



March 2016

Welcome to our monthly report of events and activities of our Society. We are always looking for information to share with our members, so if you have a birth or wedding or know of a special event, please send a photo along with relevant information to president@macdougall.org.

Ashby's Reflections

Mo dheagh chairdean
My Good Friends

Tha àm seinn nan eun air teachd a-rithist. Seo ràithe ath-ùrachaidh agus ràithe fàis. // The season of the singing of the birds has returned. This is a season of refreshment and a season of growth.

We are happy to welcome Connor, a new MacDougall, into the world. We are also happy to welcome the changes emerging at Dundlie Castle and Grounds this Spring, the result of very hard work over the winter season.

A revised handbook for those hosting Society tents at games has been prepared, with enormous labor input from our President-Elect, Scott MacDougall, in preparation for the increasingly crowded Games calendar this year. Some of the features are noted below.

Our Society's web page is constantly under development. As an example of this ongoing work, a map can be found under the rubric "Our Ancestral Home", a subsection of "Our Heritage". This is a test map, primarily developed by our Recording Secretary/Archivist Chris MacDougall, and marks a number of sites of interest to MacDougalls, MacDowalls, and associated families. The coordinates of these sites are roughly accurate but may be off a bit in some cases since the markers are set manually. For example, I had trouble identifying the precise location of Logan Tower along the Terrace Garden Wall in the Logan Botanic Garden. So one should be somewhat cautious in using the travel directions that the map software provides, particularly the directions for touring by bicycle or on foot. All the Galloway locations mentioned in this issue's piece on the McDoualls of Logan have been marked on the map. It would be wise to zoom in on Galloway before trying to identify individual sites.

Many more sites will be added to the map in the near future and we seeking better markers. In the longer term such maps will be used in support of history essays on our web site. We hope to be able to identify sea routes, drover trails, and military routes - and ideally calculate distances along them. Another goal is to post a map of North America marking the Games/Festivals/Events in which our Society participates each year.

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New Members

Samuel Giere
Dubuque, IA

Tents at Highland Games

Please notify our webmaster if you've signed up to host a tent at any games. We want as accurate a Games Calendar as possible. Games listed here are found on our website. We would be pleased to receive any report on a game, with photos of course.

April

2- Dunedin Highland Games
Dunedin, FL

30- Celtic Festival of Southern Maryland
St. Leonard, MD

May

Keep in mind the July 7-10 Grandfather Mountain Games at Linville, North Carolina. We will hold our Annual General Meeting, the Society's formal Founders Dinner, and Beacham McDougald's informal North Carolina family BBQ in the vicinity of the Games.

Tòmas MacCòmhghan // Thomas Ashby McCown
Ceann-suidhe // President

The Month of March at Dunollie

Dunollie is open for the year and the current phase of castle consolidation is nearing completion.

The official opening of the 2016 season of Dunollie Castle and Grounds was the "Dunollie Woodland Egg-Stravaganza", Easter Sunday, March 27th. There were many events that day, including an Easter egg hunt, woodland crafts, making Easter Bonnets, an Easter Bonnet Parade, live music, falconry displays, and wand making workshops. And, of course, Easter treats from the Kettle Café kiosk.

The final behind-the-scenes tour of the castle was held March 23. These tours examined architectural features uncovered by recent work on the castle, examining the stone masonry techniques applied to the project. The tours were led by a historic guide, Ian Colqhoun and a specialist stonemason, Gary Simpson.

In a few days, two daily tours into the castle will begin to be run during the contractors' tea breaks until the work is completed around, hopefully, the end of April. It is reported that the stone work is looking fantastic.

Dunollie has an extremely active Community Engagement program paralleling the consolidation work on the castle. During March, 370 school children were involved in the site through a variety of workshops including Ice Age, Crofting and Vikings. The Oban Scout group joined for sessions on peat fires and ink. Catherine Gillies conducted Natural Dye Workshops, looking at natural methods of dyeing and at the history of dyeing in Scotland.

Victoria Highland Games

Several members of the Society are making a special trip to meet with Dr. Fergus Macdowall of Garthland, Chief of Clan MacDowall at the Victoria, British Columbia, Games on May 21-23. We hope that you are able to stop by the Clan Tent, operated by the Chief and his family, to visit with us.



MacDougall_MacDowall Tent 2014

14- Mid-Maryland Celtic Festival
Mount Airy, MD

21- Colonial (Fair Hill) Highland Gathering
Elkton, MD

21-22 - Victoria Highland Games
Victoria, BC

28-29 Scottish Fest at OC Fairgrounds
Costa Mesa, CA

June

25-26 San Diego Scottish Highland Games and Gathering
Vista, CA

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<https://www.facebook.com/clanmacdougall/?fref=ts>

Twitter

twitter.com/Clan_MacDougall

Membership Year

Membership Dues are on a calendar year basis ending on 31 December. Dues may be paid, or prepaid, online for one or more calendar years through Paypal at:

<http://macdougall.org/membership-information/>

Submissions

Persons wishing to submit articles, or

Connor Stewart MacDougall

Gavin S. MacDougall, of Vero Beach, FL, announced the arrival of his son, Connor Stewart MacDougall, on February 16, 2016 at 8:30 am. Connor weighed 9.13 lbs and was 22 inches tall.



Failte critheil ort a laochan // Wylcome bra lad.

photos, of interest to our newsletters may contact:

The Editor of The Tartan at
editor@macdougall.org

or

**The Editor of the Monthly
Newsletter**

at:

president@macdougall.org

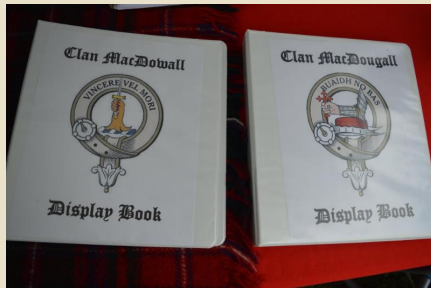
Your Contact Information

Please send your email, telephone, or
postal address changes to:

records@macdougall.org

New Display Books

Two display books, each full of pictures and notes about the Scottish heritage, history and places relevant to our Clans have been prepared for the Handbooks for those hosting tents. You may see some of these items at our Society tents this games season.



Two examples from these collections.



Coeffin Castle On The West Shore Of The Island Of Lismore Guards The Lynn of Morvern. It Was Built By The MacDougalls On A Finger of Land Jutting Out To The Sea.



Glenluce Abbey Viewed From The South East. Built In 1192 By Roland, Lord of Galloway, Elder Brother of Duegald The Founder Of Clan MacDowall

John A. McDougall Memorial Scholarships

The Scholarship Committee has received five applications for scholarships so far this year and hopes to announce awards by mid-May. We appreciate hearing from applicants. Their efforts in preserving and promoting our heritage inspire the members of the Society.

Our Scholarship Program supports one of the key purposes of our Society. Access our website for the procedures for applying for a scholarship. Donations to our Scholarship Fund help defray the costs, are accepted year-round and are greatly appreciated by the Society and recipients. The Society is a 501(c)(3) organization and contributions to its endeavors may be tax deductible in the U.S.

The McDoualls of Logan

The Logan Botanic Garden lies off the B7065 on the route west to Port Logan. This is a regional garden of the Royal Botanic Garden



Logan Tower

Edinburgh. It is perhaps the most exotic garden in Scotland, with its micro climate allowing southern hemisphere plants to flourish. Logan Botanic Garden is built on part of the ancient estate of the McDoualls of Logan. A poster in the Garden states that in 1295 John Balliol, King of Scots, "granted the lands of Lougan to Dougall McDouall who proceeded to fortify his estate, erecting a Castle named Balzieland, in honour of the Gift." The castle was burnt down around 1500, but part of the keep has been incorporated into the western end of the Terrace Garden.



Port Logan

The burial ground for the McDoualls of Logan is Kirkmaiden churchyard, around 9 kilometers by road south of the Logan gardens.



Kirkmaiden Churchyard

Kirkmaiden parish is at the extreme south of the Rhinns of Galloway, and is the most southerly parish in Scotland. The church is very old. It is mentioned in a 1393 papal document. The parish is part of the oldest known Christian region in Scotland. Kirkmadrine, in contention for being the oldest center of Christianity in Scotland (See article

on Whithorn in the September 2015 Newsletter) lies around 15 kilometers by road to the north of Kirkmaiden.