

Hunters' Halloo

Newsletter of the Clan Hunter Association, Canada

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Crest Badge of a Member of Clan Hunter

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Hello everyone, here we are at the beginning of yet another New Year. Have you decided to make some New Year Resolutions, or not? In my case the jury is out on whether or not that is a good idea. But I'll tell you what I do like about the new year... it's a chance for new beginnings. Do you know what I like about new beginnings?... I like that feeling of starting again with a nice clean, blank page. A page with no smudge marks. A page with no

fingerprints all over it.... no lines stroked out.... no parts rubbed out and written over...... no ink spills. Nothing but clean white pristine paper and that feeling of "This time I'm going to get it right".... "this time it's going to be perfect."

Well this year we have started a "new beginning" in the form of a new genealogy section of our Canadian Website and I would like to get it right. We introduced it in the last newsletter and provided everyone with a username and password. It is intended only for Clan Members and our hope is that everyone will help us build a substancial database by adding their own family tree. I know something like this takes time to get going so I am using this space to remind you that we need your help. Some folks have responded but there are a lot more out there who have family trees already established and who need only a little more encouragement to become involved. If you have any questions regarding this or any other Clan Hunter business please don't hesitate to get in touch.

As I'm sure you are all aware, Scotland has been badly hit by frigid, snowy weather again this year with many disruptions to travel and services but on a brighter side I received a group of beautiful photos from Bill Hunter in the UK showing Hunterston in the snow. I thought you might like to see them, so check out pages 5-6. Just as an aside... if you are reading this in black and white then you should really consider switching to receiving your newsletter by e-mail. Trust me, you will enjoy the difference.

A Guid New Year to you and yours

from Christine & Tom





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

Lizz Thibodeau

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I hope that you have all had a wonderful and peaceful Christmas season. On Boxing Day, Andrew & I with our two girls always travel to meet with the Thibodeau side of the family. Since Andrew's dad was one of nine children, they in turn had 27 children who have in turn had 29 children, and almost all of them still live within a two hour drive of London, the Boxing Day gatherings can be pretty crazy. I need to study

the family tree before we go, just to refresh my memory about who is connected to whom. Isn'tit fabulous when a family can stay so connected through three generations! Since my family immigrated to Canada in the 1970s, I grew up without much extended family nearby (although we go back to Scotland often to visit) and sometimes the Boxing Day gathering can be a little overwhelming, but it's just another thing that contributes to my fascination with family trees and genealogy.

I'm really excited to see where this new family tree software that we all have access to is going to take the Clan. There are some help pages at the end of this newsletter to get you started. In order to browse the trees already loaded, you just need to use "Guest" as your username and "member" as your password. If you'd like to upload your family to the site, you'll need to request a Private Registered User Login. You can do that straight from the menu or you can just send me an email at lizzt@rogers.com, or Clan Officer Tom at thunter01@rogers.com and we'll help you get started. You'll see in this newsletter an article from Sheila Shone about tracing her family tree in Scotland, and another one about two Hunter Clan couples meeting up in BC, let's get these family trees loaded so we can find more connections between members.

Membership News

It has been a bit quieter since
October – in t h e membership area at least.
We have had one new member –

and I would like to welcome:

Wayne Harold Hunter of Medicine Hat, Alberta to the Clan Association. Wayne's mother and father, Kenneth and Maria Hunter, joined the clan in 2008, and were at the Gathering in Scotland in 2009. Welcome Wayne—and maybe we will meet up at Hunterston at the next

Hunter Gathering in 2012? It is so nice to be able to put a face with a name – and find out a bit more about each other.

Unfortunately Tom and I are not able to visit each area in Canada where our members live, but let me tell you a story. This past May, we travelled to Victoria, BC to visit the Highland Games there. We met a bunch of Hunters. enjoyed the Games, had dinner together and generally got to know each other a bit better. We met Lianne and John Hunter, Sheila and Bob Shone, Judy Tipple and Vanessa and Audrey Hunter. When our treasurer, Don Hunter, and his wife Marion were travelling to that same area, they

gave Lianne and John and call and had a nice visit with them. That's what being a member is all about. We will be sending out a new list of members in the near future - feel free to arrange a dinner/picnic or BBQ in your area - inviting anyone who lives within a reasonable travelling distance. Get to know each other and let us know (send us a photograph maybe) where you met and who attended your gathering. Send us photographs of your family gatherings - we would love to see them and, with your permission, show them in the clan newsletter.

Membership Secretary Christine Hunter

Minister Moore Officially Declares April 6 as Tartan Day

OTTAWA, ONTARIO--(Marketwire - Oct. 21, 2010) -

The Honourable James Moore, Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages, announced today that the Government of Canada will now officially recognize April 6 as Tartan Day.

"A tartan represents a clan, a family, and a community, and is an enduring symbol of Scotland that is cherished by Canadians of Scottish ancestry," said Minister Moore. "Many Canadian provinces and other countries already celebrate Tartan Day. As well, through Tartan Day, Canadians will have an opportunity to learn more about the various cultures that comprise Canadian society."

In Canada, Tartan Day is celebrated on April 6, the anniversary of the Declaration of Arbroath

Tartan Day originated in the late 1980s in Nova Scotia, where it was declared an official day by the provincial government. It then spread across the country, with many provinces joining in. This marks the first time the Day has been recognized by the federal government.

"By officially recognizing this Day, we encourage Canadians all

across the country to celebrate the contributions that over four million Canadians of Scottish heritage continue to make to the foundation of our country," said Senator John Wallace, who recently introduced a bill in the Senate in support of nationally declaring Tartan Day.

In Canada, Tartan Day is celebrated on April 6, the anniversary of the Declaration of Arbroath, the Scottish declaration of independence. Tartan Day celebrations typically include parades of pipe bands, Highland dancing and sports, and other Scottish-themed events.

This news release is available on the Internet at

www.canadianheritage.gc.ca under Newsroom.

E-mail addresses

Every now and again we send out information or newsletters by email and it seems that we continually find 3 or 4 of our addresses are no longer active. This is quite normal and to be expected but we would ask that you keep us in the loop and update your e-mail address with us as soon as you change it. If you are a new internet user and have not yet shared your e-mail address with us we would ask that you consider doing that. We will not send your newsletter by that means unless you request it.



East meets West

Don and Marion Hunter of Toronto (our right) drop in on Lianne and John Hunter of Victoria. Don and Marion were attending a conference in the area and made a point of contacting Clan members Lianne and John. Great idea folks. Let's hope some others do the same thing.

A Dream Come True

My Dad always wanted to take my sister and me to Scotland to show us the land where he was born. Unfortunately, there was always some reason why we were not able to go. We married, had children and had busy lives. My Dad died in 2000 and I felt that I must fulfill that dream of his and so started planning.

I have been interested in the genealogy of several branches of my family, one of which was the Hunter line. What better way to find out more about them than a trip to Scotland.

more. My wonderful husband came along and became the "unofficial photographer". What a trip down memory lane! There were tears in my eyes when I saw the tenement where my Dad lived

His descriptions of the rooms were so vivid and I felt that I could just close my eyes and see the people going about their daily chores.

and the street where he played with his pals.



I worked with Lesley Grey who runs Scottish Ancestral Trails and she was so helpful. I had tapes that my Dad had made and in them he mentioned many places such as the home where he grew up, the schools he attended, etc. She arranged for a driver to take me to all of the places I had on my list and so I was able to accomplish in a couple of days what would have taken me many

Another highlight of the trip was meeting three Hunter relatives for the first time. They and I came armed with photos and stories and we spent several hours recounting family tales. My cousin brought along a picture of three young girls and a boy. She told me that she knew who the girls were but didn't know who the boy was. I sure did and I had a lump in my throat when I told her that the

boy was my Dad. When my Dad came to Canada, he had little more than the shirt on his back so I have very few pictures of his early life. This was indeed a real treasure. We parted with promises to keep in touch and exchange more photos and documents.

The final highlight of my Hunter journey was a trip to Hunterston Castle. We arrived early but Bill Hunter was already waiting for us. He is such a knowledgeable man and obviously loves his job. He regaled us with tales of bygone days and what life was like in the early 1100's and 1200's. I was very impressed that the Hunters had indoor plumbing in the 1200's! That indeed was an accomplishment. His descriptions of the rooms were so vivid and I felt that I could just close my eyes and see the people going about their daily chores. What a wonderful afternoon. Bill can really make history come alive.

As my journey came to a close, I saw a sign that said "Haste ye back".....and I will. I'm already thinking about and planning my next trip.

Sheila Shone nee Hunter

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for the newsletter to
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Winter at Hunterston with thanks to Bill Hunter U.K.



Above: Hunterston House through the trees

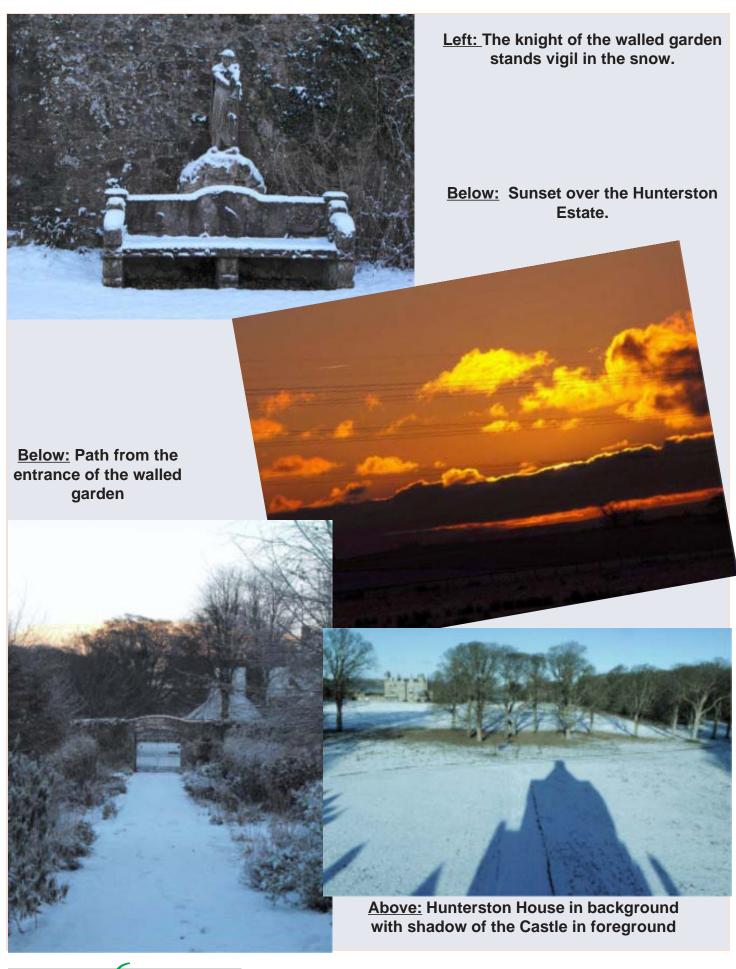


Above: 800yr old Yew tree in Hunterston Walled Garden

Above: Hunterston Castle in the snow

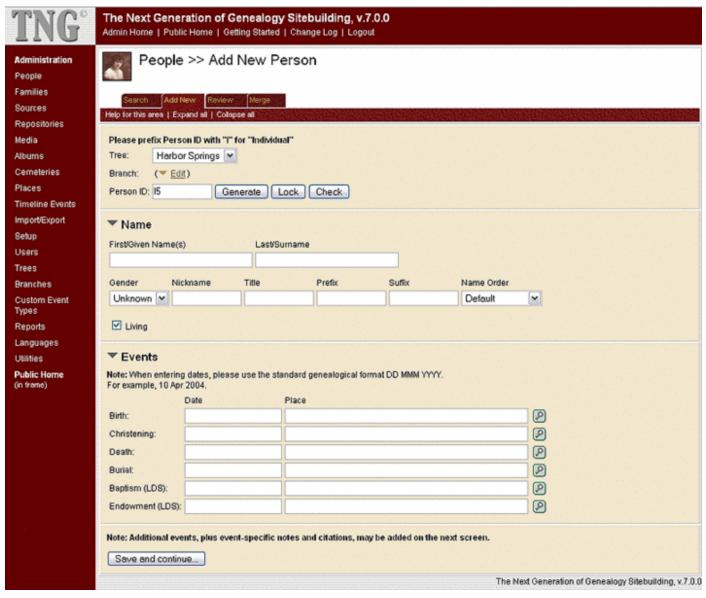
Right: Through the gates of the walled garden





How do I Add a Person to my Family Tree?

1. Login with your Registered User Login.



- 2. From left side menu select People
- 3. Click Add New tab
- 4. Tree: This will default to only your tree
- 5. Branch: Select if applicable
- 6. First/Given Name(s): Enter first and middle name(s)
- 7. Last/Surname: Enter last name
- 8. Gender: Select from dropdown
- 9. Enter Nickname, Title, Prefix and/or Suffix where applicable
- 10. Name Order: Best to leave as Default

which is set up in TNG Admin configuration unless there is reason to display differently

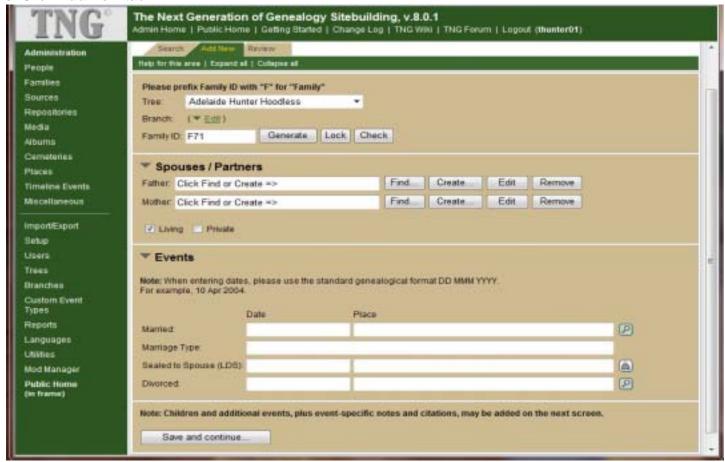
- 11. If person is deceased, uncheck Living box
- 12. Events: Enter dates of Birth, Christening, Death, Burial, Baptism (LDS) and Endowment (LDS) where known, using standard genealogical format DD MMM YYYY
- 13. Click Save and Continue
- 14. Add Other Events if applicable
- 15. On save: Select appropriate choice
- 16. Click Save

How do I Add a Family to my Family

Tree? (Note that to add a second marriage, you

have to add a second family)

- 1. Login with your Registered User Login.
- 2. From left side menu select Families
- 3. Click Add New tab



- 4. Tree: Select from dropdown
- 5. Branch: Select if applicable
- 6. Father: Click Find to find existing father or click Create to create new person's record
- 7. Mother: Click Find to find existing mother or click Create to create new person's record
- 8. Living: If both persons are no longer living, uncheck the **Living** flag
- 9. Married: Enter married date, enter or Find marriage place
- 10. Marriage Type: Optionally, enter a marriage type
- 11. Divorced: If they are divorced, you can enter that information here
- 12. Click Save and Continue
- 13. Children and additional events, plus event-specific notes and citations, may be added on the next screen.

Hunterston Gathering

The next Gathering at Hunterston is planned for July 20 – 22, 2012. Of course there are no details available at this time as to what activities will be available but if past events are anything to judge by it will be a fun and entertaining weekend. The last Clan Gathering



was in 2009 but it was blended with the "Homecoming Gathering" in Edinburgh and so it was a quite different event with only a one day openhouse event at Hunterston. None the less it was a spectacular weekend in total and I for one am looking forward to 2012 when I can meet everyone again back at Hunterston. Please mark this important date in your calendar and make plans to be a part of the Canadian contingent.

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