jam. I make enough during the summer season to last us through the winter, with some extra to share with family and friends. We make a family outing to pick strawberries, we grow blackcurrants and redcurrants in our back yard and we buy any other fruit at one of the local farmer's markets to make sure we have a variety of flavours. I have all my mother's jam recipes and every year I browse through them – looking for something different. Last summer I decided to try High Dumpsie Dearie jam – and it was a great success. I thought you might like to try this recipe as a change from just plain old strawberry or raspberry (great jams, but just so ordinary don't you think)?

### **High Dumpsie Dearie Jam.**

2 lbs cooking apples, peeled, cored and cut into chunks

2 lbs pears, peeled, cored and cut into chunks

2 lbs plums, halved and stoned

4 ½ lbs sugar

Juice of 1 lemon

Butter – 1 tsp – optional. I always add 1 tsp of butter to all my jams.

NOTE – fruit should be weighed after it is prepared.

NOTE – to test for setting point of jam, drop some onto a saucer, allow it to cool and if setting point has been reached the jam should wrinkle when you push it with your finger.

### **Method:**

Place all the fruit in a large preserving pan and simmer very gently for about 45 minutes, or until fruit is very soft and tender.

Add a little water if the fruit does not make enough juice itself.

Keep stirring to avoid fruit sticking to bottom of pan.

Remove from heat and add sugar, stirring well. Put pan back on gentle heat and stir until sugar is dissolved.

Add lemon juice and butter.

Bring to the boil and boil rapidly until the setting point has been reached.

Test in 15 minutes, then every 2 minutes.

Pour into sterilised jars, wipe the tops of the jars and seal. (I keep the jars warm in a 200 degree oven until I am ready to fill them)

SERVE with bread, toast, scones, cakes, pancakes or use in steamed or baked puddings and desserts.

Most of all .....ENJOY!

Christine Hunter,  
Avid Jam Maker!



## **Did You Know?**

- Midges!

In the summer time, visitors and residents in the country areas in the west of Scotland are often pestered by the clouds of midges which fly around in their thousands, attacking humans and animals alike and leaving behind an itchy bite.

More than one tourist has remarked that you can "kill one of the blighters and several hundred turn up for the funeral." It is unfortunate that the ten weeks of their breeding season coincides with the main tourist season!

"Culicodes impucantus" to give the midge insect its proper title, prefers areas where there is a good annual rainfall - so the West of Scotland is its favourite haunt as many places there have over 50 inches of rain a year (Lochaber had 220 inches in 1990!).

It is only the female midge which bites, having first detected its prey from the carbon dioxide which they produce.

The insect scrapes the skin, then inserts a hollow hypodermic-style needle under the skin to draw blood - a nourishing meal for the midge prior to laying its eggs.

Over the centuries, many remedies have been formulated to deter the little blighters and the consumer magazine "Which" has even run tests on brands of insect repellents. But the US army has found that a cosmetic product "O So Soft" works wonders!

And smoke is also a good deterrent - Queen Victoria is reputed to have smoked cigarettes on her Highland jaunts for that reason!

A system has now been developed by Advanced Pest Solutions, based at Edinburgh University, which collects known densities of midge populations in various locations and combines that with weather forecasts to predict the worst affected places - similar to the pollen index of hay-fever sufferers. The forecast is refined by midge catch data provided by a network of traps at weather stations located from Shetland to the Borders. The forecast is being reported each day in the Aberdeen-based Press and Journal newspaper and is available online at [www.midgeforecast.co.uk](http://www.midgeforecast.co.uk).

## **THE MIDGES**

by Kenneth McKellar

Chorus

The midges, the midges, I'm no gonnae kid ye's,  
The midges is really the limit,  
Wi teeth like pirhanas, they drive ye bananas,  
If ye let them get under yer simmit!

