



# Dabh Ghlaise

The Newsletter of the Clan Douglas Society of North America

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**An unknown gentleman strolls down Clan Row in a Red Douglas kilt at the 2017 Grandfather Mountain Highland Games**

[Photo by Melissa S. Anderson, courtesy of the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, Inc. Facebook page]

[If you recognize him, please let us know his name.]

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**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BEING A CDSNA REGENT or CO-REGENT, CONTACT OUR CDSNA VICE PRESIDENT**

**According to CDSNA Bylaws, a Regent must be a member of CDSNA in good standing**

**How can I renew my membership to CDSNA, if I missed my local festival?**



If you need to update your **CDSNA** Membership, you can use **PayPal** to pay your member dues.

Simply go to our Clan Douglas website and click on the **JOIN CDSNA** tab.



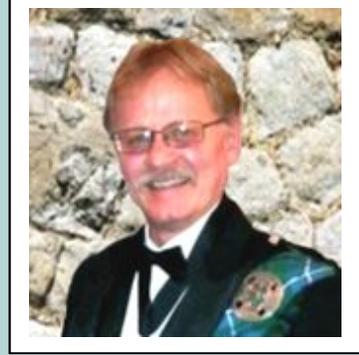
Scroll down the page to the **DONATE** button and press the button to open the **PayPal** page.

**When your transaction is completed, email Secretary Jim Morton for confirmation: DouglasSecretary@comcast.net**

## President's Comments

Greeting Clan Douglas

It is that time of year again and we are about to have the Annual General Meeting of the Clan Douglas Society of North America. We here at the CDSNA hope you take the opportunity to attend the AGM meeting and any future AGM as it not only keeps you informed on what is happening in the Society but it also a great way to meet others who share similar interest in their Scottish heritage and, of course, their Douglas roots.



As I have mentioned before in other newsletter articles, we are in serious need of members who are interested in becoming more involved with Clan Douglas. **We need Regents** to cover areas where we have no representation. But if that is not your calling, there are other things you can do to help; you could volunteer to help a Regent set up and tear down their Douglas tent; bring drinks or snacks to a game and share them with others; the point is to **get involved** in your Clan Douglas Society and we need members to participate and attend games when possible. There is a list of Regent/Co-Regent needs at the bottom of page 13 in this newsletter.

This is my 2<sup>nd</sup> year as President of the Clan Douglas Society and next year we will be electing new officers. With that said, Shirley Douglas, who is our current Treasurer, is going to retire and we will need someone to take her place. These will be big shoes to fill as Shirley has not only been our Treasurer but she was our newsletter editor at one time as well as the Store Goods Administrator. As you can see, Shirley has been a huge blessing for Clan Douglas and will be missed as the Treasurer as she has done an outstanding job.

I would also like to mention that if you need polo shirts, t-shirts, cap badges, kilt pins etc... attend your local festivals and buy them from your local Regent. If your Regent does not have these items at the tent, please consider ordering them through our store keeper Joe Blaylock -- the CDSNA has invested money to provide Douglas related items to everyone and these monies go toward providing monies to help the Society to pay for Scholarships, print and mail the newsletter and help Regents attend games. An order form for our clan goods can be found on the clan website and also on page 28 of this newsletter.

In closing if anyone has suggestions and concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me via email or phone -- my contact information is on the website and newsletter. I am always interested in ways to grow Clan Douglas and I welcome anyone's comments.

Best Regards

Mark A. Peterson

Clan Douglas Society of North America

## The Douglas and the Warrior Soul

Deborah Richmond Foulkes, FSAScot

My husband and I recently spent some days in Virginia, traveling with our four Deerhounds. Staying at a dog friendly hotel in Strasburg, we found ourselves in the middle of a battlefield from the Civil War -- the *War of Northern Aggression*, as we say here in the South. And about that same time my husband gave me a copy of an old book he found online and the author was, brace yourselves, Henry Kyd Douglas. The book was *I Rode with Stonewall*. The true nature of the Douglas is the *Warrior Soul*; Henry Kyd exemplified that persona.

The book is an account of Douglas' life during the Civil War, his early studies as a lawyer, his service to the cause, and his later imprisonment in the Penitentiary by the dreaded "Commission" for suspected collusion with John Wilkes Booth as a former Confederate soldier in the Stonewall Brigade. War, chivalry, political intrigue, illegal imprisonment; a Douglas calling.

I read from Henry's journal with great interest; originally written for his fiancé though sadly they never married. I wondered how exciting it would have been with other Douglas warriors from the past, if they too had left their account from their medieval struggles against the English invaders to their country. Would their writings have included colorful stories that intertwined with the casual commentary on the battles they fought? I would think so. This Douglas book is timeless; insert Brus for Stonewall and Henry for James or Archibald Douglas and it all fits. The life of the warrior soul is forever and the same.

And of course, Henry Douglas was in Strasburg, at Hupp's Hill which was right across the street from the dog friendly hotel where we stayed in late May. There are no coincidences; I have come to believe that as truth. We visited the Civil War Park and Museum for Cedar Creek in Strasburg. In the back room was a full layout of the battlefield for Hupp's Hill. As I walked around the room, looking at the model site from all angles I had this odd feeling that I was not alone; before me I could see the battle as it began, from the Confederate perspective. I knew that it was driven by a perceived weakness of the Federal army's position, its casual preparedness for an enemy attack. Ultimately it was the Confederate soldiers' hunger that initiated the battle; the smell of bacon and biscuits must have been too difficult for the starving soldiers to resist.



Model of Hupp's Hill battle site at Civil War Park and Museum commemorating the Cedar Creek Campaign in 1864

That day the military hospital changed hands twice; the Federal forces turned over the keys that morning, the Confederates filled their bellies and by nightfall the Federals had returned with significant force and regained their stronghold and the control of the hospital. It has been written that the Confederate losses during this Cedar Creek campaign marked a major turning point in the war from which the South never recovered.

Douglas shared many insights, personal anecdotes that saddened him. He included such stories as losing his mount named Dick Turbin. The horse was injured in the leg in an earlier encounter at Hupp's Hill when he again sustained injury, struck in the jaw by an enemy rifleman's bullet. Douglas found himself in the middle of the enemy's camp when he was unhorsed. He calmly remounted and rode quietly with the Federal forces, unnoticed. How like our 14<sup>th</sup> c. Douglas warriors James and Archibald, to keep his presence of mind amidst the enemy; and to have a loyal horse though badly wounded, carry him to safety and the Confederate lines. The stories of legend!

Sadly we learn that Dick Turbin died of lockjaw two days later and that the army appraisers awarded Douglas only \$2000 for his loss, a beast worth three times that, he



Canon type used at Cedar Creek, Hupp's Hill in Strasburg VA where Henry Kyd Douglas fought; it is believed that the English first used gun powder and a hand held canon during a battle with the Scots in 1327; James Douglas would have given much to secure this beauty for his fight in the 14<sup>th</sup> c.

maintained. Another memory was jarred for me. While writing *In the Shadow of My Truth* I was finally able to determine that James Douglas was involved in not one but two battles near Hurlford in Ayrshire because of information in the rolls of pipe. These were payments that were requested by English lords in service to Edward of England while in Scotland. Disbursements from the Royal Treasury were then recorded as reimbursements for their losses of "horses killed in pursuit of James Douglas". Once again, the details of wartime encounters run similar with validations through monetary transactions corroborating the story.



Hupp's Hill artifacts recovered from Cedar Creek battlefield,

In his 19<sup>th</sup> century personal journal Henry Kyd Douglas also provided an incredible account with precise details of how the soldiers lived on a daily basis; how they coped with war balanced with living day to day. Hilarious stories were shared of carousing, incidents of attending several weddings in one day, depictions of a chaotic lifestyle in the middle of a war zone. I could only read between the lines in the 14<sup>th</sup> century records to discover such truths; this 19<sup>th</sup> century account put it out there for all to see.

Yet again, another surprise awaited me. The names of these warrior souls are all the same, century over century, together again; Randolph, Douglas, Foster, Forbes; Scottish warriors all. Just the dates and places have changed.

As I continued to read *I Rode with Stonewall* I discovered that there were several other Virginia locations in the book that were familiar to me, albeit from this century. I realized that I

been around many of these battle sites before, in addition to the Strasburg location. I had never spent much time in Virginia until I found myself in Flint Hill picking up new family members, Scottish Deerhounds from Foxcliffe. This estate includes lands that define the banks of the Rappahannock River. Douglas wrote of the fords or landings on this same river, speculating where it would be easy for his Confederates to get across to escape the Federal army. Each time I visited Foxcliffe we walked the hounds with their breeder Ceil Dove down to the banks of the Rappahannock. I know now that our Confederate Douglas was looking for just such a place to secure an easy crossing. Again, there are no coincidences -- I was walking in the footprints of Henry Kyd Douglas.

In my family as with many during the War Between the States, we had warriors fighting and dying on both sides -- losing incredible fortunes in the process -- but in the end, the Union was saved. A great, great, great grandfather from Fairfax, according to letters from his granddaughter, sold ten plantations (farms) which he converted to Confederate money to support the cause. Another great, great grandfather came down from Connecticut to serve in Washington DC and was commissioned as Captain to take the 95<sup>th</sup> Negro Regiment into battle. Just as it was in 14<sup>th</sup> c. Scotland, brother fought brother; yet the Douglas was the one to most likely survive. Cunning, determined, stubborn perhaps, but in the end the warrior triumphs because he never gives up. Henry Kyd Douglas was such a man, a true warrior soul.



My Deerhounds Garnet Ace and his auntie Celtic Arrow with her mom Virginia Dare at Foxcliffe, on the Rappahannock River; ford or shallow location that Confederate forces sought for an easy crossing



Learn more about Henry Kyd Douglas...

<https://www.civilwar.org/learn/biographies/henry-kyd-douglas>

<https://www.nps.gov/people/henry-kyd-douglas.htm>



### Books Worth Reading

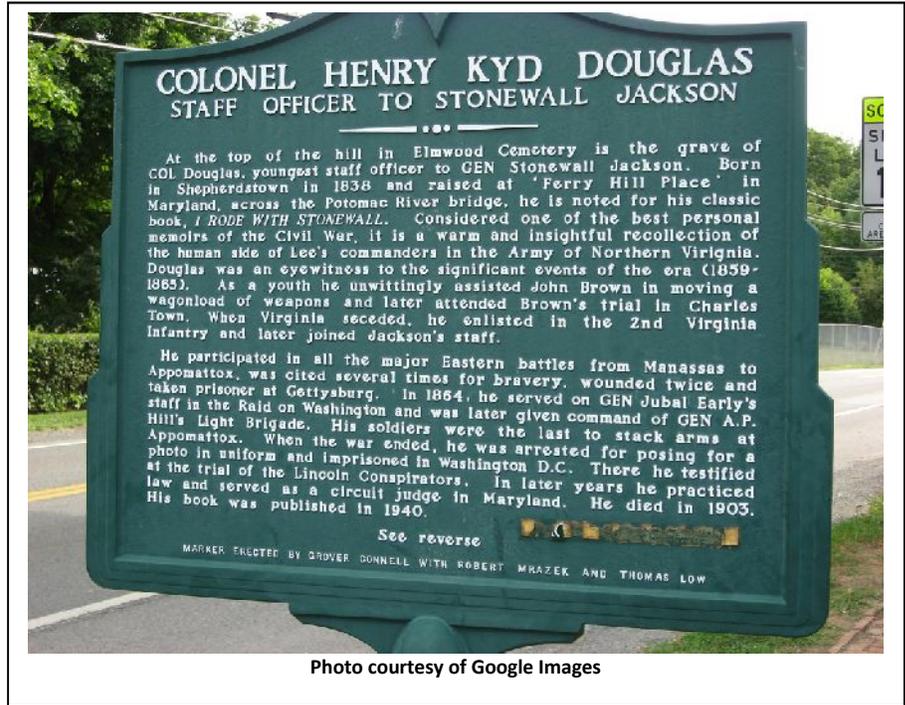
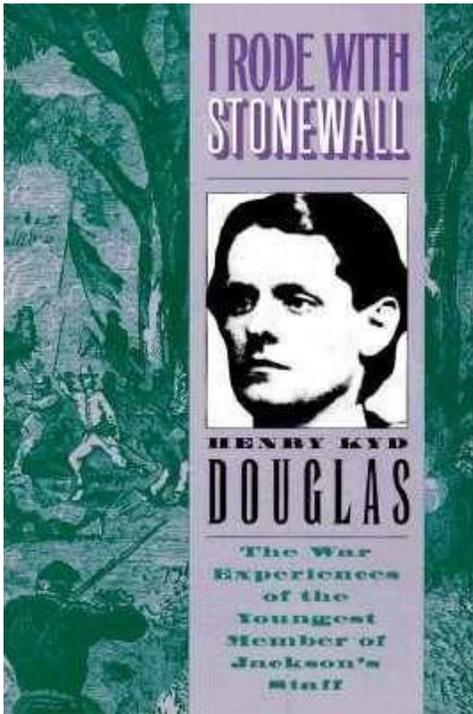
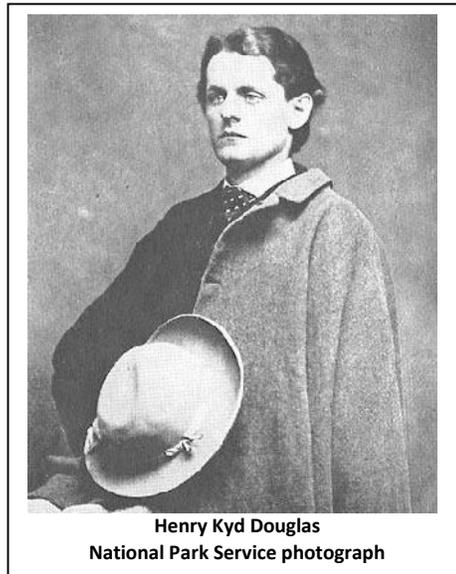


Photo courtesy of Google Images

Stonewall Jackson depended on him; General Lee complimented him; Union soldiers admired him; and women in Maryland, Virginia, and even Pennsylvania adored him: Henry Kyd Douglas. During and shortly after the Civil War Douglas set down his experiences of great men and great days. In resonant prose, he wrote simply and intimately, covering the full emotional spectrum of a soldier's life. Here is one of the finest and most remarkable stories to come out of any war, written wholly firsthand from notes and diaries made on the battlefield. | Here is one of the finest and most remarkable stories to come out of any war, written wholly firsthand from notes and diaries made on the battlefield. Henry Kyd Douglas was depended upon by Stonewall Jackson, admired by Union soldiers, and adored by women in Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania. During and shortly after the Civil War Douglas set down his experiences of great men and great days in a resonant prose almost unique among soldiers and rare among writers.

**Publication date** 09 Nov 1940  
**Publisher** The University of North Carolina Press  
**Publication City/Country** Chapel Hill, United States  
**ISBN13** 9780807803370



Henry Kyd Douglas  
 National Park Service photograph



# Remembering Wing Commander John Keith Douglas, Royal Australian Air Force

by Andrew Douglas, Clan Douglas Society of Australia

For many who know me, I participate in a ceremony known as the *'Last Post Ceremony'* at the Australian War Memorial. It is a formal daily ceremony that occurs at closing time remembering a fallen member of the Australian Armed Forces and Military Medical units who lost their lives in war. At a previous ceremony I was informed by an event organiser that it will take 330 years to read a short biography of over 102, 000 Australians lost in war.

The ceremony begins with the singing of the Australian National Anthem, followed by the poignant strains of a lament, played by a piper. Visitors are invited to lay wreaths and floral tributes beside the Pool of Reflection. The Roll of Honour in the Cloisters lists the names of more than 102,000 Australians who have given their lives in war and other operations over more than a century. At each ceremony the story behind one of these names is told. The Ode is then recited, and the ceremony ends with the sounding of the Last Post. On May 27th my partner and I were extremely honoured to attend the ceremony dedicated to 403564 Wing Commander John Keith DOUGLAS of 467 Squadron, Royal Australian Air Force.

The following is the biography that was read at the Last Post Ceremony:

*"Today, we remember and pay tribute to Wing Commander John Keith Douglas.*

*John Douglas was born to Thomas and Marion Douglas of Manly, New South Wales on the 17th of June 1921. He attended Knox Grammar School and Scots College, and later became a salesman for David Jones. Douglas enlisted in the Royal Australian Air Force in February 1941 at the age of 19. He showed a great aptitude for flying in his training in Australia and in Canada, where he was sent as a part of the Empire Air Training Scheme. From Canada he went to the United Kingdom where he was seconded to the Royal Air Force for service in Europe.*

*Douglas was first posted to 103 Squadron, and flew 25 sorties over Europe in Halifax and Lancaster bombers. He flew with great daring and skill. On one occasion he was on a mine-laying operation in heavy cloud. Although his blind flying instruments stopped working, he carried on and finished the mission. On another occasion he was approaching his target over Munich when his aircraft was attacked by an enemy night fighter. Douglas skillfully manoeuvred his plane into a position which enabled his gunners to destroy the fighter, after which he calmly flew over the target. For these exploits he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.*

*In 1944 he switched to flying Lancaster bombers and was posted to 460 Squadron for six operations over Europe. During his time here he was awarded the Air Force Cross, and displayed quiet confidence and a keen spirit. Douglas was a man who commanded respect. In October 1944 he was promoted to Wing Commander and made one of the youngest squadron commanders in the Royal Australian Air Force with command of 467 Squadron. He flew a further seven successful operations over Europe with his new Squadron in a Lancaster bomber.*



*On the 8th of February 1945, Wing Commander Douglas and his crew flew a sortie against the Dortmund-Ems Canal. Between ten and twenty minutes after leaving the target, the Lancaster bomber gave a great lurch, and had probably been hit by an enemy night fighter. Soon the port wing was on fire and Douglas gave the order to bail out. Four of his crew jumped successfully – three were made prisoners of war and one managed to escape capture and got to England. Three of the crew, including Wing Commander John Douglas, who was holding the plane steady so that the others could get out, did not survive the accident. The bodies of Douglas, his bomb aimer and his navigator were recovered by the Germans and buried. They now lie in the Reichswald Forest War Cemetery. John Douglas was just 23 years old.*



Australian War Memorial 134660



Australian War Memorial 134653

**Standing beside his aircraft is leading Aircraftman John Keith Douglas at No. 8 Elementary Flying Training School at Narrandera, NSW. May 1941.**



Australian War Memorial UK0116

**Flight Lieutenant J. K. Douglas, DFC, with his uncle & aunt, Dr. & Mrs. Randolph Douglas, (Greenock, Scotland) outside Buckingham Palace after being decorated by King George VI.**



Australian War Memorial UK0050  
**02571 Pilot Officer (PO) C. R. G. GRANT, DFM (left)** won his award 1942-11 for his consistent skill and determination in night operations over enemy territory, and **403564 Flight Lieutenant J. K. DOUGLAS, DFC** was cited 1943-01 as "a most determined and successful captain of aircraft whose quiet confidence and keen spirit have been an inspiration to all." London, 16 May 1943.

*His name is listed on the Roll of Honour on my left, along with some 40,000 Australians who died during the Second World War.*

*This is but one of the many stories of service and sacrifice told here at the Australian War Memorial. We now remember Wing Commander John Keith Douglas, his crew mates, Pilot Officers Henry Montgomery Stanbrook Stuart and John Barrie Nanscawen, and all of those Australians – as well as our Allies and brothers in arms – who gave their lives in the hope for a better world."*



When learning about John Douglas I was struck by this brave and remarkable man. In his short life he accomplished incredible feats. He was born in Tamworth, in the New England District of NSW, the same region my own Douglas family settled almost 170 years ago. John was the son of a local doctor of Scottish descent where the New England District features with many Scottish migrants who pioneered and settled in the region; particularly the Douglas and today our heritage is celebrated in Glen Innes at the Australian Standing Stones Monument.

John and his family must have moved to Sydney at some stage, but nonetheless it is proud and fitting that this remarkable man has connections with a region that our name features so heavily.

John Douglas was one of the RAAF's most outstanding leaders, having seen extensive operational service with the Royal Air Force, before taking command of a Royal Australian Air Force Squadron in early 1944. At the age of just 22, he became the youngest ever Australian squadron commander, and one of the youngest in Bomber Command. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross in 1943 and the Air Force Cross in 1944. Tragically he and his crew mates died three months to the day before the war ended in Europe.



Australian War Memorial 134662  
**Wing Commander John Keith Douglas, DFC AFC, Squadron Commander, 460 Squadron RAF, fastening on his parachute beside his Lancaster Bomber.**



Australian War Memorial UK1806  
**Talking on the telephone, Wing Commander J. K. Douglas, DFC AFC, the commanding officer of Lancaster No. 460 Squadron RAAF at RAF Station Binbrook, Lincolnshire, England. 1944.**



HALIFAX HEAVY BOMBER

I was particularly intrigued to learn that John made contact with his Scottish Douglas relatives while serving in the UK, two of whom were with him when he was awarded his Distinguished Flying Cross at Buckingham Palace. What a proud testament to our heritage and of defending our ancient homeland.

The Australian War Memorial is one of Australia's most remarkable institutions and is rightfully high on many a visitors must-see list. If you're a visitor to Canberra, I strongly encourage you to visit the War Memorial, particularly at the Closing Ceremony.

Andrew

**[Authors note: It was a great pleasure recording this story about John. If you happen to know of any surviving relatives I would be delighted to hear from you.]**

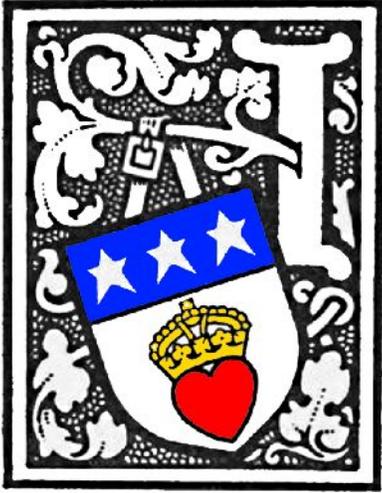


Forage cap belonging to Wing Commander J K Douglas.



**Andrew Douglas at the Australian War Memorial**





# Who do you think should be Chief of the House of Douglas?

by Harold Edington, CDSNA Asst VP and *Dabb Ghlase* Editor

## Part 5: A final Conclusion about

### *Who* is most likely to be our next Chief

In this segment, we finally draw our discussion to a close and I offer my opinion regarding WHO I think should be the Chief of the House of Douglas.

In Part 4 of *Who do you think should be Chief of the House of Douglas?*, we looked at the nine main players within the greater House of Douglas having a claim for the seat of Chief. Each of the nine meet criterion (1) and criterion (3) of what is required to be Chief of the Family of Douglas; each is from the family of Douglas and each is an armiger.

(1) *To be a Chief, one must be from the **FAMILY** of Douglas. There is a hereditary component that must be satisfied, if one is to become the Chief of Family/Clan/House of Douglas. Tradition holds that the seat of the Chief passes from father to oldest living son -- or father to oldest living daughter, if the Chief has no sons -- following the rules of primogeniture.*

(3) *To be a Chief, one must be an armiger (arms bearer) or one entitled to be an armiger, as part of an armigerous clan.*

Yet when criterion (2) is applied, the field shrinks considerably.

(2) *To be a Chief, one must have the **NAME** of Douglas. In Scotland, no individual can be Chief of more than one family at a time. As such, hyphenated surnames are not permitted.*

Only two from our list of candidates currently meet this requirement: the Marquess of Queensberry and the Earl of Morton both have a single surname, Douglas. How should the Lord Lyon choose between them? Each represents a cadet branch of the House of Douglas. Perhaps the question to be answered is this: which cadet branch constitutes the senior cadet branch? To answer this, it would need to be determined *WHEN* the 'Black Douglas' line began. We discussed this in Part 2 and came to no resolution.

But wait! Is all this simply a matter of surname? A surname can be changed legally and is often done so to inherit titles and lands. Any one of the other candidates from our list could ask the court for a surname change and be allowed to assume the sole surname of Douglas ... and let's say one or more did so. The only candidates from the list who would benefit are the Earl of Selkirk and the Earl of Orkney. The other candidates from the list doing so would still be disqualified by the second part of criterion (2) since *"no individual can be Chief of more than one family at a time."* To become Chief of the Family of Douglas, The Duke of Hamilton, the Duke of Buccleuch, the Earl of Home, the Earl of Wemyss, or Lord Torphichen would first have to disenfranchise the family they currently lead as chief. But let us assume for a moment these gentlemen would abandon the seat of chief of their respective family for the seat of chief of the family of Douglas... what then?

If each of our nine candidates were to meet the three criteria required for claiming the seat of the family of Douglas, we would need a methodology suitable for weighing the connections and winnowing the field of eligibles to determine the most likely candidate for the seat of Chief.

In James MacKay's book *William Wallace: Brave Heart*, the author spells out the process Scotland underwent to determine a king after the death of the Maid of Norway. The process, known as the *Great Cause* (not to be confused with the *Douglas Cause*), was a prolonged legal engagement that resulted in a decision that eventually placed John Balliol on the throne of Scotland. Using a parallel process to the one employed in late 13<sup>th</sup> century to determine who

was the rightful king of Scotland, perhaps we can determine who has the most legitimate claim to the seat of Chief of the House of Douglas.

Following the death of the Maid of Norway, there were thirteen (some sources say fourteen) claimants who came forward for the crown. The claims were made, for the most part, through rights of descent, as descendants of King David I, the last common ancestor of the majority of claimants. With the death of the Maid of Norway, the line of potential kings and queens descended from William 'The Lion' came to an end. One claimant, Erik II of Norway, husband of the sole daughter of Alexander III and father of the Maid of Norway, claimed the crown by right of marriage – but this was set aside since Margaret, the daughter of King Alexander III died before her daughter, the Maid of Norway. The other legitimate claims were made by the descendants of David, Earl of Huntingdon, through one of his three daughters. Several claimants were descended from royal bastards but claims through illegitimacy were set aside and not considered seriously.

One by one the claimants' claims were dismissed until two candidates remained: John Balliol and Robert Bruce.

- J) John Balliol, son of Devorgilla and John Balliol, was the great grandson of Earl David through David's oldest daughter Margaret, mother of Devorgilla. John Balliol had an older sister, Margaret, who married John 'the black' Comyn. Margaret and John were the parents of John 'the red' Comyn (whose bid for the crown was ended by the hand of Robert the Bruce – with an assist from Roger Kirkpatrick of Closeburn – on 10 February 1306 in front of the alter of Greyfriars Kirk in Dumfries.)
- J) Robert Bruce, 5<sup>th</sup> Lord of Annandale (and grandfather of the Robert Bruce who would become Scotland's king) was the son of Earl David's second daughter Isobel. Bruce was one generation closer to Earl David than Balliol.

The choice between Balliol and Bruce was not so clear. Just as there were two claimants, there were also two systems at play in Scotland for determining a king. Bruce claimed he was the rightful heir based on **proximity of blood**, or closeness in degree of kinship based on genealogy. But the Normans had introduced the concept of **primogeniture** "the right, by law or custom, of the legitimate, firstborn son to inherit his parent's entire or main estate, in preference to daughters, elder illegitimate sons, younger sons and collateral relatives" [Wikipedia].

The deliberations of the *Great Cause* took years and at the end of the deliberations, the final decision regarding who deserved the throne of Scotland was based squarely on the concept of **primogeniture** of the daughters. It was declared

*"the more remote in degree of the first line of descent is preferable to the nearer in degree of the second line; therefore it is decreed that John Balliol shall have seisin over the kingdom of Scotland."* [Hailes' *Annals*, Vol I, p. 268; quoting Rymer's *The Foedera*, Vol II, p. 589]

But here is where the question of **Who should be Chief of the House of Douglas** is (more?) convoluted. If primogeniture is the overriding factor – even the primogeniture of daughters (as it was between Balliol and Bruce), then why were the guidelines of primogeniture often set aside in selecting the heir to the House of Douglas? More than once we see legitimate daughters' sons being passed over and the chiefship handed to an illegitimate son (i.e. Archibald 'the Grim' rather than the sons of Sandilands; or George 'Red' Douglas, Earl of Angus rather than the sons of Margaret Douglas, 'the Fair Maid of Galloway', daughter of Archibald Douglas, 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Douglas and 2<sup>nd</sup> Duke of Touraine; or the sons of Beatrice Douglas, eldest daughter of James Douglas, 7th Earl of Douglas. Was all of this through the capriciousness of the Stewart Kings? Were the decisions made for political/martial expediency? And does such capriciousness and/or expediency exist today – or do modern legal precedents carry more weight?

So let us look at our list of candidates through the filters of the "One Clan-One Name" rule and also the rule of primogeniture...

#### **Our List**

Alexander Douglas Douglas-Hamilton, 16th Duke of Hamilton and 13th Duke of Brandon  
 Richard Walter John Montagu Douglas Scott, 10th Duke of Buccleuch and 12th Duke of Queensberry  
 David Harrington Angus Douglas, 12th Marquess of Queensberry  
 John Stewart Sholto Douglas, 22nd Earl of Morton  
 David Alexander Cospatrick Douglas-Home, 15th Earl of Home, Baron Douglas of Douglas  
 James Donald Charteris, 13th Earl of Wemyss, 9th Earl of March  
 James Alexander Douglas-Hamilton, 11th Earl of Selkirk  
 Oliver St John, 9th Earl of Orkney  
 James Andrew Douglas Sandilands, 15th Lord Torphichen

We have seen that five of our nine candidates – the Duke of Hamilton, the Duke of Buccleuch, the Earl of Home, the Earl of Wemyss, and Lord Torphichen -- would be excluded from the chiefship of Douglas unless they were to first renounce their chiefship of another clan.

Seven of our nine candidates – the Duke of Hamilton, the Duke of Buccleuch, the Marquess of Queensberry, the Earl of Home, the Earl of Wemyss, the Earl of Selkirk, and the Earl of Orkney – would be excluded as the descendants of illegitimate sons.

Crossing these names off our list, we are left with one name; the Earl of Morton. But we have seen already (in Part 4) that the petition made by the 21<sup>st</sup> Earl of Morton was challenged by the Earl of Home – no doubt using the decision of the **Douglas Cause** to indicate that he himself was the heir to the chiefship of Douglas. However, if it were to be proven somehow that the young Archibald Stuart was not an actual heir but rather an elaborate fraud and the end result of the **Douglas Cause** were to be reversed, then the Duke of Hamilton would hold legal right to the chiefship.

But wait... if Lord Torphichen were to renounce his chiefship of Clan Sandilands, or if the Lord Lyon would allow a son of Lord Torphichen to renounce his right to inherit the chiefship of Sandilands and stand as a candidate for the chiefship of Douglas, would the rule of primogeniture then apply to the male descendant of the only known legitimate female line in the House of Douglas? Recall that Margaret Douglas, ‘the Fair Maid of Galloway’ was a legitimate daughter but she was a descendant of the illegitimate Archibald ‘the Grim’. And the Dukes of Hamilton, descending through the illegitimate ‘Red’ Douglas line, would be preceded by the son descending through a legitimate daughter of the ‘Black’ Douglas line.

And returning to the ‘Black’ Douglas line... are the descendants of Andrew Douglas (the Morton branch) of the line of ‘Black’ Douglases or are they not? If they are, wouldn’t the premier member of that branch, the Earl of Morton, be the rightful heir to the chiefship of the House of Douglas?

I think I need a drink... or maybe a lie down ... or both. It would seem no matter how the issue is parsed, the question remains ... **Who do you think should be Chief of the House of Douglas?**

### **Since this series of articles began as an opinion piece, I will give my opinion...**

**In my opinion, there may never again be a Chief of the House of Douglas.** Any petition to the Lyon Court for recognition will be met with opposition by at least one of the other contenders. Any final resolution would require a prolonged and bank-breaking court battle and/or pronouncement of Parliament – much like in the **Douglas Cause**.

Then again, if real life has taught me nothing else, it has taught me to never say ‘never’. I imagine the entire issue could be laid to rest, if the Crown were to invest one of the principal stakeholders with the title of “Duke of Douglas.” This would create a simple fix (even if a rather anticlimactic one).

Perhaps many will find my opinion fatalistic. Perhaps it does sound hopeless for the House of Douglas. Yet I have to believe that the House of Douglas will continue to endure... even without a Chief.

For me, the lack of a Chief is less problematic than the lack of leadership within the House of Douglas. Currently, there are a few Douglas societies all over the world but each one exists independently and without any real oversight. It would be wonderful if all of these were somehow united under a single banner, but without a Chief, that does not seem likely.

We have all these titled men and not a single Chief. For me, this is reminiscent of the 1995 movie **Braveheart** moment when Wallace is trying to convince Bruce to assume the role of leader and king. The dialog went this way:

*Robert the Bruce:* I'm not a coward. I want what you want, but we need the nobles.

*William Wallace:* We need them?

*Robert the Bruce:* Aye.

*William Wallace:* Nobles. [laughs a little]

*William Wallace:* Now tell me, what does that mean to be noble? Your title gives you claim to the throne of our country, but men don't follow titles, they follow courage. Now our people know you. Noble, and common, they respect you. And if you would just **lead** them to freedom, they'd follow you. And so would I.

We members of the House of Douglas need our nobles; not one single noble but **all** of them. If we cannot have a Chief, could we have a -- **Council of Chieftains** -- where each of our noble titleholders could sit as equals, as governors, if you will, and, as a *Council*, make those decisions typically in the purview of a Chief? Within the House of Douglas, nearly every cadet branch of the family is represented by one or more nobles and these nobles could sit as our **Chieftains**. The **Council of Chieftains** would exist as an organizational focal point. Instead of several independent Douglas societies around the world, there could be one Douglas Society overseen by a Council. The *Council of Chieftains* could decide on a Douglas clan crest – whether to use the “salamander in flames on a cap of maintenance” (more representative of the ‘Red’ Douglas branch), the “crowned, winged heart of Bruce” (more representative of the Drumlanrig/Queensberry branch), or some other different and new mutually agreed upon symbol. The *Council* could create a list of approved Sept and Allied Families names that all the Douglas societies would use.

I do not know if it would be possible for the nine gentlemen named earlier as modern contenders for the seat of Chief of the House of Douglas to sit as equals on a *Council of Chieftains* but I do believe that their doing so would be the best alternative for the Chief-less House of Douglas. If just two or three of them would accept the challenge to create a *Council of Chieftains*, perhaps the Lord Lyon could offer some form of official recognition to the *Council*. Yes ... this is a radical suggestion and a major “What if...” but it could also be *THE* solution for a Scottish House that has been Chief-less for nearly 250 years (and not for lack of a candidate). With the creation of a *Council of Chieftains*, one other major potential consequence of choosing a chief could be avoided: no family organization currently with one of these gentlemen as their chief would be disenfranchised through the loss of their chief.

So there it is: **my opinion**. Do you agree with me or do you have a differing opinion? If you disagree, **Who do you think should be Chief of the House of Douglas?**



If you have enjoyed this multi-part article, I would welcome your feedback. Please feel free to send your comments to the **Dubh Ghlaise** newsletter editor. You can find the editor’s contact info on page 3 of this newsletter.



## REGENTS & CO-REGENTS WANTED

to represent the Clan Douglas Society of North America (CDSNA) at various Scottish / Celtic festivals in the US and CANADA

CDSNA is seeking members willing to serve as Regents & Co-Regents in provinces and states currently un-represented or under-represented by CDSNA. **IF YOU ARE A MEMBER of CDSNA** willing to share your enthusiasm about Clan Douglas and available to serve as a representative in any of the following states and provinces, contact CDSNA VP Chuck Mirabile, CDSNA Asst VP (West) Loretta Morton, CDSNA Asst VP (East) Harold Edington, or your current Regent.

### In CANADA

-  BRITISH COLUMBIA – Regent
-  NOVA SCOTIA – Regent
-  ONTARIO – Regent

### In the USA

- ALASKA - Regent
- ARIZONA – Co-Regent
- FLORIDA - Co-Regent(s) for multiple locations in the state

- ILLINOIS - Regent(s) for Chicago & Springfield areas
- IOWA - Regent for Quad City area
- KANSAS – Regent
- KENTUCKY - Co-Regent(s)
- LOUISIANA - Co-Regent
- MICHIGAN - Regent
- MINNESOTA (South) – Co-Regent
- NEVADA - Regent
- OHIO - Regent
- OREGON (South) - Co-Regent
- SOUTH CAROLINA - Co-Regent

TENNESSEE - Co-Regent(s)

UTAH - Regent

WEST VIRGINIA - Regent

NEW ENGLAND AREA (as a region or as individual states)

CONNECTICUT - Regent

MAINE - Regent

MASSACHUSETTS - Regent

RHODE ISLAND - Regent

VERMONT - Regent



seventh earl of Douglas, November 24, 1440, and was called James the Gross. The laird of Smailholm accompanied Archibald, fourth earl of Douglas, duke of Touraine, (the Douglas of Shakespeare,) on his famous expedition to France, in 1423, and was slain, with him, at the battle of Verneuil, the following year. (See vol. ii. p.43.)”

Source:

The Douglas Archive. [http://www.douglashistory.co.uk/history/Septs/pringle\\_of\\_whitsome.htm](http://www.douglashistory.co.uk/history/Septs/pringle_of_whitsome.htm)



*Soule/Soulis* was accepted by CDSNA as a sept in June 1984.

This surname apparently is a location name. A certain John of Soules was a companion of both Edward Bruce (brother to King Robert 1) and “The Good” Sir James. Fraser relates,

About the beginning of August, Edward Bruce, [“The Good” Sir James] Douglas, and John of Soules, at the head of a large army, made a raid into England, near Berwick, and passed through Northumberland and Durham to the river Tees, even crossing it and penetrating to the town of Richmond. Their course was marked by fire and slaughter, the inhabitants of the invaded districts fleeing to the woods and castles for refuge, or with their cattle and sheep being driven before the Scottish soldiers. [Fraser. v1, p 437]

John of Soules appears to have been a cousin of the Bruce family. After the ascension of Robert Bruce as King of Scotland in 1306, another Soules, William de Soules was found to be a conspirator in an attempt to usurp the crown from the Bruce. As Fraser states,

The Soulis conspiracy was the cause of another estate being conferred upon the Lord of Douglas, that of the extensive barony of Watstirker or Westerkirk in Eskdale. William de Soulis, who had but recently been received into favour by Bruce, and on account of his connection with the blood-royal, was created high butler of Scotland, formed a plot to assassinate Bruce and others, with the object of setting himself upon the throne, as the lineal descendant of the illegitimate daughter of King Alexander the Second, who had married Alan Uurward. The conspiracy was revealed by the Countess of Strathern, and after being tried and condemned by the Parliament held at Scone in August 1320, popularly called the “Black Parliament,” Soulis and his accomplices were executed, and their lands forfeited to the crown. [Fraser. v1, p 474]

The lands of John of Soules were afterwards granted to Sir James Douglas by King Robert Bruce.

13. Charter by King Robert the Bruce to James, Lord of Douglas, knight, for his homage and service, of the half of the whole barony of Watstyrker, in Eskdale, with the pertinents, which belonged to the late William of Soules, knight, and which he forfeited to the King : To be held by the said James and his heirs, of the King and his heirs, in fee and heritage, with fishings, fowlings, and huntings, etc., thereof ; rendering therefore the service used and wont to be rendered for the said land in the time of Alexander the Third. Berwick-on-Tweed, 20th April [1321], [Fraser. v3, p 27]

The CDSNA newsletter, Dubh Ghhlase [vol XII, 4, Jan/Feb 1987] printed the following information presented by Authur L. Douglas regarding the inclusion of Soule/Soulis as a sept of Douglas.

“This family were to be found along the Scottish Borderlands of Liddedale, Selkirkshire, and Roxburghshire up until the 14<sup>th</sup> century. They have been known to have fought alongside Robert ‘The Bruce’ and Sir James Douglas during the Wars of Independence and acquitted themselves with valour. However, they were never a large family at that period of time, and when William de Soulis was the Constable of Hermitage Castle during the 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> century, he was regarded as a tyrant towards the peasantry who were resident on his lands, and was believed to have kidnapped the children of the farmers in the surrounding countryside.

Such was the outcry against him that the people of that area charged him with being in league with the Devil and of witchcraft. They petitioned the King, who, being sick of hearing about the troubles along the Borderlands, told them to do what they would with William de Soulis, whereupon, the farmers and peasantry joined forces and storming the Castle took William de Soulis prisoner. The King relenting his former orders, sent a messenger to tell the people to let William de Soulis go free, but, the messenger arrived too late and the people, acting on the words of a Border Wizard, or Wise Man, had wrapped William de Soulis in a sheet of lead and plunged him into a boiling cauldron. To this day the stones on which the cauldron stood can still be seen at Nine-Stone-Rig near the Castle.

The Doulgases later took over the Castle of Hermitage and in consequence of the family’s tenure, the de Soulis family, with all of their variations of spelling, can justifiably claim to be a Sept of the Douglases, for they are not large enough, in Scotland, or strong enough to be classified as a separate group or family. Man of the Soulis family moved across the border into Northumberland where they prospered and multiplied and it is there that many of this family may be found today.”

Sources:

Douglas, Arthur L. "Soule and Soulis." *Dubh Ghhlase* XII.4 (1987). Print.

Fraser, William. *The Douglas Book: In Four Volumes*. Burlington, Ont: TannerRitchie Pub. in collaboration with the Library and Information Services of the University of St. Andrews, 2005. Internet resource.



## Douglas Septs & Allied Families



# Troup

Agnew	Cavers	Foster	Lockerby	Sandilands
Bell	Cleland	Galbraith	Lockery	Sandlin
Blackadder	Clendenon	Gilpatric	Lockhart	Simms
Blackburn	Crockett	Glendenning	MacGaffey	Soule
Blacklock	Dalyell	Glenn	MacGuffock	Sternett
Blackstone	Dalrymple	Harvie	MacLellan	Toddart
Blackwood	Dalrymple	Harkness	McKinnon	Toddart
Blaylock	Dalrymple	Horn	McLellan	Tyme
Breckinridge	Dalrymple	Hughes	McLellan	Waington
Brown	Dixon	Kilgore	Rowell	Troup
Brownlee	Drysdale	Kilpatrick	Rowle	Turnball
Carmichael	Forest	Kirkpatrick	Rule	Weir
Carruthers	Forrester	Kirkland	Rutherford	Young
Cavan				Younger

Troup was accepted by CDSNA as a sept in December 1988 based on its being noted as a sept in the 1954 publication *Badges of the Scottish Clans*. Also listed as a sept of clan Gordon.

The Relationship to Douglas is undocumented. More research into this surname is recommended. If you have more information about the connection of this surname to the House of Douglas, please contact the newsletter editor.



# NEWS FROM ALL OVER

## ORMOND BEACH CELTIC FESTIVAL Ormond Beach, Florida -- April 22-23



**New member Greta Young Daigle  
with Regent Marc**

The Seventh Annual Ormond Beach Celtic Festival was held, at the Rockefeller Gardens, over the weekend of April 22 & 23, 2017. This event is held at the winter home and grounds of John D. Rockefeller, the man who launched the oil industry and founded Standard Oil (now Exxon). It is also the place in which he died, in the 1930's. Of note, Mr. Rockefeller's mother was born and raised in Scotland. Her maiden name is John D's middle name - Davison - a good Scottish Clan.

This is a Celtic Festival and focuses equally on Ireland and Scotland. The influence of the Scots is growing. This year also, a "Kirkin of the Tartans" was held on Sunday morn. The service was officiated by a military Chaplin attached to the US Army Special Forces who had just recently returned from an Afghanistan deployment.

The weather was breezy and rained a bit on Saturday, but that did not deter curious visitors. On Saturday, Clan Douglas was fortified with our stalwart active member - Jeff Sparks. He was standing tall in his recently acquired Ancient Douglas kilt. While at the festival, he told me he ordered a Douglas Gray kilt. Jeff's wife, Mona, accompanied Jeff as did their nephew Costa, visiting from Chicago. Mona is a career management team member at Disney World. She has worked closely with many of the senior management. It was fascinating to learn some of the intricate operations which take place within the "Magic Kingdom". For a multitude of reasons it is always a treat being with these clan members. We had a nice day.

Saturday, Greta Young Daigle joined as a new clan member and a great representative of our Sept family - Young. Greta is a delightful lady who marched with us in the Parade of Tartans. We look forward to Greta's involvement and participation for many years to come. A thousand welcomes to Greta.



**Jeff Sparks (holding the Douglas Tartan  
banner dedicated to his uncle)  
with wife Mona and nephew Costa Syrris**



**Life Member Jeff Sparks  
With Life Member Jim Douglas and wife Yvonne**

Sunday brought clearer skies and the Craigmalloch Farms Border Collie Demonstrations. Naturally McVicar, their Scottish Blackface ram joined their entourage. Owners/trainers Stuart Ballantyne and Lucy Skipwith-Lillen entertained and educated the crowds with their border collie shepherding demonstrations. Wearing his Clan Douglas robe, McVicar fascinated the parade watchers as he strutted by to the beat of the pipes and drums. McVicar also drew several visitors to our Douglas tent wanting to have their pictures taken with the 250 pound ram.

We were honored to be visited by Jim and Yvonne Douglas, of Niagara Falls, NY. Jim is a Life Member of Clan Douglas and has

# NEWS FROM ALL OVER

been to a significant number of Scottish events throughout his life. In fact, Jim's niece - Daneen Muehlbauer - is the current Douglas Regent for New York. Jim and Yvonne were on vacation here in the Southland and came to the festival out of curiosity. They live adjacent the Niagara River, near the whirlpool about 10 miles east of Niagara Falls. From the pictures Jim showed us, if he lived about 1/2 mile north of his home, on the other side of the river, he would be a Canadian rather than a US Citizen.

Several lovely lassies, whose maiden name is Douglas, took our application and plan to consider joining our illustrious group. And, from the Dunedin Games, we are pleased to welcome Jean Douglas Press as our new clan member.

This festival is developing and should see Clan Douglas attending again next year.

Yours Aye,

Marc Hitchins  
Florida (North) Regent



Regent Marc and McVicar cool their wool in the shade



## SACRAMENTO VALLEY SCOTTISH GAMES Woodland, California – April 29-30



On the 29th and 30th April, we had the pleasure of seeing everyone again. Friday, tent set up day, was with a 25 mile an hour wind reaching up to 45 mile gusts by 4:30 making the afternoon *interesting*, to say the least. At dinner we were all wondering if we would still have a tent the following morning. Lo and behold... Cora's rigging of bungee and braided rope and Mark's applying every clip available to the canvas kept our tent intact.

Our two day's event was wonderful and catching up with our extended Douglas Family. We had fun meeting new and old friends. We want to thank everyone for the continued support in the tent before, during and after the Games. We couldn't do it all without your help. See you all at the next Scottish Games.

Sláinte

Mark and Cora Peterson  
California (North) Regents



**ERRATUM:** On page 24 of the June 2017 issue of *Dabh Ghlase*, Regent James Putnam was labeled Florida Regent. Regent James is the Hawaii Regent.

# NEWS FROM ALL OVER

## TEXAS SCOTTISH FESTIVAL & HIGHLAN GAMES

Arlington, Texas -- May 5-7



New Member Martha Miranti

We had beautiful early May weather for the 31<sup>st</sup> Scottish Festival in Arlington. This was my first festival as North Texas Regent, so the South Texas Co-Regents, Dale and Sy Douglass, came up from San Antonio to lend a hand and show me the ropes.

Friday night started off with the Patron's BBQ featuring some very good food and even better music. There were a few visitors to the tent, both before and after dinner, and the Novice division of the Highland Games had their go at the Caber, Hammer, and Sheaf. The evening was capped off with the calling of the Clans. This year's honored clan was Clan

Sinclair. They had Sinclairs from all over the world in attendance, including the Clan Chief all the way from Scotland! He officially opened the games after all the clans were introduced.

Asst VPs (West) Phil and Loretta Morton dropped by the tent on Saturday, as did life member, Ms. Nona Payne. We had two new members sign up on Saturday, Martha Miranti and Sheryl Blaylock. We had a few renewals as well. We also got a chance to watch Bobby "the Kilted Cowboy" Douglas compete in the Highland Games. He said he's looking for a cheering section for the masters world championships on June 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>, in Hafnarfjorour, Iceland. So, if you've ever fancied a trip to Iceland, go cheer Bobby on!

Sunday started with the Kirking of the Tartans. After church we had a few more visitors to the tent, but overall, it was a pretty slow day. There were many events going on in the Dallas/Fort Worth area this weekend and foot traffic for the entire weekend was a little lower than in years past. We also were told that it looks like the University (UT-Arlington) won't be inviting the festival back next year. The details are still unclear and we will keep everyone posted as we learn more. The festival WILL happen next year -- we're just not exactly sure where, as of yet.

A huge thank you to everyone who helped out with my first games as a Regent, and to everyone who came out to the games!

Matthew Douglas  
Texas (North) Regent



New Member Sheryl Blaylock with her husband & Regent Matt



Texas Regents: Dale, Matt, Loretta & Sy



# NEWS FROM ALL OVER

## BRITISH COLUMBIA HIGHLAND GAMES & SCOTTISH FESTIVAL Coquitlam, British Columbia – June 17



**Delta Police Pipe Band at the B.C. Highland Games & Scottish Festival. Photo © Hamish Burgess 2017**

[Adapted from <http://bchighlandgames.com/home/history-of-our-games/>]

The BCHG&SF is the continuation of a 100+ year tradition that originated with the original Scottish settlers in the Vancouver area. Despite wars and changing demographics, BC has continued to be a hotbed of Scottish piping, drumming, pipe bands and highland dancing, supported by the descendants of those early settlers and the many new arrivals and 'Scottish Canadians' who come to the Games to celebrate their heritage. BC continues to produce world class Scottish pipers, dancers and championship pipe bands.

So what makes a highland games different than any other cultural celebration?

Highland Games originated among the Scots' ancestors in the "old country" and became a customary part of their life. Tossing the caber, putting the stone, throwing the hammer and competition in bagpiping and Highland dancing formed the core of the Games, pitting the best musicians, dancers and athletes against each other to determine the best. A full day of competition, some great music, dancing and maybe a bit of Scottish whisky made for a great day in the highlands. As economic times changed in Scotland, emigration dispersed the Highland Games idea and brought it to North America where they have flourished throughout Canada and the US.

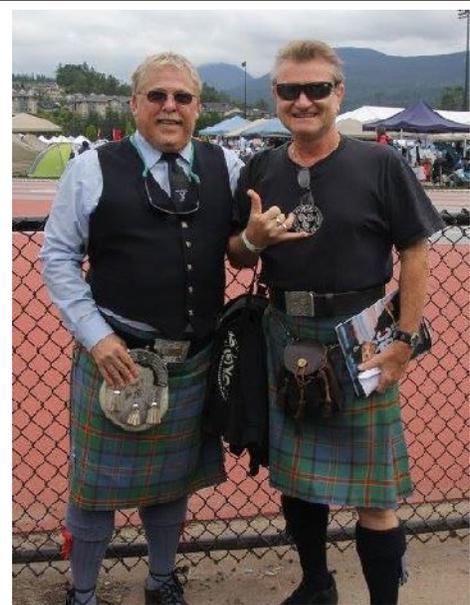
In Canada, a Highland Society was first organized in Ontario in 1819 but lapsed after many successful gatherings. More permanent games were established in 1838 by the Caledonian Club of PEI. Similar games followed in Lancaster, Toronto, Cape Breton, Montréal and Zorra, and by Confederation in Halifax, Antigonish, Chatham, Ottawa and VANCOUVER.

Today the local Games are run by the BC Highland Games Organizing Committee under the auspices of The United Scottish Cultural Society.

[Editor's note: Special thanks to Hamish Douglas Burgess for sharing his pictures from the event.]



**Caledonian Games, Hastings Park, Vancouver, circa 1930.  
Photo courtesy Vancouver Archives.**



**Michael Riedel & Hamish Burgess sporting the Hawaii Tartan at the B.C. Highland Games & Scottish Festival**



# NEWS FROM ALL OVER

## Pikes Peak Celtic Festival Colorado Springs, Colorado -- June, 17-18

What a great event! We were able to try out two of the three new tents we got from Craigslist. The day was hot but we had plenty of water, (Both Kinds) and there were lots of food and beverage vendors. We met with many new friends from the southern part of the state. With Lemon Drop (the Douglas fairy) in attendance our space was always full of people. The way children react to her is something to see. All in all, a great first day.

The second day looked to be a repeat of the first. During breakfast we started getting messages about our tents. One message said "be prepared for a disaster". So after breakfast we headed over to the park to see what happened. Sure enough the tents were gone. Thanks to some of our neighboring clansmen who'd stayed for the night's concert, all of our stuff was secured beneath the remains of our canopies' tops. Upon investigation we found that one tent was a total loss, but the other was only slightly damaged. There was very little damage to the rest of the equipment and we were able to set up the remaining tent and carry on with the festival.

I can't say enough about the clans that attend these events. I've always felt that these people that I see only three or four times a year are more like family than just friends. **They saved us!** We were able to regroup and continue because of them. No one was hurt and they prevented the tents from damaging anyone else's set up. I am grateful.

Even with this "minor kerfuffle" it was a great event, and we look forward to attending next year! I would like to thank Lemon Drop and her family for opening their home to us in true clan style.

Chuck Mirabile  
CDSNA VP & Colorado Regent



## DULUTH INTERNATIONAL DANCE COMPETITION Duluth, Minnesota-- June 24

Weather forecasters here in Duluth say that the weather is a real challenge to determine because Lake Superior has such a great influence on outcomes. Friday the high was 70 + degrees. Today, 59, and "colder by the lake", as it is said. Rain threatened the day, but did not happen. The wind gusted to 20 MPH. The competition was successful. The gusty wind just slowed things down a bit.

Scottish Dancers and the pipe band were not deterred. Dancers came from the region including Canada to Fitgers Brewery Complex for the dance competition. The DSHA Pipe & Drum was a good addition. Even so, a number of spectators came to pet the 8 week old lambs.

Clan Douglas had its table with many books and maps plus small pipes and a practice chanter. Inquiries were made about these pipes. The dirks attracted some boy dancers. They were cautioned that the blades, though not sharp, were coated with lithium grease. The flags were moved out of the wind.

John (Jock) Glendenning  
MN (North) Regent



# NEWS FROM ALL OVER

## TACOMA HIGHLAND GAMES Tacoma, Washington – June 24



L-R: Chieftain of the Games & Douglas tent assistant Gary Cosgro, Tim Kirkpatrick, WA Regent Frances Crews, and former MN Regent Sara Foss

Gary Cosgro and I just finished our 25th year of the Tacoma Highland Games at Frontier Park...a comfortable well maintained park with new improvements each year and clean indoor facilities. (They tried the male/female concept for a couple years and I complained for 2 years asking WHY?... I am sure others did also because this year we were back to singles. What a pleasant surprise!) There are a lot of trees and shady places to relax and enjoy.

We had a constant flow of people around all day and I am sure it had something to do with our two Scottie dogs (Handsome Mickey MacMarvelous, 13 1/2 and ScottieBoy 2 years old). They behaved

magnificently and greeted everyone with a wagging tails. We had to put our sweet little StarShineLady (13 years) to sleep last March. Being a part of the Scottish Terrier Rescue Northwest has been a blessing as well as a lot of fun -- and great therapy for our grief.

[Editor's Note: Learn more about the Scottish Terrier Rescue Northwest at <http://www.scottyrescue.org/>]

It was a very hot day: 100 degrees in some places. In our area it was at least 90. We had our all in one 4 seated picnic table with an umbrella set up at the back of the tent in use all day! Sara Foss (former CDSNA MN Regent) sat inside the tent so we had a chance to visit. When she arrived, we were outside the tent with a few people when one of them said "Look at this! Here comes a Douglas Lady", so I looked and she was lovely. Then I looked again as a light started to come on and sure enough it was SARA. She is so delighted to be living in the Pacific NW again and had enough stamina to walk in the Clan Parade.

It was one of those laid back days where we were in a festive mode – most likely because Gary was "Chieftain of the Day!" and some friends came up from Portland, OR to honor him. He made the rounds to all the Clan Tents and Vendors and stopped by our tent occasionally wearing his Kennedy tartan (which is only fair after 25 years of loading, unloading, setting up, tearing down, running errands, keeping things in working order, etc, for Douglas... and all that wearing our Douglas tartan.)

We are ever so grateful for Tim Kirkpatrick; he answered the call to carry the Douglas banner within two hours after I sent out the request and he always brings his camera to ensure we get some pictures. He is a tremendous help. We had 6 marchers in the parade and they all did the Douglas call out. This is always so much fun because they mostly return to the tent as grinning and laughing friends forever!

Our new CDSNA Member Alex Cavin (15) is learning how to play the bagpipes and is interested in Scottish lore. A very independent young man, his grandfather Vernon was going to pay his membership dues and Alex said, 'No I want to pay them myself.' leaving grandfather a bit confused but showing some real maturity.

Frances Constance Crews (#753)  
CDSNA WA Regent



Douglas Banner Bearers: L-R: Vernon Cavin, his grandson (and new member) Alex Cavin, and Tim Kirkpatrick



# NEWS FROM ALL OVER

## SPRINGFIELD (IL) AREA HIGHLAND GAMES & CELTIC FESTIVAL Chatham, Illinois – July 8

Despite the weather being nice (though a bit on the hot side), it was a very small crowd attending this year. Last year's cancellation due to severe weather (some say tornado) and this year's lack of advertising have done little to help this festival grow.

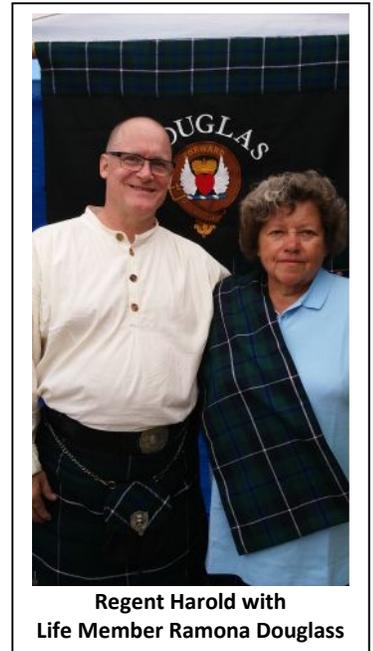
Many heartfelt thanks to CDSNA Life Member Ramona Douglass for spending the day with me and for looking after me in the heat. Ramona is the best! One new member (Mike McClure) joined and several persons stopped by the tent expressing interest in joining. Mike was too busy helping his wife Susan in the MacLeod tent to pose for a picture. Perhaps we can capture a picture of Mike later this year in St. Louis.

Moving FORWARD,  
Harold Edington  
MO Regent/interim IL Regent

\*\*\* For the record ... the Illinois Regent position is VACANT. \*\*\*

The big events in the state are...

- (1) Northwest Celtic Fest, Hoffman Estates, IL, in April
- (2) Illinois St. Andrew Society Highland Games, Itasca, IL, in mid-June
- (3) Springfield Area Highland Games, Chatham, IL, in early July
- (4) Celtic Highland Games of the Quad Cities, Davenport, IA, in mid-September



Regent Harold with Life Member Ramona Douglass



### 2016: People who attended the first Grandfather Mountain Games in 1956



From left to right: (CDSNA Life Member) Robert W. Groves III, Scotty Gallamore, Big Foot "Dave" McKenzie, Judge Alexander Banner-Lyerly, and (CDSNA Life Member) Cornelia Groves  
Photo courtesy of <http://www.gmhg.org/newindex30.htm>

### GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES

◆ ◆ ◆  
And  
SCOTTISH  
CLANS  
GATHERING  
◆ ◆ ◆

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# NEWS FROM ALL OVER

## PORTLAND HIGHLAND GAMES Gresham, Oregon – July 15-16

Portland Highland Games are held at Mt. Hood Community College in Gresham, OR. Gresham is a suburb of Portland, The Games are held on the athletic fields of the college and in the gym. When you park, look for signs directing you to one of several entrance gates or listen for the bagpipes and follow that sweet sound. The sprawling campus is quite impressive with Scottish culture and athletics literally spilling over all parts of the campus. Our tent was placed in a new location which was more central to all the action on the upper field. The music stage across the field entertained us with Celtic and Scottish music both Friday and Saturday. The athletes could be seen tossing the sheaf over the bar - a traditional Scottish agricultural sport event originally contested at county fairs. A pitchfork is used to hurl a burlap bag stuffed with straw over a horizontal bar above the competitor's head. Typical weight for the bag is 16 pounds.



Matt Smith with hand-printed shield by Disney Artist



Regent Carol with New Member Helene Douglass and her Dad, Member Harry Douglass

Our clan member, author, and genealogist, Laurence Overmire, lectured in the gym on genealogy for two hours then stopped by the tent to pay his respects with wife, Nancy McDonald. He is assisting myself and Clan Donald in conducting a genealogy workshop on Saturday, October 7, 2017 at a local church in Portland. Larry along with other researchers from the church and Clan Donald will offer resources and assistance in helping attendees document their family tree.

Matt Smith who has traced his ancestry to Clan Douglas offered the use of his hand painted shield with our forward badge on it. This shield was custom painted by Michael Curry Designs and Disney Artist, Paul Coca. It was one of the hits in the Clan Douglas tent with other attendees stopping by to appreciate it. We were thankful to have it as an addition to the clan tent.

Our lounge tent area is set up for clan members and potential members to get to know one another and after the opening ceremonies to serve a ploughman's lunch, shortbread, and beverages.

Bagpipes, drums, harps, and fiddles make up the distinct sounds of the Scottish Highlands, and were enjoyed at the 65th annual Portland Highland Games. First and foremost were the solo bagpipe and drum competitions and the powerful piping bands competing for top spot. Attendees were able to explore their Scottish musical journey with harp and fiddle demonstrations and workshops in the gym.

The Portland stone is unique to the Portland Highland Games and is so grueling that some athletes opt out. Harvested from the Sandy River many years ago, the Portland Stone weighs 96 pounds. It is shaped with a slight depression on its underside that athletes nest against their cheeks. With clean motions, the competitor picks up the stone, bringing it to waist height; swings it to the chest; then raises it to their head. Although allowed a 15-foot lead-up, most athletes chose to run five feet or less before tossing the stone. Tradition tells us that the louder the athlete yells, the farther it goes!

The Heavy Athletic events include the Scottish hammer (a 16-pound steel ball bearing that is bored out, with a cane handle fitted into it), Weight for Distance, Braemar Stone Throw, Weight for Height (56 lbs. for Men, 28 lbs. for Women), and the most impressive event the Caber toss (20 feet long and weighing approximately 120 lbs.). After chatting with one of the athletes, she said it felt like it weighed a whole lot more than 120 lbs!



New Members Ben and Leta Douglass with Regent Carol

# NEWS FROM ALL OVER



Doug Douglas and son, Lucas

Runners wear their Highland Kilt for the Kilted Mile race around the Mt Hood Community College Track. The Kilted Mile is a tradition dating to the reign of King Malcolm III. He decreed that a foot race be held, beginning at the current site of Braemar Castle, and finishing at the top of grim and forbidding *Creag Choinnich*. The Kilted Mile has been an event at the Portland Highland Games since 1991. This year marked the 25th Kilted Mile race. The fastest overall runner is awarded The Memorial Sword.

Wee-highlanders are inspired by the Kilted Mile and enjoy the fun run for any child under the age of 13 right in front of the grandstands on the main field. Wee games are held

on the softball field and were easily visible from the Clan Douglas tent. Our own new member, Rainier Morton, competed and took home a metal!

Scottish highland dancing has a long and varied history. This form of dance, unique to Scotland, dates to at least the 16th century, if not further. Each individual dance has its origin story with some, like the Strathspey and Reel coming from folkloric traditions to others like the Sword dance which has its roots in the Scottish military. There is even a dance called the *Seann Triubhas*, meaning "old trousers" in Gaelic, which celebrates the Scots regaining the freedom from the English to wear kilts. To watch and understand Scottish Highland Dancing is to watch the history of Scotland and the Portland competition is no different.

Thirty Seven Scottish Clans and four Associations namely the NW Scots, Oregon Scottish Society, Pacific Northwest Cornish Association, and S.A.M.S 1852 (Scottish American Military Society) were present at the games. Normally, there are fifty plus clans in attendance. The vendors were also less in number. We had several attendees that were looking for their clans so we did our best to assist them and point them to the genealogy tent, which had extensive information. We try to welcome everyone and be helpful. In addition, even if people didn't sign up as a member right away, we did ask them to think about volunteering whether it was for the Portland Highland Games Association, a Scottish event, or their clan to help bolster the numbers of people participating.

It was a busy year at the Portland Highland Games and the Clan Douglas Society of N.A. tent was bustling with activity. It was a grand day to shout out "A Douglas! A Douglas" as the twelve of us marched by the grandstands in the opening ceremony clan parade.



Regent Carol with New Members Emma (Mom) Alina, and Alyssa Burke



L-R: Regent Carol, Kristina Morton-Jones,, Rod Morton, Rainier Jones (holding sign), Jason Jones (Kristina's husband), Laurie Morton, Dakota Jones, Helene Douglas, Kai Jones, Gary Cosgrove (WA Regent's 2<sup>nd</sup> in Command), unidentified WA member



# NEWS FROM ALL OVER

## Elizabeth Celtic Festival Elizabeth, Colorado July 15-16



Phillip and Lauren Douglas  
at the Elizabeth Celtic Festival in Elizabeth, CO  
Photo courtesy of the CDSNA FB group page



Clan Douglas parade marchers  
at the Elizabeth Celtic festival in Elizabeth, Co  
Photo courtesy of the CDSNA FB group page

## CDSNA FESTIVAL EVENT SCHEDULE: OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2017

STATE	DATE	REGENT	EVENT & LOCATION
CALIFORNIA (North)	OCTOBER 7	Mark & Cora Peterson	Big Trees Scottish Gathering & Highland Games, Felton, CA
NORTH CAROLINA	OCTOBER 7	Jeffrey Dickey	Scotland County Highland Games, Laurinburg, NC
NEVADA	OCTOBER 7-8	No Regent Available -- Regent Wanted	Reno Celtic Celebration, Reno, NV
NEW MEXICO	OCTOBER 7-8	Eric Vigil	Aztec Highland Games, Aztec, NM
TEXAS	OCTOBER 7-8	Phil & Loretta Morton	Kerr County Celtic Festival & Highland Games, Ingram, TX
CONNECTICUT	OCTOBER 8	No Regent Available -- Regent Wanted	Scotland Highland Festival, Scotland, CT
INDIANA	OCTOBER 14	Jim & Sandy Douglas	Indianapolis Scottish Highland Games, Indianapolis, IN
CALIFORNIA (South)	OCTOBER 14-15	Tim & Mary Tyler	Seaside Scottish Games, Ventura, CA
GEORGIA	OCTOBER 20-22	Tim & Melissa Justice	Stone Mountain Highland Games, Stone Mountain, GA
KENTUCKY	CANCELLED for 2017	Elizabeth Martin	Murray Highland Festival, Murray, KY
VIRGINIA	OCTOBER 28-29	Scott Douglas	Central Virginia Celtic Festival, Richmond, VA
NORTH CAROLINA	OCTOBER 28-29	No Regent Available -- Regent Wanted	Carolina Caledonian Festival, Fayetteville, NC
ARIZONA	NOVEMBER 3-5	Barbara Wise	Tucson Celtic Festival, Tucson, AZ
UTAH	NOVEMBER 3-5	Eric Vigil	Moab Celtic Festival, Moab, UT
TEXAS	NOVEMBER 10-12	Phil & Loretta Morton	Salado Scottish Clan Gathering, Salado, TX
SOUTH CAROLINA	NOVEMBER 10-11	No Regent Available -- Regent Wanted	Clover Scottish Games, Clover, SC
FLORIDA	NOVEMBER 17-18	Marc Hitchins	Mount Dora Scottish Highland Festival, Mount Dora, FL
MINNESOTA	NOVEMBER TBA	contact Jack Glendenning for info	Kirklin' of the Tartan, 1st Presbyterian Church, Duluth, MN

ATTN MEMBERS: If you have a question regarding a particular festival, contact the local for more information. Regent contact info can be found on pages 2-3 of this newsletter.

The CDSNA FESTIVAL EVENT SCHEDULE (JUN-NOV 2017) can be viewed on the clan website:  
<http://clandouglassociety.org/news/2017/1/22/cdsna-sponsored-events-2017-jun-nov.html>

# NEWS FROM ALL OVER

## Terri Douglas Ventress sets 5 New Highland Games World Records in ONE DAY!

A Douglas! is "at it" again: One of our own, Terri Douglas Ventress, has had a pretty serious highland games addiction for over twenty years now. She has competed all over her local region in places such as Arizona, Texas, Missouri, Arkansas, and Oklahoma, plus in World Championships in Colorado, Kansas, Michigan, South Carolina, New Mexico, and twice in Scotland. Before joining the Masters ranks, she competed in the Open Women's World Championships, placing as high as fourth, and briefly held the open women's World Record in Sheaf at 26' in 2001 at the age of 39 years. Ventress was a three-time consecutive Master's World Champion in 2012, 2013, and 2014. She was also the first Masters athlete in any category or age division to hold ALL eight world records. The eight events include Braemar and Open stones, Heavy and light weights for distance, heavy and light Scottish hammers, weight over bar, and sheaf toss. The caber, while considered the quintessential highland games event, does not maintain world records, as two similar length and weight cabers are nothing alike.



In August of 2015, Ventress took a hiatus from the highland games when she went in for a total hip replacement. She jumped back in to the games in the fall of 2016 throwing just three competitions, and qualified to attend the 2017 Masters World Championship in Iceland in June of this year, although she declined to attend. So far in 2017, Terri has competed in three highland games. One was during a cold April downpour in Yukon, Oklahoma, and the second was on a gorgeous day in Chanute, Kansas, at their Inaugural games. The most recent competition was the Heart of America Highland Games in Bonner Springs, Kansas. At this event, Ventress proved she was back in the games, and ready to compete. Despite a heat index of 105°F, she broke world records in the first five events of the day for the 55+ Women's class: weight over bar, sheaf, both stones (Braemar and open), and the heavy weight for distance.

When asked about future goals, it is clear that capturing the remaining World Records is high on her list. Next up for this proud Douglas is at least five highland games remaining in the calendar year: Topeka, Estes Park, Tulsa, Wichita, and Springfield, MO. If you happen to make it to one of these games, drop by the athletic field and please say HI.

[Photos courtesy of Larry 'the Godfather' Ventress]



**MEMBERS** are encouraged to send their Douglas-themed festival and event *pictures and stories* to the newsletter editor for possible publication in future issues of **Dabh Ghlase**. Please include a caption with each picture or story describing the event location and date. When names are known, please include them.

Pictures can be sent via email to the newsletter editor: [clan.douglas@yahoo.com](mailto:clan.douglas@yahoo.com)



Clan Douglas Society  
of North America



### CDSNA STORE GOODS ORDER FORM

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\$5 - License Frame	N/A	N/A		\$									
\$7 - Lapel Pin - Belted Heart of Bruce	N/A	N/A		\$									
\$10 - Cookbook - The Douglas Larder	N/A	N/A		\$									
\$10 - Name Badges - special order – record of name, city & state required for storekeeper	N/A	N/A		\$									
\$20 - A Guide to Douglas Landmarks	N/A	N/A		\$									
\$22 - Cap Badge - Heart of Bruce Pewter (CDSNA Exclusive design)	N/A	N/A		\$									
\$22 - Kilt Pin - Sword-Heart of Bruce Pewter (CDSNA Exclusive design)	N/A	N/A		\$									
OTHER: (please list)				\$									
\$20 - T-Shirts - Adult S-3X - Blue Only Clan Douglas Front – Belted Heart of Bruce Back S = <input type="text"/> M = <input type="text"/> L = <input type="text"/> XL = <input type="text"/> 2X = <input type="text"/> 3X = <input type="text"/>			Total # of T-shirts <input type="text"/>	\$									
\$28 - Women's Golf Shirts - Adult S-2X Embroidered Thistle - Light Blue Only S = <input type="text"/> M = <input type="text"/> L = <input type="text"/> XL = <input type="text"/> 2X = <input type="text"/>			Total # of Women's Golf-shirts <input type="text"/>	\$									
\$26 - Men's Golf Shirts- Adult - S-3X Embroidered Shield - Choice Blue (BL) or Green (GR) S = <input type="text"/> BL <input type="text"/> GR M = <input type="text"/> BL <input type="text"/> GR L = <input type="text"/> BL <input type="text"/> GR XL = <input type="text"/> BL <input type="text"/> GR 2X = <input type="text"/> BL <input type="text"/> GR 3X = <input type="text"/> BL <input type="text"/> GR			Total # of Men's Golf-shirts <input type="text"/>	\$									
Shipping Charge: All Prices in US Dollars Canadians please adjust at current exchange rate			Order Sub-Total:	\$									
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Visit our Clan Website for other store goods: <http://clandouglassociety.org/cdsna-store/>





The Highland Military Tattoo is a unique and truly authentic experience. Set inside the magnificent ramparts of Fort George, this spectacular military ceremony showcases impressive acts, reflecting the very best of Scottish history, tradition and military expertise.

With a broad appeal and a worldwide audience, the HighlandTattoo attracts visitors from many global countries, along with a faithful local following, returning to see new acts within an annually changing show.

Inverness remains ever popular as a tourist destination and its status as Capital of the Highlands, affords the city superb communication links, by road, rail, air and sea. The gateway city offers visitors an ideal location to stay whilst touring the wider Highlands, Speyside and Moray area and is on the doorstep of Fort George, making the Highland Tattoo a perfect way to spend an evening, whilst touring Scotland’s northern reaches.



The Highland Military Tattoo experience starts, rather aptly, with a walk across the drawbridge into the Fort and the opportunity to sample high quality affordable food and drink in the Catering and Retail Village next door to the Tattoo arena. Packed with retail stalls, Armed Forces charity tents, military vehicle and equipment displays and re-enactors who are delighted to involve children and answer any questions.

Access to the Fort is free when attending the Tattoo and visitors are invited to take a stroll onto the ramparts and admire Fort George’s classical buildings and examine its large cannons and mortars, which defended it and the sea route to Inverness. There’s a good chance of spotting dolphins in the Moray Firth too!

Overhead, there will be an aerial display by an SE5A World War 1 Biplane, to herald the imminent start of the show and an invite for guests to take their seats.

Seating is within three main stands, wrapped around the arena, with the Fort’s frontage as the iconic backdrop to the Tattoo.

In Visit Scotland’s Year of History Heritage and Archaeology, the programme will celebrate the rich military heritage of Fort George, the Highlands and Moray, and the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the RAF Regiment.

The show in fact commences with a Fly-past by RAF Typhoon jets, directly overhead of the main arena and signals the start to the evening’s entertainment.

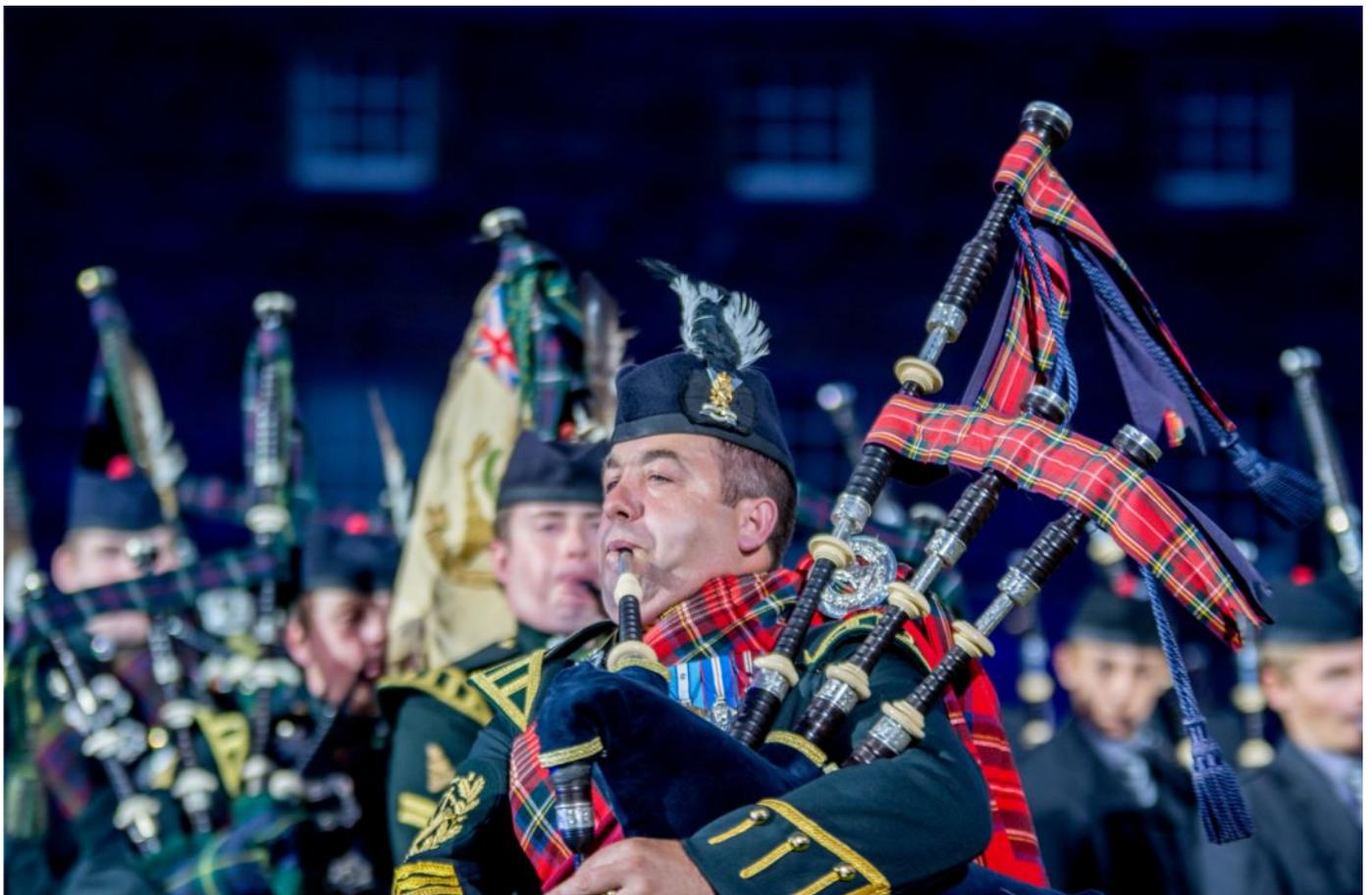


An array of Massed Pipes and Drums from some 9 military and local bands, The Band of the Royal Regiment of Scotland, historical vignettes, traditional highland dancing, a clarsach group, Gaelic singing, the Queen's Colour Squadron Drill Team from the RAF Regiment and an Armed Forces' competition with teams from the Royal Marines, Army and RAF battling it out; all take place during the course of the show.

The finale with the RAF Guard of Honour -- a rendition of Auld Lang Syne and The Last Post followed by the Lone Piper -- offer an often, emotional conclusion to the evening's events prior to an impressive fireworks display, to celebrate the end of the show.

The Highland Military Tattoo is fast becoming a 'must-see' event in the Scottish tourism schedule, offering locals and visitors alike, a unique opportunity to immerse themselves in the heritage and culture of the Scottish Highlands and Moray against the backdrop of the spectacular Fort George.

*"We look forward to giving all our visitors a warm 'Gaelic Welcome' in September". Major General Seymour Monro*



**Full details for The Highland Military Tattoo can be found here:  
[www.highlandmilitarytattoo.co.uk](http://www.highlandmilitarytattoo.co.uk)  
Facebook: @HighlandMilitaryTattoo**





# Gleanings from the Interwebs

The internet abounds with interesting Celtic-themed and Douglas-themed articles.

The articles presented in this section are purloined from the internet and care has been taken to provide correct attribution to active story links.

Just follow the weblink (copy/paste into your computer browser) to read the story.

If you find an internet article of Celtic or Clan Douglas interest, email the newsletter editor with the weblink.

## 1. *Catherine, Duchess of Queensberry (d. 1777)*

[http://www.electricscotland.com/history/women/scottish\\_women\\_chapter8.htm](http://www.electricscotland.com/history/women/scottish_women_chapter8.htm)

The houses of Scott and Douglas, of Buccleuch and Queensberry, have long been connected by ties of blood and friendship. Janet, daughter of David Scott of Branxholm, and Sir James Douglas of Drumlanrig, by their marriage in the year 1470, became the common ancestors of the two families. In later days these houses were still more closely allied.

## 2. *Scottish Pirates*

<http://www.cindyvallar.com/scottish.html>

*Spùinneadair-mara* (spoo-nuder mara) in Gaelic means plunderer, spoiler, or robber on the sea. Or more specifically, pirate.

## 3. *Reversing the Clearances bit by bit*

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-40898868>

A new phase of Highland history is unfolding in Sutherland as land still owned by the family of the man blamed for the Highland Clearances is to be sold to descendants of those he evicted.

## 4. *University of North Carolina offers first lectureship in Gaelic studies*

<http://www.scotsman.com/regions/inverness-highlands-islands/university-of-north-carolina-offers-first-lectureship-in-gaelic-studies-1-4525476>

The Scottish Gaelic Foundation of America is starting the lectureship at the University of North Carolina (UNC), with funding coming from Scottish Heritage USA.

## 5. *The Highland Clearances: a capitalist tragedy*

<http://www.counterfire.org/articles/history/18871-the-highland-clearances-a-capitalist-tragedy>

The history of the Highlands is steeped in the suffering of capitalism's victims, writes Chris Bambery.



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Agnew, Bell, Blackadder, Blackett, Blacklock, Blackstock, Blackwood, Blaylock, Breckinridge, Brown, Brownlee, Carmichael, Carruthers, Cavan, Cavers, Cleland, Clendenon, Crockett, Dalzell, Deal, Dick, Dickey, Dickson, Dixon, Drysdale, Forest, Forrester, Foster, Galbraith, Gilpatric, Glendenning, Glenn, Hamilton, Harkness, Home, Hume, Inglis, Kilgore, Kilpatrick, Kirkpatrick, Kirkland, Lockerby, Lockery, Lockhart, MacGuffey, MacGuffock, Maxwell, McKittrick, Moffat, Morton, Pringle, Rowell, Rowle, Rule, Rutherford, Sandilands, Sandlin, Simms, Soule, Sterrett, Syme, Symington, Troup, Turnbull, Weir, Young, Younger --- variations of these names are also recognized.

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**Submission Dates**

Newsletter submissions are accepted until  
the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month preceding  
the publication month.

[Example: December 2017 submissions  
must be received by November 15, 2017]

Items received after the Submission Date  
may be saved for the next newsletter.

Please send your articles for submission to  
[clan.douglas@yahoo.com](mailto:clan.douglas@yahoo.com)  
or contact your Regional Asst VP  
or the CDSNA Vice President.

Anyone is welcome to submit articles, games reports,  
and general information.

**We do request that any article submitted be related to  
CDSNA or of general Celtic interest.**

Newsletter Editor will make all final decisions as to the  
content of the Newsletter.



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AMERICA**

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