# CLAN MACMILLAN Magazine



Issue No. 17 Nov/Dec 2012 In this issue: Archie Murlagan in Canada Edwin M. McMillan, Nobel Prize Winner Father John Macmillan, the Bard of Barra News from the clan around the world

## Scenes from Minneapolis and St Paul 2012



After the cruise on St Croix Riverboat



 ${\it Sight-seeing \ with \ tour \ guide \ Jack \ MacMillan}$ 



In the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden



Relaxing in the evening with a dram



Mike McMillen and his wife Susan



The chief tries his first ever toffee apple in the Science Museum



In the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden



# Clan MacMillan International Centre at Finlaystone

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Clan MacMillan International (CMI) - the worldwide organisation based at the home of Clan Chief George MacMillan - publish a Newsletter and a Magazine each year, which are sent free to all members. CMI membership is open to all M'millans and septname bearers — and members' subscriptions help fund the work of the Clan Centre

"...to collect, preserve, display and disseminate educational and historic material about Clan MacMillan heritage and its Septs worldwide for the benefit of clan members and other interested parties; and to assist the chief, clan societies and individual clanspeople around the world in the promotion of the clan and its ideals and charities"

(Clan Centre Mission Statement as amended at Clan MacMillan Conclave in August 2008).

The annual subscription for 1st Jan. to 31st Dec. 2013 is UK £15 or US \$25. Cheques – in UK pounds or US dollars only please – should be made out to Clan MacMillan International and sent to:

#### Clan MacMillan International Centre, Finlaystone, Langbank, PA14 6TJ, Scotland.

For further information about CMI and the Clan Centre please go to: www.clanmacmillan.org

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#### From the Chief

The Clan has brought me many pleasures this year.

There has been a fairly steady flow of visitors to the Clan Centre-some by appointment, some not, but all equally welcome. My one frustration is my inability to remember the vast range of interesting activities in which MacMillans are engaged in every corner of the world.

Thanks to Marion, the 200th birthday of Kirkpatrick Macmillan (creator of the bicycle) did not go unmarked. At his graveside in a quiet cemetery in Keir we remembered the man who revolutionised personal mobility. Hugh Macmillan (the UK Clan Bard) composed a poem to commemorate him (see page 6).

But the big event of the year was the Clan Macmillan Society of North America gathering in Minneapolis-St Paul at the end of June. The focus of the gathering was on the future of the Clan. So it was particularly good that Arthur was able to be there. As ever, the careful planning and energy of the organisers and their team of helpers produced a very happy atmosphere, and the bright, but temperate, sunshine was a bonus.

The address given by Blanche at the C.T.S. investiture in June seemed so apposite to the emerging theme of our gathering ('past, present and future' or 'handing on the baton') that I asked her permission to see if Graeme would publish it in this issue - something he has been happy to do (page 21).

I've spent far too much of this year wrestling with banks in an effort to create a more costeffective means of banking payments from overseas clanspeople (whether subscriptions or purchases). As a consequence of long delays, some cheques sent early this year passed the six-month time limit before they could be banked. I hope their authors will forgive me when I write to suggest that they re-issue their cheques - but only when I write, because the new system hasn't yet been confirmed. No wonder the world's banking system crashed!

Publications. In an effort to offset a huge rise in postal charges, we urge everybody to think seriously of accepting an 'on-line' version of the Newsletter and Magazine. The big advantage is that it will all be in colour. So, if that is a possibility for you, we would be most grateful if you could opt for electronic issues from now on. For those who find that impossible we'll go on sending hard copy. But we may have to raise our charges some time soon. George.

## News from the Clan around the World

## New Zealand MacMillans at the Upper Hutt Highland Gathering

After their usual quiet winter months, the New Zealand Society's programme of summer events began on the 10th of November with the Highland Gathering at Upper Hutt, which is north of the city of Wellington. Local representative Duncan McMillan set up the clan tent [pictured right] and welcomed the President, Jim McMillan, and his wife Marilyn who is recovering from a cardiac arrest that she suffered in July.

Jim sent the following report on the event to his committee members in Auckland: Duncan did a great job with the Upper Hutt gathering yesterday which included a clan march for the first time. Kylie

Allison Miller, the event organiser in consultation with Duncan who is the clan organiser arranged for the event to be formally opened at 10.30am by Ian Dickson of Clan Keith following a march of Seven Clans, the Scottish Interest Group of the NZ Society of Genealogists, and three horses Reiver Group and Highland Cattle. The weather was just great and Marilyn accompanied me and enjoyed the day out in the sun.



The Grand Pageant of Waipu will be held on 11 & 12 January 2013, and will tell the "epic saga of New Zealand's oldest European Community" with a "breathtaking spectacle of Light, Sound, Drama, Magic, Wonder".

The settlers at Waipu included MacMillans from the Isle of Muck who had first emigrated to Nova Scotia in 1819, and who came to New Zealand in 1856/1860.

## Pacific Branch Report

#### By Judy Young

Secretary of Clan MacMillan Pacific Branch

Our Ambassador and Clan Centre Trustee, Connall Bell and his wife, Patricia have sold their home in Pasadena, CA, and moved to Medford, Oregon. We were lucky to see them at the Seaside Games in Ventura, CA, in October. They have assured us that will be attending a few games in CA during the coming year. Connall's plan to set up a MacMillan tent at the Oregon area games is anticipated.

The sale of our MacMillan tee-shirts continues to do well with the best

sales record going to our Northern convener, David Eddy. He seems to have the gift of persuasion.

The Scottish Games & Gatherings season of 2012 was over in CA with the Ventura games in October. Clan MacMillan, Pacific Branch has been present at more than 8 of these from south to north this year.

The new season begins in February at the Queen Mary in Long Beach and we look forward to another successful year..



Queen Mary Scottish Festival 16-17 Feb. 2013.

1126 Queen's Highway, Long Beach, CA 90802.

http://queenmary.com/ scottish/clans.php



#### Fishy News from Norway

Amongst those who attended the MacMillan Gathering in Scotland in 2009 were Kari and John Millan Sydskjør from Norway, with their granddaughter Victoria, who celebrated her birthday on the day of the dinner at Greenock.

On a fishing trip this year in June, Vikki reeled in - with a little help - the biggest catch of the day, which was found to weigh nine kilos [see photo above].



## Objectives and constitution of North American Society to be reviewed following June AGM

New website to provide information and aid recruitment in areas of Canada and the USA with no regional groups

President-Elect of the Clan MacMillan Society of North America (CMSNA), Susan Drinkwater, [pictured above] has announced the inauguration of a temporary website for the Society, created and hosted by Mike McMillen of the North Central States branch of Clan MacMillan. It can be found at: www mcmillen -design.com/cmsna, and contains the Minutes of the AGM held in Minnesota in June, and copies of the original CMSNA constitution and subsequent amendments to it.

The AGM agreed to the establishment of an Aims and Objectives Committee whose remit would include a revision of the constitution in the light of whatever were considered to be the appropriate objectives of the Society in the 21st Century.

The President will appoint a Chairman for the Committee in the New Year, who will then be joined by two members each from Canada and the USA. They are tasked to produce a draft report by June 2013.

The other CMSNA Officers elected to serve from January 2012 were:

Vice President: Jane Strauss,

ME, USA.

USA Sec: Chris Wittenburg, NH, USA.

Bert MacMillan, NB, remains the Canadian Secretary; John B. McMillan, ON, the Editor; and Dugal MacMillan, ON, the Treasurer.

Duncan D. McMillan, ON, has been asked by the President to act as Assistant Treasurer.

## **Australian Society Report**

By June Danks,

President of the Clan MacMillan Society of Australia (CMSA)

The most recent events for us have been the Service at Scot's Church Melbourne on Sunday 1st July 2012 to recognise the Kirkin' o' the Tartans, conducted by Rev. David Lunan with organ music, Scottish Singers and Pipers from Scotch College. It was well attended and there was procession of the Clans to and from the church. Following this the Clans walked to Federation Square where there was an informal gathering of the clans with Scottish entertainment. Tartan Day was almost a wash out, with the only shelter being on the stage; the day was cold and raining most of the time, but the big screen was an asset, so people who did stay around could view the show from a distance. Jan and Debra & Myra were helping Doug McLaughlin with his

presentation on the stage, Doug managed to get a Highland Dancer to be the Braw Lassie, and dress her in the Tartan. Jan helped Robert with the dressing, and the tying of the Sporran, Brogues/leather material for shoes, which had holes in the the soles to let the rain out. Debra and I held the banners at the back of the stage, a lot of the Clan Members who were at the Church Service for "Kirkin of the Tartan" had deserted, and so we offered to help him....

The AGM of CMSA was held at Soroptimist House on 26th August 2012. Guest Speaker for the day was Susan



CMSA Committee at the AGM

McLean talking about "Scottish Ragged and Industrial Schools". All office-bearers were returned for another year.

#### DATES FOR 2013:

Sun. 3 March:

Clan Luncheon, 12 Noon at Lynbrook Hotel, Lynbrook, VIC.

Sat. 2 & Sun. 3 March:

Geelong Highland Games, Deakin University, Pigdon's Rd., Waurn Ponds, VIC.

Sun. 14 April:

Ringwood Highland Games, Jubilee Park, Ringwood., VIC.

Sun. 25 Aug:

AGM at Soroptimist House, 383 Toorak Road, South Yarra, VIC.

#### News from the Clan and the Centre in Scotland

# The Clans Return to the Inverness Games

The Inverness Highland Games used to be the only such event in Scotland at which more than just local clans were represented (as tends to be the case in this country, which means that few games have more than one clan in attendance).

In 2010 Highland Council moved the Inverness Games from the wide acres of Bught Park, which could accommodate a huge marquee for as many clans as wished to appear, and back to the Northern Meeting Ground (the



Chief George chats with Nick Hide of the Davidsons, whose table was opposite the MacMillans in "The Hall of the Clans" at Inverness.

venue for the games from 1864 to 1948) where no space was available for the clans. Having missed the chance to compare notes and enjoy each others'

company for this one day of the year, the Highland Clans have been seeking somewhere nearby to gather, and this year found it, in MacLean Room at Eden Court (the theatrical complex next door to the Northern Meeting Ground).

Ten clans attended and agreed in principle to form an Association of Highland Clan Societies [AHCS] to run this and other future joint events.

Chief George himself represented the MacMillans, travelling up on the train with Pauline Simpson, who thus made a welcome return - albeit in a strictly unofficial capacity - to a clan table [pictured left]. Fifteen clans have so far expressed an interest in joining the AHCS (still a provisional name) and we'll be back at the Inverness Games on 20 July 2013.



## A poem by clan bard Hugh McMillan to mark Kirkpatrick's anniversary:

#### Both Feet off the Ground

What makes the difference is letting go: Whether peddling or dreaming, Letting go of the ground. I wonder what's in this landscape That turns whiskered sons Of the soil or manse into dreamers? Not far from here are cottages, Yards apart, that in the space of fifty years Turned out an Oxford Don And an Admiral of the Sultan's navy; Not posh boys, boys from the village school. I suppose it's our imagination that makes Ordinary things marvels, The Dandy Horse a bicycle, A road from Carronbridge to Holywood The runway to infinity.



Chief George at the grave of Kirkpatrick McMillan, with Marion McMillan from Glasgow who organised a get-together of Scottish MacMillans on the 2nd of September to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth in Dumfriesshire of the inventor of the bicycle.



## Biography of General Sir Gordon MacMillan to be available from the Clan Centre in the New Year

Chief George MacMillan and his siblings have combined to write a memoir of their father, General Sir Gordon Holmes Alexander MacMillan, the distinguished soldier who in 1951 was recognised by the Lord Lyon - the Queen's representative in such matters - as the Chief of Clan MacMillan.

Sir Gordon's military career involved service in both World Wars, the extrication of the British Army from Palestine in 1948, the Governorship of Gibraltar, and the office of GOC Scotland.

The book will cost £10 or \$16 USD (plus P&P), and will be available from the Clan Centre, or our website: www.clanmacmillan.org.

## Clan MacMillan Homecoming Gathering 2014

The organisers of the "Year of Homecoming" have scrapped their original plan. Instead of the *Clans2014* event at Stirling on 11-13 July, a clan element is to be added to the 700th anniversary celebrations of the Battle of Bannockburn on 28-30 June, run by the National Trust for Scotland - who have so far provided no details of events or costs. There will also be a "Clan Convention", run by the Standing Council of Chiefs, probably in the following week - either at Stirling or Perth - though the date and place of it have yet to be decided.

Given the uncertainty about the convention and the events at Bannockburn, Clan MacMillan now plan to take our projected journey to the Hebrides during the week before; starting perhaps with a celebration of the chief's 84th birthday at or in the vicinity of Finlaystone on Friday 20 June. A possible itinerary would then take us to the isle of Benbecula - either flying direct from Glasgow, or going by coach and staying overnight, probably in Fort William - to arrive on Sunday 21 June. The following three days would be spent exploring Lewis, Harris, North & South Uist, and Barra, with events involving the many Macmillans who still live on these islands. We might return south via Inverness, to meet the Glenurquhart Macmillans, with possible stops at Culloden and/or Dunkeld.

Though the exact programme remains open, the decision has been made - in order to allow you to start planning and booking - that **Clan MacMillan** will be gathering in Scotland 20-30 June 2014. Further details will be posted as they are decided on the website (via a link from the homepage) and published in the June CMI Newsletter.

### Visitors to the Clan Centre in 2012 (who signed the Visitor's Book)

Doug Culp, ON Canada; Teresa MacMillan, MS, USA; Butch McMillan, MS, USA; Shelby McMillan, MS, USA; Marilyn McMillan, MS, USA; Archie Mackenzie, Scots Heritage Magazine; Roy Summers, Scots Heritage/Scottish Field Magazines; Tom Caballero, Scottish Field Magazine; James McMillan, WA, USA; Renee, Jason and Gillian Anne McMillan, GA, USA; Rachel Spurlock, GA, USA; Susan, Alexander and Sara Forsgren, Portsmouth, England; Michael McMillan, Glasgow, Scotland; Eileen Bell and David Cox, BC, Canada; Duncan Macmillan, Brisbane, Australia; Lizzie and James Coren, Brisbane, Australia; Charles MacMillan, OH, USA; Mary MacMillan, MD, USA; Michael MacMillan, NJ, USA; John MacMillan, Idaho, USA; Eric MacMillen, VA, USA; Ian and Lilian Bell, Rio De Janeiro; Lamar and Carol McMillin, MS, USA; Marion McMillan, Glasgow, Scotland; Stephen and Julie Webber, CA, USA; Gerry McMillan. FL, USA; Christian and Mya MacMillan, WA, USA; Don and Jackie McMillan, CA, USA; Corinne McMullan, TX, USA; Davis McMullan, TX, USA; Shayn McMullan, TX, USA; Kirk McMullan, TX, USA; Cynthia McMullan, TX, USA; Joe McMullan, TX, USA; Dana Woodruff, TX, USA; Eileen Tyman, Renfrewshire, Scotland; George Rome, Victoria, Australia; Suzanne MacMillan, CO, USA; Ted Jacobs, CO, USA; Roger and Angela Bell, CO, USA; Stefan and Anne McMillan, IL, USA; Mary Ann Williams, FL, USA; Jack McMillan GA, USA; Vilma McMillan, FL, USA, Agnes Czegledi, GA, USA; Harry Williams, FL, USA; Harold MacMillan, ON, Canada; Allen MacMillan, QC, Canada; Robert and Elaine MacMillan, AB, Canada; Julie and Donald Macmillan, Yorkshire, England; Robert Bell and Renee Schweitzer, OK, USA; Alyson and Richard Scoltock, NC, USA; Scott and Nikki McMillan, Manitoba, Canada; Peter Sanson, Edinburgh, Scotland; Kenneth McMillian, GA, USA; David and Andrea McMillin, MO, USA; Kristyn MacMillan, NS, Canada; Norah Collins, Victoria, Australia; Mark Blue, Germany; Robert and Ann McMillan, FL, USA; Margaret Macdonald, Islay, Scotland; Elizabeth Alexander, Islay, Scotland; Earl McMillen III, SC, USA; Elizabeth McMillen, SC, USA; Francis, Kinloch, Renfrewshire, Scotland.



## Archie Murlagan in Canada

## According to the Dictionary of Canadian Biography online

Pictured left is the Memorial Cairn erected at Murlagan, Loch Arkaig, during "The Great Return 2002" International Gathering.

This biography was a collaboration between James H. Lambert and David S. MacMillan (1925-1987), Professor of History at Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario.

The full version starts with a short section on Murlagan's family background in Scotland, which says that Archie's father Alexander was in command of the Macmillans at Culloden, and then states that Archibald himself was born on the 23rd February 1762. Both of these unreferenced assertions are open to question, since - so far as we knowthe Macmillans were commanded at Culloden by Capt. Ewen Macmillan, Yr of Murlagan, and there is no known record of the birth or baptism of Archie Murlagan.

On 3 July [1802], with more than 400 of his people in three ships, he [Archie] sailed from Fort William to Montreal, which was reached in September. During the crossing the passengers had been given poor quality subsistence, and at Montreal they were forbidden by the ships' captains to take with them what provisions they had saved. McMillan sued on their behalf and obtained favourable judgement from a tribunal of two Montreal merchants, James McGill and John McKindlay.

Armed with letters of recommendation to the influential Simon McTavish, McMillan may have worked for the North West Company for a time. In 1803 he set up as a general merchant in a modest commercial establishment on Rue Saint-Paul, bought in March for £560. He immediately acquired an agent at Ouebec in fellow Highlander John Munro, and thereafter he established connections in Scotland, the West Indies, Albany, N.Y., and York (Toronto) where a friend from the Highlands, Duncan Cameron, was his agent by 1805. He became a

member of the Scotch Presbyterian Church, later known as St Gabriel Street Church, and by 1804 he was on its governing committee.

Since many of the people McMillan had brought out spoke only Gaelic and knew no system of farming other than cattle-raising or the primitive agriculture known as crofting, he hoped to obtain a grant of land on which to settle them together, with the intention of recreating Highland society, without its abuses, under himself as laird. In August 1804, assisted by John Young, a member of the land committee of the Executive Council and a friend of Munro, McMillan petitioned for land in Suffolk, Templeton, and Grenville townships on the Grand, or Ottawa, River but he soon ran into the bureaucratic delays that characterized the unwieldy landgranting system in the colony.

Discouraged, and attracted by the blandishments of influential Upper Canadian Scots eager to increase the population of their localities and hence the market value of their holdings, many of McMillan's Highlanders left for Glengarry, Upper Canada, where they had relatives. "Our countrymen have a great aversion to go upon new lands," McMillan complained to a Highland acquaintance in 1805. "They are afraid to encounter fresh difficulties & they [live?] together among their friends formerly settled in the country who encourage them as they find them useful in clearing their lands, without considering they are losing time for a bare subsistence." At least 80 of McMillan's associates promised to sell to him for from 5 to 15 shillings each their expected grants of 200 acres, according to the Lower Canadian system of township leaders and associates.

In spite of the delays McMillan maintained his confidence in "the influence of Mr Young who has been uniformly friendly to the cause," and his patience was rewarded in 1807 with patents on 13,261 acres in Suffolk (which had been renamed Lochaber) Township and nearly one-half of Templeton Township. In October he was able to sell a lot of 200 acres in the first range of Lochaber for £50.

McMillan was an ardent promoter of immigration. To Highland acquaintances he vaunted the cheapness of living in the colony, where there were no taxes and the cost of establishment was moderate. In the immediate vicinity of Montreal, he wrote to one in 1805, "you can purchase a Farm with a suitable House offices Garden and Fences in compleat repair for 4 a £600 . . . , at the distance of 30 to 40 miles from this a Farm could be purchased for £150 a £200." He portrayed his own situation in glowing terms: he was able to educate his children conveniently; in business he was supported "by some of the first Characters" in Montreal, and there and at Quebec he commanded credit easily; Highland immigrants were "powering down every day in most astonishing numbers"; and even those who settled in Glengarry and Lancaster brought their produce to him in exchange for farm utensils and necessities. Initially he had conducted almost all his business in Gaelic, but by September 1803 he had acquired a sufficient number of French-speaking customers to have learned to "blaber pretty well upon Business in that language," which his little boys spoke better than English.

McMillan quickly diversified his business activities. He purchased imported goods with Upper Canadian produce and then sold his purchases in Montreal, York, and Quebec, where Munro was also sent

agricultural and wood products from Upper Canada. If McMillan declined an invitation from Alexander McDonell, Roman Catholic priest at Glengarry, to deal in potash and pearl ash from that settlement, he was ready by January 1805 to try the Newfoundland market in order to maximize the return on his expeditions to and from Europe by picking up fish en route. He was the Montreal agent for a Highlander merchant in Trois-Rivières, who obtained for McMillan a contract to furnish cloth for the making of military uniforms. He engaged in speculative ventures in the West Indies and purchased London bills in Montreal "to take advantage of the discount here & premium in New York and Boston." His banker, Alexander Auldjo, bought and sold stocks on the London market on his behalf.

By May 1807, however, according to McMillan, trade had become so flat that he was considering betaking himself "to the woods as my denier resort." Costs in obtaining the patent on the lands in Lochaber and Templeton had obliged him to borrow from Munro. The latter was pressed to obtain for McMillan the patent on lands in Grenville, where McMillan intended to establish himself as a drawing card for settlers. Munro succeeded in January 1808, and McMillan began selling off stockin-trade in Montreal and making frequent trips up the Ottawa to prepare the site of a homestead and mills. However, by summer he had perceived the immensity of his task and, abandoning hopes of immediate settlement on his land, had hired an agent for the Grenville project.

Returning to business, in September 1808 McMillan contemplated a "wild" gamble, the sending of a cargo of flour, fish, and other products to Cuba, the Floridas, and Spain or Portugal in order to open new channels of trade, "the old tract being so hackneyed that an honest man can hardly live by the gleanings of it." He formed a partnership with Alexander Cameron, and they opened a liquor and drygoods establishment, called Cameron and McMillan, in leased premises in Montreal's lower town market. By late 1808 McMillan was preparing to send squared oak from Grenville, Norway pine, and staves to Munro,

who owned a timber cove at Sillery; in February 1809 he sold 10,000 staves, worth £700, to one Quebec merchant.

Land settlement and development remained, none the less, an activity of interest to McMillan. In 1809 he, Cameron, and Simon Zelotes Watson, an associate at Quebec, proposed to draw Highlanders who had settled in the United States to

Lower Canadian lands near the American border. The project was endorsed by the Executive Council and Watson was sent off to the United States with a sum of money. He disappeared. McMillan and Cameron tried once more, this time with the trustworthy Munro at Ouebec; in the autumn they proposed first to Surveyor General Joseph Bouchette and then to Governor Sir James Henry Craig to settle Highlanders from Britain and the United States on a block of 150,000 acres south of the St Lawrence River at a rate of 300 settlers a year for five years. The government was to sell the land on easy terms to McMillan and Cameron, who, from profits on resale to immigrants, would build a road to Quebec. The scheme came to naught.

In 1809 McMillan increased his holdings in Grenville and Templeton through purchase and the lease of crown and clergy reserve lots. By November 1809 he had invested heavily in mills in Lochaber and was negotiating loans to build others in Templeton. He tried to attract settlers by adopting the tactics of his Upper Canadian competitors in development and by arguing that North West Company traders would purchase pork, flour, and butter along the Ottawa en route to the northwest. The following spring he sold his property on Rue Saint-Paul for £800, sublet the premises in the lower town market, and moved to Grenville.

McMillan soon found that profits could be made more quickly from lumbering than from farming.



Grenville, Quebec, where Murlagan had extensive interests, including a store and the post office.

A tariff preference accorded by Britain to colonial lumber during the Napoleonic Wars made the timber trade highly lucrative, and a brief period of post-war prosperity maintained the boom [see Peter Patterson]. McMillan's holdings were advantageous; Grenville and Lochaber were covered with pine and oak, both in demand for naval construction, and were veined with streams capable of carrying the logs to the Ottawa, while Templeton had beech, maple, basswood, pine, and some oak. In 1812 Christopher Idle, Brother and Company, a major London firm [see William Price], ordered from McMillan 10,000 cubic feet of squared Norway pine, worth £400-£500. By 1816 he had seven sawmills and was employing many of his former crofters as lumberjacks and workers in the mills. In 1817 he formed an association with Thomas Noyes of Chatham Township; Noyes cut and rafted McMillan's timber, while McMillan delivered and sold it at Quebec. McMillan also established a general store in Grenville by 1821. His suppliers and backers, almost all in Montreal, included John and Thomas Torrance, Gillespie, Moffatt and Company, the Bank of Montreal, and John Molson and Sons.

To be concluded in the next issue.



## Father John MacMillan

## The Bard of Barra

In "The MacMillans and Their Septs" the late Somerled MacMillan wrote that of all the MacMillans to come from the islands of Eriskay and Barra, "... by far the greatest in the area was the late Father John MacMillan, who was greatly loved and respected by all. His passing came as a great blow to Gaeldom, for he was an illustrious bard, a sweet singer, and a renowned scholar. So long as Gaelic is spoken and sung in Barra, his songs and writings will keep his memory green in his own beloved isle."

Rev. Chris McMullen, whose own ancestors came from Barra, found the following information about Father John in Somerled MacMillan's papers in the Clan MacMillan Centre, which he very kindly passed on to be used in the magazine.

Much of the material that follows appears to come from *St. Barr's Church Northbay Barra 1906-2006* by Mairi Ceit MacKinnon. She tells us that Father John MacMillan was born in 1880 in Craigston, on the west coast of Barra, and that in 1906 the Master of Ceremonies at the opening and consecration of St Barr's was Father MacMillan of Eigg (assumed to be Father John).

In 1923 Father John was the priest in Rothesay, Isle of Bute; but he returned to home to accompany 300 Barra and Uist emigrants to Red Deer, Alberta, in Canada, where he served them until 1929. Apparently the Barramen found farming in their new home difficult, and Father John was moved to compose a song about their hardships.

From 1929 to 1935 Father MacMillan served at North Bay, Barra, where he was known as "Maighstir Iain". Mairi Ceit tells us that "Father John's time as a parish priest will always be remembered as the era when Northbay became the Mecca for visiting artists, musicians and literary figures. Compton MacKenzie had moved to Barra in 1933...".

MacKenzie was to make Barra famous in Britain through his comic

wartime novel Whisky Galore, the film of which is one of the funniest ever to have emerged from Ealing Studios (it was released in the USA as "Tight Little Island").

The picture above, showing Father John (left) with relatives on Barra in 1939, was taken by the crew filming Whisky Galore [from the Facebook page of Father John's great-nephew, the musician Neil Johnstone].

The poet Louis MacNeice travelled to Barra twice, and in his book *I Crossed the Minch* says he was much taken by the mixed service in Gaelic and Latin. The famous historian and scholar of folklore, John Lorne Campbell, also lived in Northbay, and reported that Father John and his friend the Coddie, "both very charismatic and powerful Celtic personalities" encouraged the shy Barra people to share their songs and lore with them, so that a wider audience would enjoy the Gaelic heritage of Barra.

When ill health struck, Father John moved from Northbay to St Brendan's, which was nearer to his family, before retiring to a little cottage in Allasdale. After his death in 1951 in Glasgow, Father John MacMillan was taken home to be laid to rest in St Brendan's Cemetary at Borve Point. This was one of his favourite spots, where he used to walk and be filled with awe by the ceaseless crashing of *Na Haaf*, the Atlantic Ocean.



Not everyone remembered Father John with approval, as Somerled MacMillan notes:

"The late Rev. Angus Macdonald D.D., speaks rather caustically regarding MacMillan's failures and shortcomings: 'He has been for a while in Eigg out of which he drank himself. He was very popular in Benbecula and even in North Uist where he had only one adherent - Chisholm, the Procurator Fiscal at Lochmaddy. For years he was great on following the Gaelic Mod everywhere, joining in boisterous sederunts, singing Gaelic songs and drinking Talasker."

A rather more affectionate memory comes from Father John's nephew, the piper and composer Duncan Johnstone (father of Neil who is mentioned above). At the age of fourteen or fifteen Duncan was in Barra at his uncle's home and there played a tune for him on the bagpipes. When finished, Father John only said, "Duncan, are you able to speak Gaelic yet?" Duncan said "No, Father, but I can understand it." Father John looked down at his collie lying by the fire and said: "My dog can understand Gaelic."

Duncan's lasting tribute to his uncle was a 2/4 march for the pipes written in his honour, and "Father John MacMillan of Barra", written by Norman MacDonald from Skye, is one of the most popular tunes written by this famous piper, and can be heard today at many a ceilidh played on a variety of instruments.



Mike McMillen, joint organiser with Jack MacMillan of the CMSNA 2012 Gathering, looks back on a memorable few days in an article he wrote originally for the newsletter of his own North Central States Branch.

We're grateful for permission to reprint it, along with photos taken by Mike, and the centre-page spread which he also composed.

The 2012 Clan MacMillan Society of North America (CMSNA) Gathering was held in the Minneapolis/St Paul Minnesota metropolitan area from June 21-26, 2012. A CMSNA gathering occurs every two or three years, alternating between Canada and the United States. Of the sixty-some MacMillans and friends who attended one event or another, twenty-five of the attendees stayed at a dormitory at Macalester College in St Paul.



The Scots get acquainted with frontier weaponry

CMSNA President (and co-founder of our branch of Clan MacMillan) Barry McMillen was to host the gathering. In May Barry informed us he would be unable to attend, as his on-going battle with cancer had left him in a condition unable to travel. Barry passed away on July 14 in Argentina.



O'Gara's Pub welcomed the clan on Thursday evening

Chief George, Clan historian Graeme Mackenzie and Margaret Saunders flew in from Scotland Wednesday evening, June 20. As we drove from the airport they were greeted by a vivid double rainbow, a harbinger of what would be five spectacular days of weather with blue skies, low humidity and highs hovering around 80f. The gathering was preceded by days of rain and followed by a brutal July of record heat. Most other out-of-town attendees arrived on Thursday, with a meet-and-greet at O'Gara's Pub.



The Clan MacMillan symposium in session

Continued on page 14

## Photos from the 2012 Gathering banquet



The formal banquet was fittingly held at Rush Creek Golf Club's "MacMillan Ballroom".



A piper and Highland dancers at the formal banquet.



Highland dancers at the formal banquet.



Pipers leading the procession.



Clan historian Graeme Mackenzie recites the Chief's lineage.



Chief George and author Bill Watkins.





The silent auction table.















Chief George addresses the haggis.



Friday

The morning of the first full day of the Gathering featured a brief orientation, a Clan MacMillan Symposium (for Clan MacMillan, the first of its kind, to my knowledge). Symposium topics were addressed by attendees, subjects including branch communication, Highland games, Clan Centre goals, significance of the Chief's visit, and an overview of CMSNA, the organisation that sponsored the gathering.



The afternoon started with a trip to the Minnesota Science Museum in St Paul [pictured above]. The day ended with a cruise and buffet on a 19th century-style riverboat on the St Croix River, boarding in Stillwater.

#### Saturday

A visit to Minnehaha Falls followed by a trip to the Mall of America on Saturday. We had dinner at The Local, another Celticthemed restaurant in downtown Minneapolis.



The falls on the Minnehaha Creek, not far from its confluence with the Mississippi River

#### Sunday

Sunday featured a CTS service, investiture and meeting. A CMSNA business meeting was in the afternoon, followed by the formal banquet at Rush Creek Golf Club. One result of the CMSNA meeting was to prompt a review of the organisation and its constitution.



The largest shopping mall in America - which is owned by a Canadian company

#### Monday

Monday morning Graeme Mackenzie gave a lecture on genealogy, specifically addressing Scottish records and other sources of genealogical data. Afternoon was spent at various spots in Minneapolis: the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden, Lindon Hills and Merlin's Rest for dinner.



Pedal Pubs are a feature of the vibrant downtown area of Minneapolis

The Twin Cities seemed to impress out-of-town attendees (previously considered "fly-over country"), few of whom had been here before. The idyllic weather certainly contributed to the impression. The Scots escaped an unusually cold wet summer and those from the southern states, the ubiquitous summer heat and humidity.

# Barry McMillen (1942 - 2012) President of the Clan MacMillan

## Society of North America

Barry McMillen had been living in Buenos Aires, Argentina, when he passed away July 14 at the age of 70.

He was born in Fort Wayne Indiana in 1942, served three years in the US Army during the years 1966 to 1969.

He earned his BA in Psychology at Purdue University and his MA at Saint Mary's University. He worked for many years as a drug and alcohol counselor at the Hazelden Foundation.

Jack MacMillan



The following words are from Barry's wife Cristina:

I never thought that I had to write an obituary for Barry, I always thought that we were going to pass away together, but life had another plans for us.

What can I say? That I love him with all my heart, He was everything to me, he was my soul mate and I miss him.

How could I define Barry? He was an honest man with great heart, he was brave because he fought against cancer with all his strength and I was always by his side giving him love support and comfort. He was treated by the best doctors and they did everything for him but unfortunately the kind of cancer he had was one of the worst. He was a fighter, and fought till the end.

Two days before he died in a moment of conscience he said he was sorry and I replied that there was nothing to be sorry that I love him and that he needed to let his soul free.

I was holding his hand when his heart said, this is enough. I miss him and at the same time I am thankful to live hecause I know that some day we are going to be together again.



Barry in Scotland in 2007

We were friends, lovers, soul mate and I was proud that he was my husband.

Love to you Cris

Barry is survived by Cris, sons Brian and Kevin, and two grandchildren.

Memorials can be donated in Barry's name to MacMillan Cancer Support at http://www.macmillan.org.uk

#### Rev. Peter Hale

Chaplain to the Appalachian Branch

Peter (75) came from an extraordinary long line of ministers. His father was, and all his brothers are, ordained ministers of the Church.

A member of the Branch since 1995, he was regular at the Highland Games. Peter could always be distinguished by his favorite hobby — wearing military attire of varying wars but with a MacMillan kilt. He was a life long student of languages and culture and often did scripture reading in a dual-language based upon the country he was currently studying. He loved to tell stories and jokes and had a definite dry sense of humor that accompanied his infectious smile.

To his wife Ann, also a Branch member since 1996, and all his family we know that God has planned a reception for him and that our Clan's loss is definitely God's gain.

Robert Bell

#### John Douglas Heath

Died 6 August 2012 age 61

John the son of Elizabeth MacMillan and the late Douglas W. Heath UE, brother of Anne (Neuman), James, Margaret, Robert (Marivic) & Colin. He would spend the summer of younger years at his grandparents, James Lewis and Catherine (McCuaig) MacMillan at 21.5 Lochiel. A city boy who knew instinctively how a farm was to run. He would help his uncles Grant and Ross MacMillan around their farmers.

John was also a piper, who played at the Maxville Highland Games, a Queen's Scout and Forest Ranger. John loved the outdoors and especially his family. He will always be remembered by his many nieces and nephews, and grand nieces and nephews for his cheerful outlook on life.

Margaret Heath Taylor

#### Sadie L. M. MacMillan

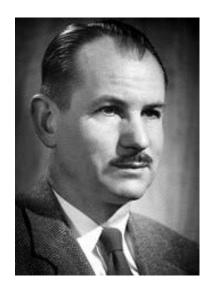
4 Feb. 1928 - 20 Aug. 2012

Sadie was born on her family farm with her twin sister Christena. Her mother died of cancer when the girls were seven and they lived with their father Dan MacKenzie and his parents. She worked with her Dad on the farm until she married neighbour John D. MacMillan (1911-1993).

In 1967 she began a 23 year career at the Glengarry Memorial Hospital ... she loved the camaraderie at the hospital. During this period she and John D. switched from dairy to beef farming, and then took cattle on pasture before finally retiring.

She looked after John D. in his last years as diabetes was taking its toll on him. Sadie loved having visitors come in, attending church and going to parties and events in the community. She was the best neighbour that anyone could hope for.

Ernie MacMillan



## Edwin Mattison McMillan

#### Scientist and Nobel Laureate

Born on 18th September 1907 at Redondo Beach, CA - the son of Dr Edwin Harbaugh McMillan, a physician, and Anne Marie Mattison, both from Maryland - Edwin McMillan was one of the greatest scientists of the 20th century. Glenn Seaborg, with whom he won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1951, said that his "important and versatile scientific contributions spanning physics, chemistry, and engineering, and his great human qualities, form an important chapter in the history of science." He died in 1991, and the following appreciation is adapted from a talk given at his memorial service by colleague and friend, **Edward Lofgren**.

In January 1932, Ernest Lawrence wrote to Edwin M. McMillan at Princeton University: "We all would welcome your coming to California on a National Research Fellowship next year. We are busy installing equipment in our new Radiation Laboratory. If you wish to join in OD the work, we would be only too glad."

Who was this young man who was so cordially invited to the new Laboratory? He was the schoolboy whose toys were mechanical and electrical gadgetry, chemicals, rocks, minerals, and botanical oddities. He was the eager high-school student who lived in the shadow of Caltech, walked its hallways, attended lectures, and glimpsed the fabulous world of science.

He was the graduate of Caltech, greatly influenced by close association with Linus Pauling. He was the new Princeton Ph.D. and a holder of the most sought-after prize: a two-year National Research Council Fellowship.

Ed accepted the invitation of Lawrence to come to Berkeley but chose to do his research in the Physics Department on his own projects in molecular beams and hyperfine structure rather than in the new Radiation Laboratory. However, h e was a close observer of the Radiation Laboratory and felt the excitement as Lawrence and his coworkers struggled with the powerful but temperamental cyclotron to make it work and to produce solid physics results. The attraction was irresistible: his interested observer status grew first to a part-time and then, in 1934, to a full-time commitment to the

Radiation Laboratory that was destined to be his intellectual home for the rest of his life.

In those earliest days, Ed brought to the Laboratory a technique of meticulous experimentation combined with a mastery of nuclear theory that it did not have before. He discovered new isotopes; Oxygen-15 with Stanley Livingston and Beryllium-10 with Samuel Ruben; and he provided the first unambiguous verification of electron pair production by gamma-ray absorption. He also took a keen interest in the operation and improvement of the cyclotron and was responsible for substantial improvements in ion sources, magnetic-field shaping, beam extraction, and power and control systems. He played an especially valuable role in the construction and initial operation of the 60-inch cyclotron.

As the decade of the 1930s drew to a close, momentous events in the world had their repercussions at the Laboratory. In the first days after January 29, 1939, when the discovery of fission became known, a number of verifying experiments were carried out at the Laboratory. Ed chose, he said, "to do an experiment of a very simple kind" - a measurement of the range of the fission fragments using a foil technique. Ed, ever the careful observer, noticed that the residue in a thin layer of uranium compound showed "something very interesting." The something - after a long series of exacting experiments in collaboration with Philip Abelson - was proven to be an isotope of Element 93, the first element beyond Uranium.

Ed named the element Neptunium and had ready the name Plutonium for the next element. Indeed, he prepared a sample of Element 94, but the final chemical proof of its identify eluded him, as he was called away to help organize a new laboratory at MIT for research in radar. The chemical identification of Element 94 was carried forward by a team including Glenn Seaborg, Joseph Kennedy, and Arthur Wahl. A paper co-authored by these three, along with McMillan, recorded the result in 1940, but wartime secrecy held up the announcement until 1946. Five years later, the Nobel Prize was awarded jointly to McMillan and Seaborg "for their discoveries in the chemistry of the transuranium elements."

Ed's mastery of physics -both theory and experiment -was such that he could contribute to almost any line of research. When Robert Oppenheimer was designated to head what became the Los Alamos Laboratory, the first person he called on, in November 1942, to help organize the laboratory was Ed McMillan. He assumed major responsibilities both in weapons development and in testing and instrumentation.

In the summer of 1945, activity at Los Alamos reached a climax in the test shot at Alamogordo. With the end of the war in sight, Ed's thoughts reverted to the central problem of cyclotrons: the energy limit imposed by the relativistic increase of mass of the ions as they gain energy. The

highest energy accelerator at this time was the 60-inch cyclotron in Berkeley, with a beam of 16 MeV. The next projected cyclotron was to produce beams of 100 MeV.

Although the huge magnet had been built, the machine's operation was doubtful. Unless there was a new idea, further progress would be absolutely blocked.

McMillan had such a new idea. His principle of phase stability was as startling in its elegant simplicity as it turned out to be far-reaching in practice. He showed that under certain conditions, ions in cyclotron orbits collect in stable, zero-energygain bunches. The frequency of the accelerating field and the strength of the magnetic field may then be slowly altered to increase the energy of the stable bunches without limit. This is the principle of phase stability, which, together with strong focusing, provides the basis for the design of all the great high-energy accelerators today.

The principle of phase stability had also been determined by Vladimir Veksler in Russia, but due to the breakdown of communication during the war, the work of the two scientists was entirely independent. In 1963 McMillan and Veksler shared the Atoms for Peace Award for their contribution.

Returning to Berkeley when the war ended, Ed had a leading role in



Edwin McMillan and Luis Alvarez working together as young men. Both were later to win Nobel Prizes.

the program of the Laboratory to build new accelerators based on the principle of phase stability: the 184-inch cyclotron, the 300-MeV synchrotron, and the Bevatron.

In parallel with his remarkably productive career in research and in accelerator development, McMillan taught as a faculty member of the UC Berkeley Physics Department, becoming a full professor in 1946. He was chosen Faculty Research Lecturer in 1954, with the citation: "His teaching is notable for the clarity and simplicity with which he presents even the most complex scientific facts and theories."

McMillan was named associate director of the Laboratory and head

of the Physics Division that same year. With the untimely death of Lawrence in 1958, he was appointed director of the newly named Ernest O. Lawrence Radiation Laboratory. Few scientists could have managed such a large and diverse scientific enterprise at all; McMillan did it well. He directed with a light touch, giving scope to individuals and making it possible for persons of great talent, but with some times very different styles, to work side by side. The years were very productive ones for the Laboratory.

McMillan held this position with distinction until his retirement in 1973. In retirement, he was an active participant in an experiment at CERN in Geneva, Switzerland; he maintained an interest in Laboratory affairs; and he contributed several important papers on aspects of the history of science.

Ed McMillan was one of the great scientists of the century. His colleague and fellow Nobel laureate, Luis Alvarez - a tough judge of scientific worth - summarized Ed's stature this way:

"Many people agree with me that Ed McMillan certainly earned two or three Nobel Prizes in physics, but only got one."

Great scientist and scholar, superb teacher, fine gentleman. . . it was a privilege to have Ed McMillan as a friend.

## Rua Macmillan, fiddler



Rua Macmillan and his band. Photo by Archie Macfarlane Photography from Rua Macmillan's MySpace page.

Originally from Nairn, in the Scottish Highlands, fiddler Rua Macmillan is quickly making a name for himself in the world of Scottish traditional music. Having graduated with a B.A. (Honours) in Scottish Music from the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama in 2008, he has already toured extensively throughout Europe and the U.S.

In February 2009, Rua was awarded the prestigious title of BBC Radio Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year. The following summer he performed at Cambridge Folk Festival, the UK's biggest folk festival. His debut album *Tyro* (CDTRAX 346) was released on the Greentrax label in May 2010.

Rua is also a member of the Paul McKenna Band, who were voted 'Best Up and Coming Act' in the 2009 MG Alba Trad. Music Awards.

"Rua MacMillan is one of the brightest of the current generation of rising stars to emerge from the R.S.A.M.D.'s Scottish Music course - a fiddle player with already great experience of major live events, from Cambridge Folk Festival to the St. Louis Highland Games.

As a stylist of Scottish fiddle he is second to none. As an arranger of traditional music in the modern idiom there is no one I'd listen to more! I await the future development of his career with great anticipation."

Brian McNeill, founder of the Battlefield band and former head of Scottish Music at the R.S.A.M.D. (Royal Scottish Academy of Music, and Drama).

For further information see: www.ruamacmillan.com

#### CLAN MACMILLAN SUMMARY DIRECTORY 2013

#### Active branches, societies and family groups around the world

The full Clan MacMillan Directory can be found at www.clanmacmillan.org/Societies&Branches.htm

#### CHIEF: George Gordon MacMillan of MacMillan & Knap

Applehouse Flat, Finlaystone, Langbank, Renfrewshire, PA14 6TJ, Scotland.

Tel: 01475-540285. Email: chief@clanmacmillan.org

#### Clan MacMillan International incorporating The Clan MacMillan Society of 1892 (open to all)

Clan MacMillan Centre, Finlaystone, Langbank, PA14 6TJ. Email: clancentre@clanmacmillan.org

#### <u>Clan MacMillan Society of Australia</u> <a href="http://home.vicnet.net.au/~mcmillan/welcome.htm">http://home.vicnet.net.au/~mcmillan/welcome.htm</a>

President: June Danks, 66 Campbell Street, Kew, VIC. 3101, Australia.

Tel: 03-9817-3148. Email: june.danks@bigpond.com.au

Secretary: Myrna Robertson, 1/56 Fairbairn Road, Cranbourne, VIC 3977, Australia.

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#### Clan MacMillan Society of New Zealand www.sipro.co.nz/macmillan.html

President: Jim McMillan, 1 Monterosso Place, Paraparaumu Beach, Paraparaumu 5032, New Zealand.

Tel: +64-4-298-4144. Email: jim\_mcmillan@xtra.co.nz

Treasurer: Sylvia MacMillan, 13/134 Great South Road, Manurea, Auckland, New Zealand.

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#### Clan MacMillan Society of North America (for USA & Canada where no local body)

Pres: Susan Drinkwater, 28 Wedgewood Crescent, Gloucester, ON, K1B 4B4, CANADA.

Tel: (613) 830-0536. Email: susan.e.drinkwater@sympatico.ca

Vice-President: Jane M. Strauss, 794 Shore Road, Northport, ME 04849, USA.

Tel: (207) 338-6567. Email: jane.strauss@de.opel.com

#### Appalachian Branch (South East of USA) www.clanmacmillanappalachian.org

President: Robert Jones, P.O. Box 1922, Dahlonega, GA 30533, USA.

Tel: (678) 768-8489. Email: macmillansofappalachia@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer: Fran Jones, P.O. Box 1922, Dahlonega, GA 30533, USA.

Tel: (678) 768-8489. Email: macmillansofappalachia@gmail.com

#### North Central States Branch (MN, WI, IL, IA, MO, ND, SD) www.mcmillen-design.com/clan/

President: Jack MacMillan, 7209 Thomas Avenue South, Richfield, MN 55423, USA.

Tel: (612) 798-5092; Email: jacmacm@aol.com

Treasurer: Susan McMillen, 5141 Nicollet Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55419, USA.

Tel: (612) 827-2174. Email: oppyrich@gmail.com

#### Clan MacMillan Pacific Branch (CA, OR, NV) http://www.macmillanclan.org/

President: Michelle Mullins, 9837 Caspi Gardens #5, Santee, CA 92071, USA.

Tel: (619) 579-1792. Email: mmullins@sandiego.edu

Secretary: Judy Young, 2451 Geyer Lane, Alpine, CA 91901, USA.

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#### Clan MacMillan Arizona http://www.clanmacmillanaz.org/

President: Charles Mullen, 8808 W. Coolidge Street, Phoenix, AZ 85037, USA.

Tel: (623) 872-9693. Email: cmullen102@q.com

Treasurer: Roger McMullen, 11543 N. Johnson Road, Maricopa, AZ 85239, USA.

Email: rogermcmullen@clanmacmillanaz.org

#### Clan MacMillan Society of Utah

President: Phillip C. McMillan, 7263 South 1540 East, Salt Lake City, UT 84121, USA.

Tel: (801) 943-1435. Email: clanmacmillan@yahoo.com

Membership: Deanne E. Gayler, 9838 South Altamont Drive, Sandy, UT 84092, USA. Tel: (801) 943-4097.

#### Clan MacMillan Society of Texas www.clanmacmillantexas.org/

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Tel: (512) 343-6872. Email: garymcmillian@swbell.net

Vice President: Mark McMillan, 2000 Lobelia Drive, Cedar Park, TX 78613, USA.

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#### Clan MacMillan of Washington State www.clanmacmillanwashington.org

President: Douglas Stuart Macmillan, PO Box 17883, Seattle, WA 98127, USA.

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#### Glengarry and Ottawa Valley Branch http://www3.sympatico.ca/comflex/mcmillan/index.htm

President: Anne Neuman, 3399 Vandorff Road, RR4, Stouffville, ON, L4A 7X5, CANADA.

Tel: (905) 888-1278. Email: MacMillan.gov@bell.net

Secretary: Jerry Stubbings, 28 Wedgewood Crescent, Gloucester, ON, K1B 4B4, CANADA.

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#### Clan MacMillan Society of New Brunswick

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Tel: (506) 433-2522.

Treasurer: A.Clair MacMillan, 117 Cedar Ave., Fredericton, NB, E3A 2C5, CANADA.

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#### Clan MacMillan Society of Nova Scotia

President: Donald R. MacMillan, RR3, St. Andrews, Antigonish Co., NS, B0H 1X0, CANADA.

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Sec/Treas: Verna MacMillan, Lake Ainslie, Whycocomagh RR1, NS, B0E 3M0, CANADA.

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#### Clan MacMillan Society of Prince Edward Island

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Treasurer: Joyce Peacock, Unit 1, 2002 Euston Street, Charlottetown, PE, C1A 1W8, CANADA.

Tel: (902) 367-6554.

#### Clan MacMillan in British Columbia

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#### The Sept of Blue

President: Mary L. P. Hobbs, 4300 Southeast School Road, Greensboro, NC, USA.

Email: mhobbs@triad.rr.com

Treasurer: Becky B. Brown, 216 River Daniel Road, Carthage, NC 28327, USA.

#### Descendants of James McMullen... (Florida McMullens)

President: Paul McMullen, 2097 Oakadia Drive South, Clearwater, FL 34624, USA.

Secretary: Margaret McMullen Michaels, 3056 Oak Creek Dr. N., Clearwater, FL 34621, USA.

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#### McMillins & Related Families... (Mississippi McMillins)

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#### "Chlann an Taillear" (Virginia McMullans)

Conveners: Sharon Stoneman & Ginny West, PO Box 20336, Roanoke, VA 24018, USA.

Email: ustanalyst@aol.com

#### Community of the Tonsured Servant:

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Almoner: W. Dugal MacMillan, 37 McDonald Street, St Catharines, ON, Canada, L26 2M3.

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With the death on the 21st July 2012 of Hugh P. MacMillan, the clan has lost not only one of its pioneers in North America, but a unique character as well.

The eulogy at his funeral was given by his friend and fellow historian David Anderson, who remarked that the P. by which he was distinguished from other Hugh M'millans - which actually stood for Pearson - could easily have been taken for *Perseverance*, the heraldic motto of the Northwest Company (the activities of whose explorers and fur-traders Hugh had spent so much of his life researching and re-enacting).

David went on to suggest however that "there is another fancy word that suits his character as well: *equanimity*. The great physician, Sir William Osler, who esteemed both the word and the virtue, put it to be coolness and presence of mind, calmness amid storm, clearness of judgement in moments of peril and, in its fullness, a divine gift, a blessing to the possessor and a comfort to all who are in their presence.

It can be as simple as being completely comfortable as the only man in town wearing bold tartan and a brass neck gorget."

Hugh P. always indeed wore the boldest of our tartans (the Dress MacMillan), and in decades of service to his clan and the Scots of Glengarry County, always put bold actions before big words though he was never short of something to say either!

Hugh was born at Fitzroy Harbour, on the Ottawa River, in 1924. His deep interest in the

# Hugh P. MacMillan (1924 - 2012)

Farmer, family historian, clan society pioneer, archive hunter and voyageur

#### By Graeme Mackenzie

history of his family, clan, and the people of Glengarry County, Ontario, developed out of his preacher father's annual pilgrimages back to the area in which his emigrant ancestor, John Roy MacMillan, had settled in 1802.

In due course, after brief service in the military, followed by attempts to make a living in farming, sea-faring, and life insurance (amongst other things), Hugh became the first ever Archival Liaison or Field Officer; his brief being to seek out historical papers and artefacts, and where possible to purchase or copy them for his employers, the Archives of Ontario. Thus was born in 1963 a new profession, and an outstanding career which Hugh was later to chronicle in the "Adventures of a Paper Sleuth" (Penumbra Press, 2004).

Hugh had been practising archival sleuthing in his father's native county for some years prior to this appointment and in 1957 he had become the founding President of the Glengarry Historical Society.

A year after the founding of this society, Hugh was involved in the creation of the Clan MacMillan Society of North America; and the photo of him above was taken during one of the events associated with Sir Gordon MacMillan's visit to Canada in July 1958.

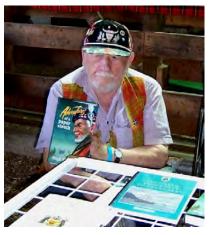
In 1962 Hugh and the Historical Society opened the Glengarry Pioneer Museum in Dunvegan; and five years later, as their Canadian Centennial

Project, they launched the Norwesters and Loyalist Museum in Williamstown, which had been home to many of the leading lights of the original Northwest Company.

To publicise the Norwesters' Museum, Hugh organised a voyage in replica birch-bark canoes from Grand Portage, Minnesota (the old HQ of the Northwest Co.) to Williamstown, to arrive in time for the opening of the museum. Its success inspired many further trips on the lakes and rivers of the Canadian northwest led by Hugh MacMillan and other modern "voyageurs".

Hugh would never have been able to take on such projects without the unstinting support of his wife Muriel, with whom he celebrated 60 years of marriage in 2011. She raised four children, and provided hospitality to all-comers in their various homes over the decades. Our thoughts are with her and her family as we mourn the passing of a truly remarkable MacMillan.

David Andersons' full eulogy is at: www.glengarryhistoricalsociety .com/GHS/HughP.html



## We Rise Again in the Faces of Our Children

The homily from the CTS Investiture Service, 24 June 2012, Weyerhaeuser Memorial Chapel, Macalester College, St Paul, MN, by Blanche McMillan, Abbot CTS.

There was a young couple who had just purchased brand new appliances for their house, and they decided to give their old refrigerator to their parents. Since they lived many miles apart, they just shipped the refrigerator to their parents. A few days later the phone rang, her mother said, "Honey, we want to send you a check for the refrigerator." The daughter said, "No, Mom, it's a gift. We want you to have it."

The mother said, "But you could have sold it and made money." The daughter said, "Look, Mom, just consider it as repayment for all those days that you took care of me when I was at home." After a slight pause her mother said, "In that case the refrigerator doesn't cover it."

We don't really appreciate the effort it takes to bring up a child until we walk in those shoes ourselves. When I was young, my father took me and my 4 siblings out in his sailboat many Saturdays for the day. I didn't appreciate what he had done until we had our own family and I knew what an effort he had made, and the gift he gave my mother!

Hebrews 12:1 says, "Therefore we also are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us." Who are these "clouds of witnesses"? I think they are people who are watching us - or specifically children who are watching what we do. There has been some research done with infants and they find that babies are born with extremely strong instincts to imitate. Hours old infants will mimic your facial changes; if you stick out your tongue, the infant will slowly stick out its' tongue. I've actually seen photos of this happening. This ability to imitate continues throughout childhood; they want to cut the grass like Mom

does, or help in the kitchen with Dad – good role models. This produces an issue of responsibility to teach them well. They are waiting for us to pass on the baton to the next generation.

Some things the baton passer needs to remember:

- A. The transfer not just the race is the most important part
- B. Sometimes they are already running and you have to catch them
- C. Forget about the crowd
- D. Practice makes perfect And how is the transfer made?
  - 1. By building relationships
  - 2. By example
  - 3. By knowing the truth to pass

In order for teaching and learning to happen, there needs to be communication without destroying their idealism or throwing cold water on their passions. Yet you want to help them make wise decisions that they won't regret later.

We can close the generation gap by promoting mutual respect. Respect that goes both ways. Really, respect is all most older people want from younger people. They don't want to hold younger people back from chasing their dreams. But they do want to be respected, for their opinion to count for something, for their experiences to be helpful for someone.

And really, respect is also what younger people want from older people. They want older people to take them seriously, to not write off their dreams as unrealistic and their idealism as impractical. They want to be taken seriously, to be respected.

We also want to pass on the baton of heritage; that we are more than just ourselves, but come from a larger family of our ancestors "whose righteous deeds have not been forgotten. Their offspring will continue forever. Their name generation lives after on generation". (Ecclesiaticus 44) The only way that happens is through teaching, telling stories about our forebears, sharing the family knowledge.

We have taken our daughter Christy to Scotland with us and we flew around trying to show her all our favourite MacMillan spots – you name it, we went there! She coined the phrase that we were MacMillanizing her!

Have you MacMillanized your families? Have you passed on the essence of the MacMillan Motto: "Miseris Succerrere Disco, I learn to help the unfortunate"? When we look after those in need, and those who have no one to care for them, we are passing on the baton of caring to the next generation.

For a lot of us, this goes beyond just the next generation, but to the next — our grandchildren. As grandparents — or as mentors to young people, we have an advantage for passing on the baton — our history; the story of our clan; our dreams for them.

The choir that my husband John sings in, have added to their repertoire recently, a song that shares these sentiments in a different way. As an aside, the accompaniment was written by a Canadian named Scott MacMillan!

#### We Rise Again

When the waves roll on over the waters, and the ocean cries, We look to our sons and daughters to explain our lives, As if a child could tell us why, That as sure as the sunrise, sure as the sea, sure as the wind in the trees;

We rise again in the faces of our children,

We rise again in the voices of our song.

We rise again in the waves out on the ocean

And then, we rise again.

When the light goes dark with the forces of creation, across a stormy sky,

We look to creation to explain our lives.

As if a child could tell us why, That as sure as the sunrise, sure as the sea, sure as the wind in the trees;

We rise again in the faces of our children.

We rise again in the voices of our

We rise again in the waves out on the ocean

And then, we rise again.

#### Clan MacMillan's 'Community of the Tonsured Servant' (CTS)

CTS was founded in 1995: Supporting the Clan MacMillan International Centre (CMIC) at Finlaystone, Scotland, and providing educational materials and events for Clan MacMillan and Sept members around the world.

At the Clan MacMillan Society of North America (CMSNA) International Gathering at Macalester College, St Paul, MN, USA, 21 to 26 June, 2012, Maria Cristina Contestin de McMillen, Buenos Aires, South America, was invested CTS by proxy, with Carol McMillin, CTS, of Vicksburg, MS, USA, receiving the regalia for her. The CTS Investiture Service was held in the Weyerhaeuser Chapel on Macalester Campus on Sunday 24 June. Cris is the wife of the late Barry McMillen, who was President of CMSNA at the time of the Gathering.

A photograph of those attending this service, taken by John B. McMillan, appears on the opposite page.

It is my intention to hold a CTS Investiture Service in conjunction with the Clan MacMillan International (CMI) Gathering in Scotland during The Year of Homecoming 2014. Graeme Mackenzie gave some tentative events and dates during the CMSNA Gathering at St Paul, which appeared in the CMI Newsletter of June 2012. While I was in Scotland in July & August 2012, I made some contacts concerning a possible CTS service on the island of Benbecula or in Inverness. Unfortunately, sometime in early fall, the Scottish Government changed its Homecoming plans and dates and thus created turmoil in Scotland and elsewhere. This precipitated a meeting on 19 October in Atlanta, GA, attended by many from Scotland at which Scots and others tried to give an explanation for the change and what might result. The people from Scotland came to Atlanta, USA, at great expense, to find out what was going to happen in Scotland in 2014!

Since October 2012, many of you received the several good updates by the USA "Council of Scottish Clans and Associations" (COSCA) that were distributed by my husband John B. McMillan. John and I attended the 10th Annual "Scottish North American Leadership Conference" (SNALC) in Troy, MI, 26 to 28 October 2012. The Scottish Studies Foundation of Toronto, of which John is a Director and the Secretary, was one of the 4 sponsors of SNALC. Many organizations were represented including several from the 19 October meeting in Atlanta: VisitScotland; EventScotland; COSCA (Susan McIntosh); American-Scottish Foundation (Alan Bain, NY, NY), and The National Trust for Scotland - USA, to name a few. Homecoming Scotland 2014 was one of the topics at SNALC but at that time things in Scotland were still in limbo. As of today, 30 November, I have not heard of any finalized plans for Homecoming Scotland 2014. I will be in England and Scotland for 3 weeks over Christmas and New Years and will make further inquiries. Stay tuned!

#### In Memoriam:

**Barry Wilmore McMillan, CTS,** President of CMSNA 2011-2012, died in Buenos Aires on 14 July, 2012 at the age of 70. His wife Cris was at his side during his long battle with cancer. He was a founding member of Clan MacMillan North Central States, MN, USA, where he lived and worked until moving to Argentina. He was invested into CTS in 1999 in Louisville, MS, USA.

**<u>Hugh Pearson MacMillan, CTS</u>** died in Ottawa, ON, Canada on 21 July, 2012. He enjoyed a long career with the Archives of Ontario and pursued his interests in fur trade history, the Scots in Canada, and all things about Glengarry County ON with great zeal. He was invested into CTS in absentia in 2008 in Claremont, CA, USA.

We welcome donations in memory of those who have died, which benefits Clan MacMillan worldwide. If you wish to make a donation to CTS in Memory of Barry or Hugh or any other, please make your cheques payable to <u>CLAN MACMILLAN</u> and send them to:

Blanche McMillan, Abbot, CTS, 5364 Salem Road, Burlington, ON, L7L 3X3, Canada

#### **News of Members:**

June Senior, CTS, Glen Waverley, VIC, Australia, has successfully come through an operation for lung cancer. We wish her well.

John B. McMillan, CTS and Blanche McMillan, CTS, welcome their second grandchild, Ella Kara Stephanie McMillan, born in Kent, England, 7 July 2012 at 7 pounds 13 oz., daughter of James R. M. McMillan and his wife Marie Luce.

#### **Grants by CTS to CMIC:**

CTS has granted \$2,000US to CMIC to date in 2012. The total CTS grant to CMIC is \$38,643USD since 1996 averaging \$2,273USD per year over the last 17 years. CTS has raised \$500.00USD this year through CTS membership.

For more information about Clan MacMillan's Community of the Tonsured Servant, please go to www.clanmacmillan.org

## More from Minnesota - The Banquet and the CTS Investiture



Teresa & Butch McMillan (MS, USA)



Connall Bell (CA, USA); Mike Drotar (NH, USA); Neil Johnson (MN, USA)



Chief George & his son Arthur



Chief George & Abbot Blanche conduct the CTS Investiture Ceremony



Judy & Jerry MacMillan (MN, USA) at the Banquet



The Appalachian Branch at the Stone Mountain Highland Games in October 2012



Willie McMillan with her sons Jim (back) and Ed, a Vice President of the branch



President Rob Jones & Secretary Fran Jones



Stone Mountain Games Committee member Andrew McMillan (left) with his family











#### Galloway



#### Septs and Related Names

Baxter MacGhillemaoil Bell MacIldonich

Blue MacIlveil/MacIlvoyle

Brown MacMaoldonich Cathan/Cannan MacNuccator

Calman/Colmin Melanson Laney/Lenie Millan/Mullan MacCalman Milliken/Mulligan

MacColmin Walker

Step up to the Clan Centre at the Chief's beautiful home in Renfrewshire to learn more about the MacMillans and Septs



Finlaystone Country Estate

Clan MacMillan International Centre, Finlaystone, Langbank, PA14 6TJ.

www.clanmacmillan.org