

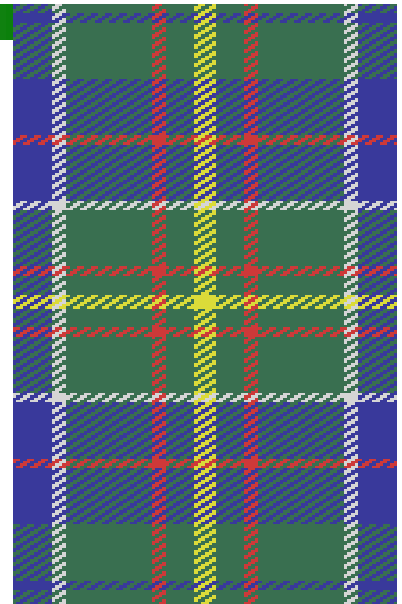
Hunters' Halloo



From the Editors

Spring has Sprung! I am so pleased to finally see some flowers popping up in my garden! It has been a long winter and I'm sure everyone is looking forward to spring and summer and all the fun and games that come with them. Looking out at my garden, I do see a lot of work in store for me, but it's a nice kind of work that I look forward to every year. Now that all that nasty covid business is done (mostly) we can look forward to spending time with neighbours and friends, travelling, visiting all the highland games in our areas, and just getting out and about to enjoy the sunshine. I don't know about you, but I tend to do a little hibernating during the winter, so spring really is a time when I reconnect with everyone and everything! I hope you all have a wonderful spring season, with beautiful weather and many fresh starts.

Lynn & Lizz



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From the Clan Officer, Dale Hill



I hope you have all had a great start to 2023.

Although the last few weeks have felt like they might never end, looking back it seems that the first three months of the year have gone by rather quickly. The March snowstorms in Southern Ontario have certainly encouraged me to look forward to spring!

It was wonderful to have many members attend the 2022 Annual Meeting, held online in January. We were pleased to be joined by Madam

Pauline for an update from Scotland, see and hear about memories of Madam Pauline's visit to Canada last August shared by Lizz Thibodeau and Daphne Clarke, and enjoy stories and photos from Moira Hunter-Kenyon and Julie Nykamp of their travels to Scotland and the International Gathering at Hunterston Castle in September. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the meeting. Watch for information about the 2023 annual meeting, to be held in the fall, in an upcoming newsletter.

Madam Pauline has shared her plans for 2023, which include attending the Pleasanton Games, at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, California in early September (<https://thescottishgames.com/>) and the Alexandria Christmas Walk, Alexandria near Washington DC in early December (<https://www.campagnacenter.org/event/alexandria-scottish-christmas-walk-parade/>). She would be pleased to meet any Canadian members who live nearby on either the West or East coast that can attend and join in the festivities.

Watch for Clan Hunter at the following events in Canada this year:


July 15 - Cambridge Scottish Festival (Cambridge, ON) <https://cambridgescottishfestival.ca/>

July 28 to 30 - New Brunswick Highland Games (Federicton, NB) <https://www.highlandgames.ca/>

Aug 5 - Glengarry Highland Games (Maxville, ON) <https://www.glengarryhighlandgames.com/>

Aug 11 to 13 - Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games (Fergus, ON)

<https://fergusscottishfestival.com/>



Calling all members in the Maritimes! I am excited to be attending the festival in Fredericton and would love to meet you in person. If you're planning to attend the games and would be interested in having dinner with fellow Clan Hunter members, please get in touch over the next few months and we can try to set something up. If anyone from the Fredericton area can suggest a good restaurant and help with setting something up, it would be appreciated.

You can reach me at clanhunter.ca@gmail.com.

If you are interested in hosting a booth on behalf of Clan Hunter at a festival near you, please contact me (clanhunter.ca@gmail.com) so that I can assist you with information and display materials. We would be pleased to have representation at as many events as possible. If you're interested in hosting on your own sometime, perhaps you'd like to join us at an event we are attending and help out. This would allow you to learn more about what we share with visitors at the Clan booth. I look forward to hearing from you!

Can't wait until summer to meet up with fellow Clan Hunter members? Join us on Saturday April 22 at 1 pm at Fionn McCool's in Guelph (where we held our dinner last August - 494 Edinburgh Rd S) to share a meal and test your skills at Hunter trivia. Please RSVP to clanhunter.ca@gmail.com by Friday April 14th if you're planning to attend so we can let the restaurant know numbers.

If you have any questions, ideas or suggestions for Clan Hunter Canada, please let me know. I'd be pleased to hear from you!

Dale

Membership Report—Spring 2023



New Members

Since my last report we have had 4 new members.

Let's welcome:

Penny Durst who joins us from Owen Sound, Ontario.

April Hunter who resides in beautiful Anherst, Nova Scotia.

Mary-Lou Clark also from Ontario, but from the town of MacTier.

James Hunter. James hails from Fredericton, New Brunswick.

We would like to WELCOME these new members to the Clan Hunter Canada Association and hope that they enjoy getting to know us through Highland Game presences and through our quarterly Newsletter.

I am always reminding members of unpaid dues and encouraging them to bring their memberships up to date. I thought I would just let you know some of the ways we use this money – always to promote our love of the Clan and the general furtherance of all things Scottish. Here's just a few ways your money helps us carry out our mandate.

What happens to your annual dues?

When you send your annual dues, do you wonder what we do with that money?

Let me try to give you an overview of our expenses as an Association.

A part of the money goes to **Hunterston** Castle as a small acknowledgment of our family home.

Volunteers who agree to set up a tent at a local Highland Games are sent paperwork, banners, tablecloths – whatever we can manage to ship to help make this an exciting time and something they will enjoy doing again. **Postage** and some **supplies** are paid for by the Clan

Some Highland Games charge an **entrance fee**, and sometimes we need to supply a folding table and chairs to assist the clan members who are “manning” this Clan Booth. Both are covered.

Mailing Newsletters and **Membership Cards**, maintaining a presence on **Social Media** and **mailing information** and **reminders** all cost some dollars.

All the folks who set up a tent at one of their local Highland Games pay their own travel expenses.

None of the office bearers receive any remuneration for their travels.

I hope you feel that we spend that money well.

Christine Hunter,

Membership Secretary



From the Clansfolk — Flags Fly High

I was looking through some old Clan Hunter files and I stumbled across an article that I wrote many years ago about flags. This article resonated strongly with me today because of a recent incident at my daughter's school. A group of students had formed a culture club and wanted to hold a culture fair in the gymnasium. They had teacher approval, had been working on it for weeks if not months, and had great plans. A week before the event, the principal of the school told them that they had to change the location of the event, couldn't sell food, and couldn't display any flags. Now, from an administrative perspective, there could be any number of reasons for a change in location and policies about food often come from higher up, but the ban on flags particularly bothered my daughter. Thankfully, the principal did not simply make this decree; he arranged a meeting with the students so that he could talk to them about it and answer their questions. Torry went to that meeting determined to be the voice of reason in a crowd of angry students. She examined curriculum documents and explored her own beliefs about culture. At the meeting, she and a few other students spoke on behalf of the whole group. She argued on the importance of flags in every culture, but particularly in those who have been oppressed by a stronger power – demonstrated by the abundance of Ukrainian flags seen during the first days of the conflict last year. She argued that Scotland also has an incredibly strong cultural connection to their flag, the Saltire, much more so than to their political flag, the Union Jack. I'm so proud to say that the principal listened empathetically and by the end of the meeting, the fair was back to the original location, with food being served and flags being displayed.

The London Free Press wrote an article many years ago discussing how the Canadian Flag should be flown. Everyone knows that the maple leaf should point up. Most of us would probably have it point to the left if it had to be hung vertically just because it looks more natural. But did you know that if a Canadian Flag is hung over a street, the leaf should face north on an east-west street and east on a north-south street! Many of the other rules about the Canadian flag (and one can assume that they would apply to any national flag) simply have to do with respect. A flag should never be used as a table cloth, seat cover, or curtain. No one should ever write on a flag, and if one wishes to collect signatures, a border should be attached around the flag. The Canadian flag should always be flown on its own mast, not shared with any other flag and if more than one flag is being flown, the Canadian flag should be on the centre mast.

The St. Andrew's flag, commonly referred to as the "Saltire" (although, technically that only refers to the white cross, not the whole flag) is regarded as being one of the oldest national flags in existence. It represents the cross that the apostle Andrew was crucified on by the Romans. St. Andrew's bones ended up in Scotland after being brought there by St. Regulus to be buried in a "far-off land" as directed in a vision. This far-off land was a place called Muckros, later Kilrymont and finally named St. Andrew's on the east coast of Scotland. St. Andrew was declared the patron saint of Scotland after the Northumbrians were defeated in a battle at Athelstaneford (East Lothians) when the Pict/Scot army saw a formation of white clouds against the blue sky in the shape of the cross of St. Andrew.

The other flag commonly associated with Scotland is the Rampant Lion. This is the red lion clawing at the sky on a yellow background. This is, in fact, the royal flag of Scotland. It was developed by King William I, "the Lion" in the 12th century. While, originally, this flag could only be flown by royalty to show their presence (Balmoral Castle only flies this flag when the queen is in residence there), a Royal Warrant has now been issued allowing it to be displayed by all as a token of loyalty to the crown.

The final national flag for Scotland is the Union Jack. This flag was created in 1801 combining the red cross of St. Patrick (Ireland), the white cross & blue background of St. Andrew (Scotland) and the red cross of St. George (England). Interestingly, King James VI of Scotland had tried to introduce a flag combining the St. George & St. Andrew's crosses in 1603 but it was angrily rejected by the Scottish Parliament. All official buildings in Scotland are now required to fly the Union Jack.

Whatever flag is flown, all flags should be flown with respect and a sense of loyalty to their nation. When a flag has flown its last, it should be destroyed with dignity, by burning it privately.

From the Clansfolk — stories of our family

Shall the Dance go on?

My daughter, as many of you may remember, was an avid highland dancer. She came with me to Scotland one year and saw the group “the Red Hot Chili Pipers”. They had some highland dancers with them and Crissy’s eyes just lit up when she saw them dance. She looked up at me and said “I have to do that.” Well the rest is history. We signed her up for lessons as soon as we got back to Canada and she and I travelled around Ontario mostly, as she competed in all the highland games. The amount of awards and medals that she accrued is stunning, but not as memorable as the fun excitement that we shared, spending weekends away and gaining many hilarious stories of our escapades.

Now Crissy is all grown up, she has stopped dancing, and has a daughter of her own. Of course, my expectations are that this little darling will carry on in her mother’s footsteps, but I think we’ll have to wait and see. Willow attended her first Fergus games last summer (at the age of 2) and suffice it to say she was not thrilled with the bagpipes. In fact, her mother purchased a pair of noise cancelling headphones for her to wear while she was at the games. We are still hoping that the sweet sound of the pipes will eventually appeal to her as she does love to dance, and she is still very young, but if you ever attend a highland games and see a little dancer girl with giant headphones on, say hello, because that will probably be her!



Christina Ball



Future Clan Hunter dancer?



Join us

on **Saturday April 22**

at 1 pm

at Fionn McCool's in Guelph

(where we held our dinner last August -494 Edinburgh Rd S)

to share a meal and test your
skills at **Hunter trivia.**

Please RSVP to

clanhunter.ca@gmail.com

by Friday April 14th

(if you're planning to attend so we can

let the restaurant know

numbers)

Recipe Corner



Rumbledethumps

This fantastic, vegetarian-friendly side (though it could be a main, too) is super affordable and makes a nice change from the usual mashed potatoes. The name is thought to come from the sound the ingredients used to make against wooden bowls during preparation.... But who knows for sure?

Ingredients

- 21 ounces potatoes, peeled, boiled, and mashed, or leftovers
- 14 ounces swede or [turnip](#), peeled, boiled, and mashed, or leftovers
- 3 ounces unsalted butter, softened, divided
- 9 ounces savoy cabbage or [kale](#), finely sliced
- Kosher salt, to taste
- Pepper, to taste
- 1 ounce grated cheddar cheese

Gather the ingredients.

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F/180 C/Gas 4. Add the mashed potato and swede to a large mixing bowl and set aside.
2. Melt 2 ounces of the butter in a frying pan over medium heat. Add the finely sliced cabbage or kale and cook gently for several minutes until softened but not brown.
3. Add the cooked cabbage or kale to the bowl of potato and swede along with the remaining butter and mash together thoroughly. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Potato can soak up salt, so be generous with it to add a good flavor.
4. Place the mashed vegetables in an ovenproof baking dish and sprinkle the cheese on top. Cover with a lid or aluminum foil and bake in the oven for about 30 minutes or until heated through.
5. Remove the lid and cook for another 5 mins or until golden brown and a little crispy on the top.
6. Serve piping hot as a side or main dish and enjoy.



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for funnies,
announcements,
keeping up with members
lives, and all sorts.
You can comment on, like,
or share any posts
that interest you.



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!