

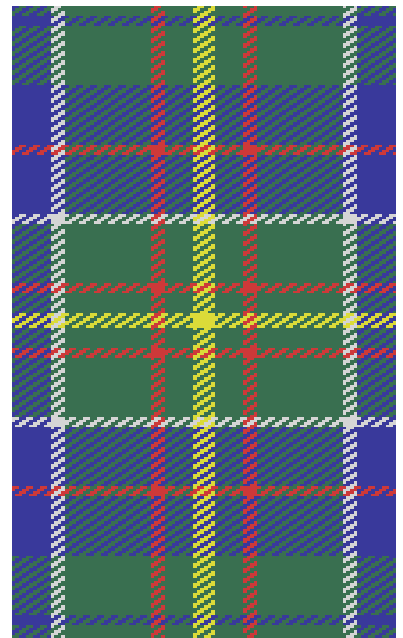
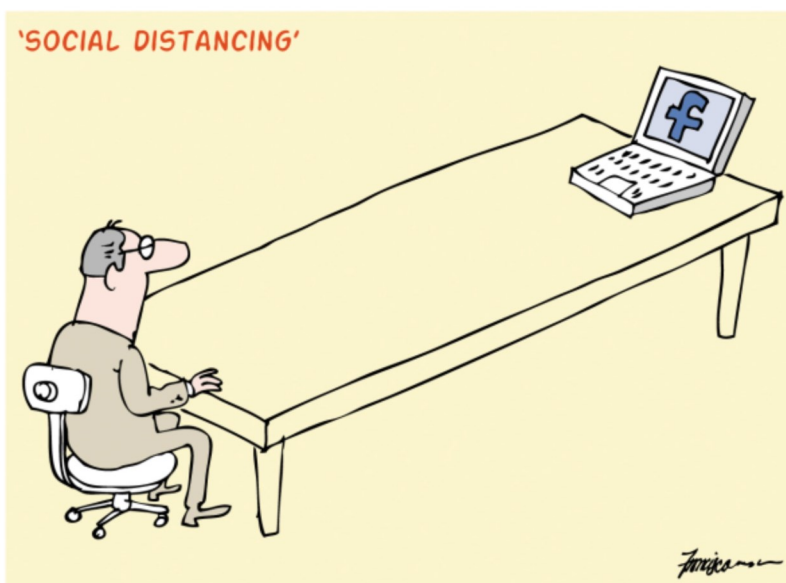
Hunters' Halloo

From the Editors

So, we're still doing this, huh? No, I don't mean the newsletter. I mean this covid, pandemic, quarantine, virtual-everything thing. It was kind of interesting at first, but I think I'm safe in saying that the novelty has worn off. As a Full Remote Learning teacher (meaning that I have been teaching online all year, not just when the schools were closed), I can definitely say that the novelty has worn off for my students. Getting to stay home all the time and be on our computers all day is no longer the cool thing we thought it would be before it was the only option.

BUT, please keep doing what you're doing. Maybe we should start a Clan vaccine count on the facebook page so we can celebrate as each clan member becomes a little bit safer! I know my parents have appointments to get theirs this week. We're getting close now everyone. It's been a long year and an even longer winter (I know that's not possible, but it sure feels that way), but there is hope on the horizon. The weather is getting warmer. Porch visits will be pleasant again before long. I actually remember last summer fondly. I spent so much time sitting in my back or front garden visiting with people—at a safe distance of course. I'm really looking forward to doing that again soon. It felt so weird being limited to that last year, and now I can't wait to be able to do that again. So let's keep fighting the good fight. We will finish the race, but let's keep being careful so that we can all finish it together!

Lynn & Lizz



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Clan Hunter Association, Canada

This newsletter is for members and friends of Clan Hunter Association, Canada. If you have an important event in your family's life that you'd like to share, please send us a photo or two and a brief explanation of what you are celebrating. Graduations, new babies, birthdays, retirements, if you're celebrating, we'd like to know!

From Madam Pauline Hunter of Hunterston, Clan Chief

Dear Clansfolk,

As we look forward to lifting regulations in our countries with the pleasure of meeting up again with our family and friends, we must be grateful to those that have helped to care for those of us in need and everyone who has worked to kept us safe.

The new Clan Hunter live meetups have proven to be really popular. It has been such a joy to have met so many of you online and put faces to names, thank you everyone who joined Tom Hunter, Clan President for Canada, Bryan Hunter Clan President for the USA and myself in connecting with us. Going forward I will be hosting live meetups regularly in February, May, September and December.

My plan is to go ahead with our International Gathering over the weekend of 3rd to 5th September this year. The Largs Viking Festival is looking to go ahead as well. However, if not, I am making alternative plans. If our Gathering cannot go ahead there will be an online Gathering with a variety of events for you all. So be assured, there will definitely be something happening. "I will complete the course" is my guide!

Thank you to everyone who joined myself, Lucy, Carol Hunter Sullivan and Lois Wallace in February with Carol and Lois giving us all the information about the tour they have arranged alongside the International Gathering. As things are not entirely clear with international travel I am holding another live meetup with Carol and Lois on the 11th April, when we will have a better idea of where we are with travelling to our Gathering.

Following the great success of our Name the Knight Competition we are holding another for Tartan Day on 6th April. The winner to be announced on the live meetup on Sunday 11th April. See our notice.

The following live meetup is on the 2nd May at 1pm EST (Canada and the USA. The topic for May is Hunter Genealogy and our special guests are Mark Hunter and my brother, Charles Hunter. Charles and Mark will be able to give you guidance and tips for your searches. The new Hunter Genealogy <https://www.facebook.com/groups/huntergenealogy/>). If you haven't yet signed up to join us please subscribe on our Clan Hunter website at www.clanhunterscotland.com to get the link.

Our newest venture for you all is producing a Clan Hunter Podcast. This is being undertaken by Lucy, who also writes the Clan Hunter Blog. Our first interview will be announced on our Clan Hunter social media, for those who have signed up on the website, by email. Lucy would be delighted to have any ideas for future podcasts, as we so enjoy hearing what interests you.

Ross McEwen LL.M (Dist) FSA Scot, Vice-Chair, Clan MacEwen Society has recently approached me to carry out an interview for Clan MacEwen' newsletter. It is always exciting to be able to promote Clan Hunter to fellow Clans to create Links and Friendships.

This year is the 20th Anniversary of our Link of Friendship with Clan Muirhead who have contributed many artifacts to Hunterston Castle in recognition of our longstanding association. Raymond Morehead, Chief Elect of Clan Muirhead is planning on coming to our Gathering in September as are several other Clan Muirhead members. It is so important that those Clans who are less fortunate than Clan Hunter are given the opportunity to share Hunterston Castle with us in friendship and comradeship

My good wishes to you all for your wellbeing. I look forward to 'seeing' you online soon.

Yours aye,

Madam Pauline

From the Clan Officer, Tom Hunter

Greetings Fellow Clansfolk,

It is hard to believe that we have been in this Covid-19 restriction mode for a year. I am sure like Christine and I, you are wearying to get back to some sort of normalcy. Of course, I hear repeatedly that things will never be as we once knew them so perhaps we should try to be positive and think of the things that have changed in a good way. For example we were able to hold our AGM on Zoom and for the first time we were able to offer the possibility for every member across Canada to be present. This has never really been realistic before. Not only that but we were able to invite our Clan Chief in the UK to join us. What a treat! In that same vein, Madam Pauline is conducting informational Zoom meetings on a regular basis on various subjects of interest, the next one being 2nd May on Genealogy. If you haven't yet signed up to be a part of the new Genealogy facebook page you might want to make sure you logon to this meeting to see what it is all about. You will find the link to the meeting in Madam Pauline's message within this newsletter.

With regards to the Highland Games Circuit, we have had news that Fergus has once again been cancelled and there will be some sort of virtual activity of which we will keep you informed. This unfortunately is likely to be the same sad story for the other Games throughout the country. Please continue to keep us informed on anything that might be happening in your area and please, once there is an opportunity, please consider hosting a tent at your local Games.

Please stay safe everyone and get your Covid-19 Vaccination ASAP.

Tom

Membership Report—Spring 2021

We have started the year well with 2 new members.

In January we welcomed **Leslie Hunter** to the Clan. Leslie hails from Fergus, Ontario and so we may be able to welcome Leslie to the Clan in person when next we meet there for the Highland Games – whenever that may be.

William Hunter joined us in mid-February from the other side of the country – all the way from Prince George in BC. We welcome Leslie and William to the Hunter Clan and hope that they both find acceptance, friendship and family in our group.

We had a great time on-line with Madame Pauline in December of last year. I counted 12 Canadian members on this ZOOM meeting. And it was truly wonderful to see so many Canadian members taking part in this International meeting.

I just want to add a little reminder with this Newsletter that clan dues for the year July 2021 – June 2022 will be payable at the end of June. As you are aware, we cancelled payment of dues last year because of the pandemic, but we feel it is time to start payment of dues again. Dues are \$30.00 per year. I will be sending membership cards in May to those who have already paid their dues for this year. As always, payment can be made by Paypal, or by cheque - made out to Clan Hunter and sent to our Treasurer: Donald Hunter, 439 - 8 The Donway East, Toronto, ON. M3C 3R7

Christine Hunter, Membership Secretary

Sair Heids by Daphne Clarke

I'm thrilled to say that the following article and photos, and the poem on the following page, all came from our clansfolk. I'm so thrilled when we get contributions from people who are out there doing stuff or just have something to share. Thank you!

Discovered a Scottish Tradition surrounding Remembrance Day: Sair Heids

This Remembrance Day, Dale Hill, Susan Hill and I participated in an 8K virtual race to support the Juno Beach Centre. The eight kilometres distance was significant as it represented the length of Juno Beach. Together we walked in honour of Dale's Great Uncle Elroy who was a fallen soldier in World War 1. As I was preparing for this race I discovered a new Scottish cafe in St. George, ON called the "Thistle Stop Cafe." This lovely little cafe carries all kinds of Scottish goodies and fare. During the month of November they were selling Sair Heids cakes. I was fascinated as I had never heard of this cake before. From my research, I learned that the Scottish word Sair Heid means, 'a sore head' or 'bandaged head.' Sair heids cakes are a traditional Scottish sponge cake that was originally made in Dundee Scotland. These cakes were made and sold to support wounded warriors who had come home from the front after World War 1. The cakes were wrapped up in paper to look like bandages. I was so fascinated by all of this, that I purchased a Sair Heids cake for Dale and Susan to enjoy after our 8K race. This year the Thistle Stop Cafe gave 100 percent of the cost of the cakes to Wounded Warriors Canada and the St. George Legion Branch 605. What a lovely way to honour our Canadian war veterans. A really neat Scottish Tradition!

Submitted by Daphne Clarke



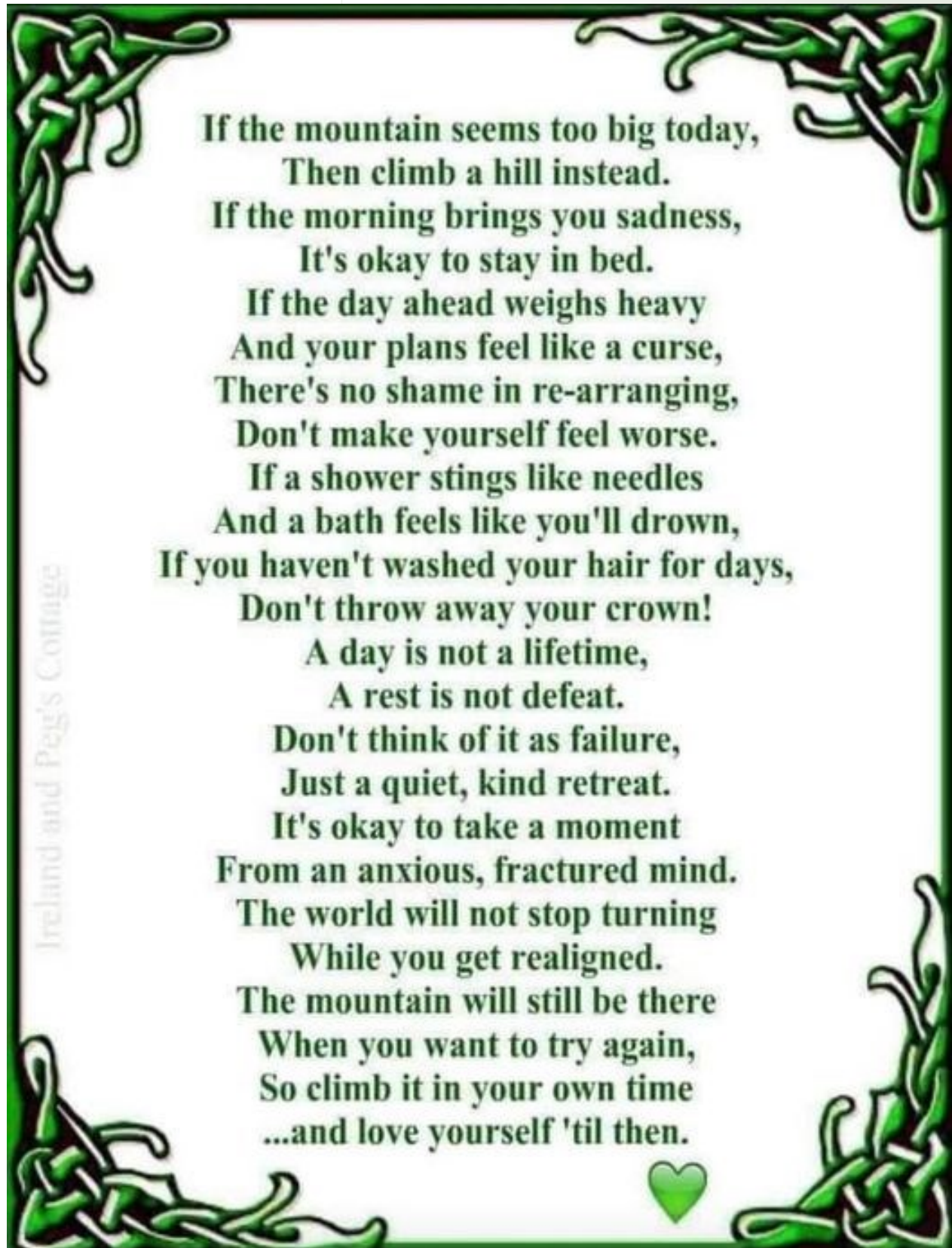
Susan, Daphne & Dale



Some Words of Encouragement, from Beryl Hunter

This beautiful poem was sent to us by Beryl Hunter. She asked us to include it in Hunters' Halloo and to share this message to all of you:

"This poem by Laura Ding-Edwards was sent to me by a friend and I am happy to share it with you."



Tartan Day 6th April!!



Yes, there is a day for this. It originated in 1320 when the Declaration of Arbroath was signed. This special date marks Scotland's assertion as an independent kingdom, allowing it to rule for itself and use arms in defence of English invasion by the Norman kings.

Although Tartan Day was officially celebrated for the first time in 2004 by Angus Council whose area also includes Arbroath. Celebrations also take place amongst the Scottish diaspora around the world, making a festive occasion with Scottish dancing, pipes and traditional Scottish food.

Clan Hunter are also marking this festivity with a Tartan Day competition.

How creative can you be with your Clan Hunter tartan?

Get creative, take a photo and send it to Lucy at ljhunter-weston@gmail.com. Please send your entries by Thursday, 8th April 2021.

We look forward to seeing your creations!

Lucy J. Massaar Hunter-Weston

<https://www.awarenessdays.com/awareness-days-calendar/tartan-day-2021/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Declaration_of_Arbroath