



## Scott's Reflections

We often include photos in our eNewsletters and we have more in this issue. Each tells a wee bit of the story of what we do and the people who help to make these things happen.

When you look at the scaffold photo in this issue you will see two men on a platform high up on a wall of Dunollie Castle making preparations for the final work of removing ivy and securing the stones. What you do not see is the winter wind from the sea blowing on them while they work with cold stone and wet mortar in all sorts of weather. Thanks to them and the others in their hardy crew, the Phase III work on all of the castle's walls will finally be completed about mid-March. The walls of Dunollie Castle will be safe and secure again. Thank you to all of you whose contributions have helped to make this happen

When you look at our dancer's photo you may think that she is having an easy day. In fact, at this Florida Highland Games our past Scholarship winner, Audrey Trawick, competed in five different dance competition events: the Fling, Swords, Trews, Highland Reel, and Jig. When she sent us her photo and note to thank us for our past support she said, with nice understatement: "I just wanted to let you know that I am working hard and continue to improve." Our Scholarship awards program is one of our Society's largest budget items with nearly one dollar in five going to support it. Through it we are contributing to the preservation of our heritage and encouraging those who work so hard to learn it. Thank you for helping us to support them. If you know of someone who may qualify for one of our Scholarship awards please make them aware of our program at <https://macdougall.org/scholarships/>

We are preparing for our Annual July Weekend at Grandfather Mountain. Come enjoy the weekend with us. On Friday afternoon July 10 you are welcome to come to enjoy our Informal Gathering beginning at 4 pm. at Elevations Restaurant in Banner Elk, NC during which a dinner menu will be available. Here is a link to their web site <https://www.elevationstavernandgrill.com/>

Dress will be informal but Tartan is always appropriate. I hope to see you there.

*Cuimhnich air na daoine o'n d'thàinig thu.  
Remember the men from which you came.*

Scott MacDougald  
President



## Apply for a Scholarship



### ***Now Accepting Applications***

Applications are now being accepted for the 2020 John A. McDougall Memorial Scholarships.

The purpose of The John A. McDougall Memorial Scholarship Program is to financially support learning endeavors that enhance knowledge or appreciation of the Society and/or our cultural heritage. This might include a scholarship, fellowship, award, prize, or other method of financial assistance at North American and/or Scottish universities, colleges, other appropriate institutions, or from an appropriate tutor/instructor.

**Applications are due by April 1, 2020.**

**[Download Details and Application Form](#)**



Past Scholarship Recipient Audrey Trawick, Tampa Bay Highland Dancers and Associate Teacher

## Casting the Kilbride Bell

**By Tòmas MacCòmhghan**

The Church of Kilbride, in Lerags Glen south of Oban, has been an important part of MacDougall, and indeed Lorn, history since at least the 13th century. Its cemetery contains enclosures where our Chiefs have been buried since before the 18th century. There are many stories and traditions associated with this church and its surroundings. A Scottish charity, the Friends of Kilbride, has energetically undertaken to preserve the remains of the church and grounds in order to honor, welcome visitors to, and learn more from the site.

Dunollie possesses a bronze church bell from Kilbride Chapel, engraved with the date 1795, that was obtained when the chapel was disestablished in 1860. Our Chief has kindly loaned the bell to the Friends of Kilbride and it is in the custody of Myra and Liam Griffin. Those who attended last year's Gathering may have seen it.

The latest Oban Times reports that the bell appears to have been cast in Glasgow in 1786. It was being shipped to Maryland when the ship carrying it was wrecked in the Sound of Kerrera. The bell was however rescued and eventually given to the church at Kilbride in, it is believed, 1795. The bell was

initially hung on a tree near the Chapel, then moved to the Chapel itself.

The Friends of Kilbride have wanted to have a more permanent exhibition of the bell, while recognizing the risk of theft if the 1795 bell were to be on permanent display at the Kilbride site. The Trustees of Friends of Kilbride felt that formally returning the bell to Lerags Glen would be a symbol of the program now underway of renovation and preservation of the chapel, session house, and memorial burial aisle.

A plan evolved to create a replica bronze bell that could be placed on site permanently – with a clear notice that this was not the original. The strategy would be to create a mold from the original at Irene Gunston’s studio in West Wales and then erect a furnace to cast a bronze copy onsite at Kilbride to demonstrate the metal casting process in front of a live audience and to celebrate the bell’s return.

The arrangements have now been made, with the active support of Dunollie and Historical Environment Scotland, and the date of the casting is set for Sunday, this May 31. It is envisaged that the bell itself will be piped from the Barn bar down the old drover road to Kilbride where it will be greeted at the churchyard gate by members of Oban Handbell Ringers. The casting will take place in an outdoor forge in the car park area where there will also be a variety of stalls and entertainment. All the cost of recasting the bell is borne by Historic Environment Scotland, who are sponsoring the event.

The pour will require three people, one to lift and support the crucible full of molten bronze, one to direct the pour, and one to control the flow of metal into the mold. The three specialists involved in the pour will be Rossy Adams, Irene Gunston, and Bryn Richards. Rossy Adams, daughter of Friends of Kilbride trustee Seymour Adams, is a metalsmith specializing in combination metal pouring. Irene Gunston is an artist and foundry technician with over 30 years of experience working and teaching in foundries. Bryn Richards is an artist who works with metal construction as well as a foundry technician. They will also create a video of the molding process and pour, for Kilbride and Dunollie to use on social media and in their other communications.



Bell Casters Irene Gunston, Rossy Adams, Bryn Richards

## New Members

**Gregory Davis**  
Winston Salem, NC

**Christopher S. McDowell**  
Austin, TX

**Gail Peterson**  
Edgewater, MD

**Deborah St Onge**  
Elkton, FL

## Upcoming Events

**March 21-22**  
[Sherman Celtic Festival and Highland Games](#)  
Sherman, TX

**March 28**  
[Sedalia Center Celtic Festival](#)  
Big Island, VA

**April 4**  
[NYC Tartan Day Parade](#)  
New York, NY

**RSVP**  
Come join your fellow Clan members when we get together on Saturday around 11:30 am for lunch to visit and chat at the Bryant Park Grill before the Parade. To reserve your seat for lunch send an email

## Contact Us

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to [mchoul2000@yahoo.com](mailto:mchoul2000@yahoo.com). The Grill is 2 blocks from where we line up for the parade. Or, consult the NYC Tartan Day website and come to meet our group at our lineup spot.

**April 4**  
[Dunedin Highland Games](#)  
Dunedin, FL

**April 25**  
[Celtic Festival of Southern Maryland](#)  
St. Leonard, MD

**June 6**  
[Garret County Celtic Festival](#)  
Friendsville, MD

**June 13**  
[Cumberland Valley Scottish Games](#)  
Shippensburg, PA

**July 1**  
[Embro Highland Games](#)  
Zorra, ON

**July 4**  
[Kincardine Scottish Festival](#)  
Kincardine, ON

**July 10-12**  
[Grandfather Mountain Highland Games](#)  
Linville, NC

**July 18**  
[Minnesota Scottish Fair](#)  
Eagan, MN

**August 8-9**  
[Fergus Scottish Festival](#)  
Fergus, ON

**August 27**  
[Argyllshire Games](#)  
Oban, Scotland

**Web Site**  
[www.macdougall.org](http://www.macdougall.org)

**Facebook Page**  
Clan MacDougall Society  
of North America  
[facebook.com/clanmacdougall](https://facebook.com/clanmacdougall)

**Twitter**  
[twitter.com/Clan\\_MacDougall](https://twitter.com/Clan_MacDougall)

**Submissions**  
Persons wishing to submit articles, photos,  
or items of interest to our newsletters  
may contact:

**The Tartan Editor**  
[editor@macdougall.org](mailto:editor@macdougall.org)  
or  
**Newsletter Editor**  
[newseditor@macdougall.org](mailto:newseditor@macdougall.org)



**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.

[Renew Membership](#)

## Help Us Stay Up To Date

Help us keep up to date with your current contact information by writing the address below  
or by clicking the button and filling out the form that will appear.

[Update Your Records](#)

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We ask that you do not forward this publication to non-members.  
We are informed that doing so places our Society at risk of violating current internet privacy laws.