

Hunters' Halloo

From the Editors

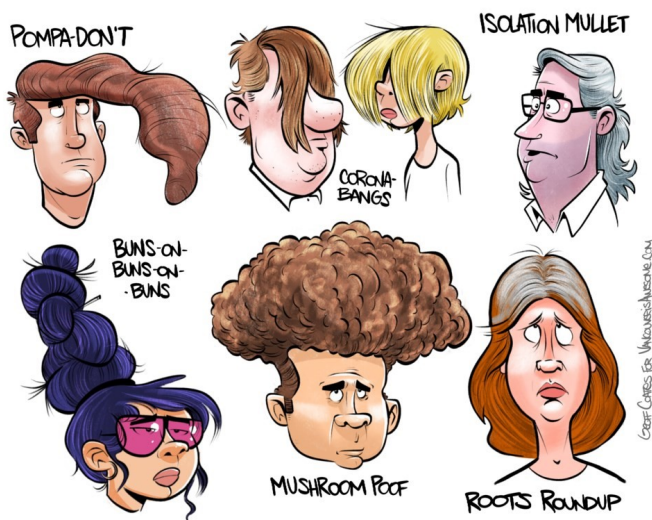
In our last newsletter we commented on the challenge of creating a newsletter when nothing is happening. We decided to look at it with a little levity and share some stories and photos of what our clans folk have been up to during quarantine. Well, here we are several months later and I think the novelty of quarantine has worn off for most of us. No one is making bread anymore. Most of us have had more zoom meeting than we care to. When our school board announced that they were pushing the first day of school back by a week, my daughter actually groaned and said, "Great! Just what we need: another week of March Break!"

We continue to appreciate everything that our front line healthcare workers are doing to keep us all safe and healthy. Our essential workers have made continual adjustments to learn how to provide necessary services with minimal risks. And this month we see our school staff return to face unprecedented challenges. We want to express our deep appreciation to everyone who is working together to get our country through this pandemic.

So how are we going to fill another newsletter? Well, in this edition we're going to embrace some of the things that we're learning from all of this—most specifically how to Zoom! Many of us were able to join with Madam Pauline on a Zoom call on the first Saturday of September. Out of that, we realized that we could be using this technology to connect the clan members from across Canada. Read on to find out how!

HOW'S YOUR QUARANTINE HAIRDO LOOKIN'?

Lynn & Lizz



Inside this issue

From the Clan Officer	2
Membership Report	2
Gathering.....	3
AGM.....	4
New Lessons	5
From Hunterston	6

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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 the Clan Officer, Tom Hunter

Greetings fellow Clansfolk, I hope everyone is keeping safe. Christine and I have been trying to be extra cautious and stay home as much as we can, but as the months roll by we are suffering more than a little with Fever. NO.... not Covid19 Fever but Cabin Fever. So to find some relief we have been having a Sunday afternoon drive. We usually take off for destinations unknown and spend a couple of hours just touring. Somewhere in there we find a Tim Hortons with a patio or nearby park and we have a cup of coffee in the open air. We don't visit with anyone, we just drive. Now... some of the Hunter Clan are aware that Christine and I along with our children Paul, Lynn and Lizz are also known as "The Gaels", a Scottish folk group and for some time now one of our favourite songs has been "The Sunday Driver" and it just occurred to me this week that I have become a character in our song!

Well, I've been a Sunday Driver noo
For mony's a happy year
And A've never had ma Morris Minor
Oot o' second gear
A can drive at 50 miles per hour
On Motorway or track
Wi' ma wife up front beside me
And her mother in the back

Somewhere in this newsletter you will find information on the Clan Hunter Canada AGM. This will be a first for us as we intend to conduct the meeting online using Zoom. Please consider joining us for a friendly, casual, informal meeting. I look forward to sharing ideas and suggestions. If the International Timing works out maybe we could have Madam Pauline drop in for a bit (I haven't asked her yet). Anyway, this is the wave of the future folks. It has been an unfortunate truth of the past that we couldn't include all of our membership in our Annual General Meetings, but now we can "AT NO COST". We will make sure that full instructions will be sent out to everyone but rest assured it is simply a matter of clicking a link and you're there. You will need a device with a camera such as Desktop computer, Laptop, iPad or Android, or phone. I hope to "SEE" you there.

Tom

Membership Report—Summer 2020

COVID19 has had an effect on every facet of our lives, and we have had no new members since our last Newsletter. I hope you have all stayed safe and have managed to be a little more adventurous since restrictions have eased a little.

Since I have no membership news I thought I would tell you what happens to the dues you pay each year.

Our annual fees are \$30.00 and at the moment \$20.00 of that goes directly to Hunterston Castle to help with the upkeep of the actual building. This helps to keep it accessible to Clan members. Remember that you are welcome to visit the Castle any time – the only requirement is that you call ahead and arrange a suitable day. At the Clan Reunions the Castle is open for the whole weekend, including guided tours.

The remaining funds help us to have a presence at as many Highland Games as we can get help with. Some Games charge a fee for us to be present, most don't – but we need to have information to hand out – some of which has to be mailed to the members who will be looking after a tent at their local games. We supply all paperwork, a banner and as much help as we can to make it a pleasant experience.

We also need funds to print and mail the quarterly Newsletter to those who do not have access to e-mail.

What have you been doing for the past six months? It has certainly been a time of renewal, refreshing (where possible) and re-thinking how our lives are unfolding.

Blessings to all.

Christine Hunter, Membership Secretary

Clan Hunter Gathering with Madam Pauline

On Saturday, September 5th, Hunters from around the world gathered online with Madam Pauline Hunter of Hunterston to celebrate the launch of the new Clan Hunter Scotland website. (To be clear: this does not affect our Clan Hunter Canada website clanhuntercanada.com)

Madam Pauline spoke about the efforts that have gone into the redesign and updating of the site.

It was nice to see many members from Clan Hunter Canada taking part in the call: Tom (Clan Officer) and Christine Hunter—London ON, Richard Wright and his mother Lynne—Surrey BC, Beryl Hunter—Ottawa ON, Bob Hunter—Toronto ON, Bonnie Hunter—Toronto ON, Judi Tipple—Saturna Island BC, Linda Hunter—Sydenham ON, and myself Lizz Hunter Thibodeau—London ON. If we missed you and you were there, please let us know! There were several screens of participants and it was only afterwards that we thought to try and make a list of our Canadian Contingent. Madam Pauline expressed her disappointment at not being able to visit Canada this past summer, and is planning to come next summer if all is well by then.

Obviously the cancellation of the Clan Gathering was also a great disappointment, but likewise plans are being made to simply delay it by a year. If you are interested in golf, or fishing, or hunting, there are some keen members who are hoping to include those kinds of activities as part of their homecoming trip.

Please have a visit to the new Clan Hunter Scotland website: clanhunterscotland.com

Ridiculously easy Sticky Toffee Pudding—An unbelievably easy, actually ridiculously easy STP recipe that makes its own sauce!

Ingredients

For the cake:

- 4 tablespoons salted butter (*1/2 stick or 2 ounces*)
- ½ cup dark brown sugar
- 1 egg

- ½ cup half and half or whole milk
- 2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 cup flour
- 1 ½ teaspoons baking powder
- ¼ teaspoon kosher salt
- ½ cup chopped dates

For the "sauce":

- 1 cup dark brown sugar
- 3 tablespoons cold salted butter *cut into small pieces*
- 1 ¾ cups boiling water

Instructions

- Place the 4 tablespoons of butter in a microwave-safe, medium-size bowl and heat for 45-60 seconds on high power or until melted. Set aside to cool for 5 minutes. Preheat the oven to 375°F and generously butter a baking dish that will hold 6-8 cups. Place the buttered pan on a sheet pan.
- In a medium-size bowl, whisk together the melted butter and brown sugar. Add the egg and vanilla extract and whisk until the egg is incorporated, then add the half and half (or milk) and stir until well-combined.
- Sprinkle the flour, baking powder, salt over the top and stir until smooth. Fold in the chopped dates. Transfer the batter to the prepared pan and spread to an even layer. (It won't look that full yet but have no fear, it will be perfect by the time it's done!)
- Sprinkle the brown sugar over the top of the batter and dot with the small pieces of butter. Pour the boiling water over all of this (I know, sounds so strange!) and transfer the pan (with the sheet pan underneath) to the oven. Bake for 35-40 minutes or until the top of the cake springs back when lightly touched.
- Serve warm. Scoop the cake and sauce (underneath the cake there will be a rich, sticky sauce) into dessert bowls. Serve with vanilla ice cream.

Clan Hunter Canada Annual General Meeting 2020

“Zoom meeting at 3!”, “Skype call at 7”, “Webex discussion tomorrow”. Suddenly, many of us have become very tech-savvy and can navigate the trials and tribulations of online meetings like we never imagined possible. Even many who are not having to tackle this as a daily battle have waded in to some degree.

Our church had to move to online worship but missed being able to interact with one another, so in May we started a weekly “coffee hour”. Between 20 & 40 members of our congregation come together online on a Thursday evening to talk about the week and answer an assigned question for the week. What started as just a simple idea to allow us to chat has turned into a brilliant way to allow shut ins who wouldn’t be able to make it to church anyway join in, and to encourage conversation between people who might not normally naturally interact.

Madam Pauline was obviously terribly disappointed to have to postpone the Clan Gathering by a year, and so used the launch of the redesigned website as a reason to gather online for a launch party.

If so many other groups and organisations can use this newly-realised access to technology, why can’t Clan Hunter Canada use it to allow members from across this country to participate in the Annual General Meeting?

The meeting will be held this year on Sunday, October 18th at 2pm EST (please note the time zone!). A week or two before the meeting, we will send out some notes on how to efficiently and effectively navigate an online meeting. Clan Officer, Tom Hunter, will moderate the meeting as he always does, but we will also have a facilitator who will help with the technical side of things. We have found through many other meetings that this is incredibly helpful. We will ask that no more than two people share one device so that we can vote accurately on any matters that arise—hopefully any families with children wishing to participate will have additional devices available (computers, laptops, phones, and tablets will all be able to connect)

We hope that you will mark this date on your calendar now and plan to “attend”. It is very exciting to think that this year the annual meeting will be accessible across the country instead of just to those within driving distance.

Have a look at the video in this link for a light-hearted look at some of the issues that frequently arise in video calls.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DYu_bGbZiiQ



New Lessons

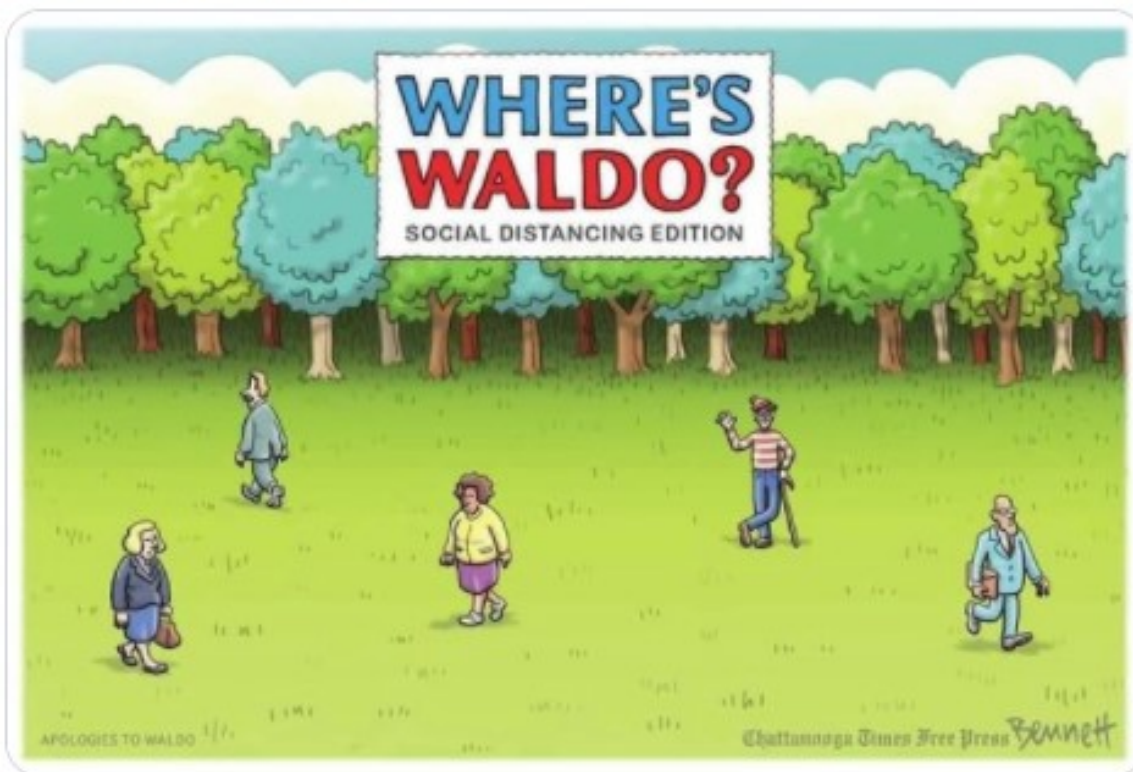
I'm a pretty positive person, and I try to surround myself with other positive people, so it is not unusual that my circle would try to find the silver lining in the midst of a pandemic. Here are a few things that we think may be positive outcomes:

- 1) People have learned how to wash their hands properly!
- 2) Spitting all over the cake is no longer part of birthday celebrations
- 3) No more duck face photographs
- 4) Crossing the road when approaching someone on the sidewalk is no longer considered anti-social
- 5) Demanding your personal space is now socially acceptable
- 6) You no longer need to sneak away to use hand sanitizer after shaking someone's hand
- 7) Pants are optional, pretty much all the time!
- 8) Playing video games all day is considered a life-saving activity
- 9) We all have a better understanding of why dogs get so excited when someone walks past the house.
- 10) No further need to figure out how to end an email. "Stay safe" is pretty much standard now.

Just one final note: The World Health Organization has announced that dogs cannot contract COVID-19. Dogs previously held in quarantine can now be released. So just to be clear: WHO let the dogs out!

Keep smiling!

#SocialDistancing



Something Fun From Clan Hunter UK

Need something for the kids to do on a quiet knight in or maybe joust for fun at the weekend?

Why not download our Great helm templates and get crafty!

The Great Helm is a helmet which arose in the late twelfth century in the context of the Crusades and remained in use until the fourteenth century. They were used by knights and heavy infantry in most European armies between about 1220 to 1540 AD.

There is a heavy metal reproduction of this type of helmet in Hunterston Castle but why not make your own! Simply Download the pdf, print and transfer the templates to cardboard, cut out and tape or stick together. You can decorate your helm any way you like, just search for great helm images in your favourite search engine if you need inspiration.

We'd also love to see your Hunter Helm designs!

Template download link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bZ0_YxeRePKWChgcpnDw99ip1m8nFFVP/view?fbclid=IwAR3EkS_kl8t7DlalGVduHSdYQZFxaWus-5--2Lhf7qjdLS8VajFa9eWvFyk



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