



Scott's Reflections

This is a season of change. The 2020 parade of Scottish Festivals, Games and marching bands has come to a sudden and unusually quiet halt for the time being. However, there is still a lot of activity going on behind the scenes inside our Society. We have Officers in transition to new positions, such as Kyle Jones moving from President-Elect to President in July; but meanwhile Kyle's role as Editor of this eNewsletter is being taken by two replacements beginning with this May edition, Lindsay Davis of Warner Robins, GA and Christopher McDowell of Portland, OR.

Three of our Directors are retiring from our Board: Cuff Burrell from Lemoore, CA, Matt MacDougall of Lancaster, PA, and Sarah Hereford of Huntsville, AL. I want to thank them and all of our Directors for having worked so well with our Executive Officers during these past years to build an even better Society for us all. Their successors as Society Directors: Anne Carine of Foxboro MA, Barbara Edelman of Telford PA, and Christopher McDowell of Portland, OR are already at work.

Our Secretary of our Board of Directors, Chris MacDougall of Bracebridge, Ontario has been elected to the President-Elect position which he will assume in July. Chris' Secretary of the Board position has been filled by Misha (Micheal) Lowther; she also remains as our Oklahoma State Representative. As for me, when I retire from my office of Society President to become Editor of The Tartan newsletter in July, I know I will be leaving the operation of our Society in good hands.

In another change, our South East Region Commissioner, Keith Place, has retired in April and I have now appointed Doug MacDougall to this position. Doug has been our North Carolina State Representative and has done a fine job with Grandfather Mountain and other NC events. This year we had already prepared our arrangements for an excellent Annual July Weekend at Grandfather Mountain but it has been cancelled like so many of this year's events. In July 1965, our first year there, we were the fourth clan to host a tent on the mountain meadow games site. July 2020 will be the first time that our Society has not been there among the tents on that mountain meadow since we were formed. However, we expect to return to enjoy our July weekend in 2021. Next year Doug will be running our Society Tent at Grandfather Mountain. We hope to see many of you there.

Finally, I would like to mention that this year's worldwide pandemic has badly affected our Scottish heritage places. This issue of our eNewsletter brings you an update written by Mike Robertson who is a trustee of three organizations in Lorn which help to preserve and

support our clan heritage sites at Dunollie, Kilbride, and Lismore. Many of you have fond memories of the welcome they have given to our clansmen visiting the Oban area, as well their hospitality to us during our 2019 Clan MacDougall Gathering. This spring, all three sites have had to stop welcoming the visitors upon whom they so very much depend for financial support. Now they need some help.

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

Scott MacDougald
President

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Scott

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Postscript From Dunollie

By Mike Robertson



When I wrote the "Old fashioned Letter from Dunollie" just a few short months ago none of us could have dreamed how the world would be turned upside down by the Covid 19 pandemic. Now, sitting in my garden on a lovely April morning, looking across towards Dunollie Castle as above, I think how lucky people of my generation have been, and wonder how we can try to preserve the all-important history of the people who have scattered across the globe from these parts, and places like the castle and Dunollie which commemorate them.

Because of the pandemic, Dunollie Castle has had to be temporarily closed to the visitors whose support is so necessary to the MacDougall of Dunollie Preservation Trust. Other non-profits in Argyll are also affected by this financial crisis and are having to struggle. Two of these non-profit organisations with long connections to Clan MacDougall are The

Friends of Kilbride, and the Isle of Lismore charity *Comann Eachdraidh Lios Mor* (CELM).

I believe passionately in the importance of what we are doing at Dunollie, Kilbride, and on Lismore and I am a trustee of all of them. In August 2019 they hosted many visitors from the Clan MacDougall Gathering. Now they require support. I have acted accordingly. Would perhaps others consider the same?



Lismore

The Scottish charity Comann Eachdraidh Lios Mor (CELM) educates the public about the history, Gaelic language, heritage and culture of the Island of Lismore. It operates a heritage centre with a museum, shop and café, and also organises archaeological digs, concerts, festivals, talks and local craft fairs. The charity relies on donations for the majority of its costs. If you wish to help to keep the Lismore Gaelic Heritage Centre and museum running click <https://www.lismoregaelicheritagecentre.org/donate-to-celm/>.

Kilbride

The Friends of Historic Kilbride supports the Kilbride churchyard located three miles south of Oban in Lerags, Argyll. On 14 June 2019 the church, graves, and MacDougall Memorial Aisle received Historic Environment Scotland Scheduled Monument Status.



Historic Kilbride has played an important part in Scotland's history and is connected to figures such as Robert Bruce, Alexander II, and the Clan MacDougall but its history goes much deeper... being the final resting place of MacDougall clan chiefs since the Jacobite Iain Ciar in 1737. Kilbride was abandoned in the 19th century and left to ruin, but since 2000, a small, but plucky, group of volunteers have donated time, money and labour to rescue this important historic site to make the site safe and available to visitors and the community.

Now our Preservation Plan calls for us to urgently stabilise the west gable of the church, at a cost of £16,000. Without this work, the masonry is at risk of collapsing, risking our conservation efforts and making part of the site unavailable to visitors. You may donate to our GoFundMe fundraiser to help with the cost of this important work at Kilbride

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/preserving-historic-kilbride>.

Dunollie



The Phase III preservation work on Dunollie Castle had to be suspended in March 2020 as it neared completion but will finish when the pandemic situation allows. A fundraising program is underway to pay for the works. Information about how to make UK tax deductible donations eligible for gift aid are available on the Dunollie web site at <https://www.dunollie.org/fundraising-opportunities>.



The Clan MacDougall Society of North America supports Dunollie through its Dunollie Preservation fund. We are a charitable, non-profit organization under US IRS Regulation 501(c)3 for which donations may be tax deductible in the US. The donation link is on the top of home page <https://macdougall.org/donationForm/>.

Welcome to the New Newsletter Team



Chris McDowell

Chris McDowell is Oregon State Representative for the Clan MacDougall Society of North America. He lives in Portland, Oregon with his wife Martina and works as a project manager for a local non-profit - the Home Builders Foundation - that builds shelter for homeless, domestic abuse victims and foster youth. Before moving to Oregon in 2017, Chris lived in Athens, Georgia where he taught at the University of Georgia's College of Environment and Design.

Lindsay Davis

Lindsay Davis (McDowell) lives in Warner Robins, Georgia, about 1.5 hours south of Atlanta, with her husband Robin. She works as an engineer for the University of Dayton Research Institute with the United States Air Force. In addition to volunteering for the Clan MacDougall Society of North America, Lindsay is an active member of her sorority and the Order of the Eastern Star. In her spare time, she enjoys running, reading, and baking.



Volunteer Opportunities

There are few, if any, events at this time but consider becoming a Clan Tent Sponsor for events near you. Help us expand our presence in your area.

It is a lot of fun and we will teach you all you need to know.

Contact [Scott](#) or [Kyle](#) or inquire at any of our Society Tents for more information.

There are numerous other opportunities to become actively involved as well.

Our interactive Volunteer Form can be downloaded below.

Choose the items that interest you most and we'll be in touch to guide you.

[Volunteer Form](#)

New Members

Dana Chandler
Westfield, NJ

Linda Skripac
Westerville, OH

Robert Noel
Jamesburg, NJ

Sue Schrems
Norman, OK

Flowers of the Forest

BH Parker
Owensboro, KY

Upcoming Games

June 6
Cancelled
Garret County Celtic Festival
Friendsville, MD

June 13
Cancelled
Cumberland Valley Scottish Games
Shippensburg, PA

July 1
Cancelled
Embroid Highland Games
Zorra, ON

July 4
Cancelled
Kincardine Scottish Festival
Kincardine, ON

July 10-12
Cancelled
Grandfather Mountain Highland Games
Linville, NC

July 18
Cancelled
Minnesota Scottish Fair
Eagan, MN

August 8-9
Cancelled
Fergus Scottish Festival
Fergus, ON

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

September 5-6
Cancelled
Garrett County Celtic Festival
Friendsville, MD

September 12
[Covenanter Scottish Festival](#)
Quarryville, PA

September 18-20
[ScotFest](#)
Tusla, OK

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

The Tartan Editor
editor@macdougall.org
or
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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.

September 19

Ligonier Highland Games

Ligonier, PA

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

Valerie McDougall

Vice President for Membership

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London, Ontario, Canada N5Z EB2 info@macdougall.org

Please Don't Forward

This Newsletter is intended for Members of the Clan MacDougall Society of North America.

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.