SCOTTISH



FOUNDATION

Issue XVI

Newsletter of the Scottish Studies Foundation

May, 1996

Alan McKenzie elected new Foundation Chief

President of the Clan MacKenzie Society in Canada succeeds Bill Somerville

t the Annual General Meeting on April 27, Alan McKenzie was elected Chair of the Foundation. He was the unanimous choice of all members present.

Alan has been a Governor of the Foundation since its inception ten years ago as well as serving as its Secretary and Newsletter Editor. In his working life, he is Senior Vice President and Secretary at Barclays Bank and in his spare time is the President of the Clan MacKenzie Society in Canada, a position that has taken him all over Canada, the US and the UK.

Alan is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland and, as a Scots history enthusiast, has given talks on various topics over the years. He is also an avid book collector with an enviable collection of rare editions.

However, have no fear that Alan is one of these dull serious individuals -- his sense of humour can make light of many a conflict! (Who can forget his hilarious lecture, *How the MacKenzies "stole" the Isle of Lewis*, at the Guelph colloquium a few years ago?)

There is no question that filling the shoes of former Chair, Bill Somerville, is going to be a challenging task. Bill's enthusiasm, creativity and sheer hard work over the last four years certainly put the Foundation on a strong and secure footing.

Fortunately, Alan's organizational skills, financial expertise and dedication will ensure that we continue to be placed in good hands — just ask anyone who has had the pleasure of working with Alan — they are sure to tell you that he has an uncanny ability to get things done extremely fast!

University of Guelph Scottish Studies web site established

Internet enthusiasts can now acquire information on Scottish Studies by accessing the World Wide Web as follows: http://www.uoguelph.ca/history/scotstudy.html



New SSF Chairman, Alan McKenzie, is pictured here at the du Maurier World Stage Festival with Scottish stage and television star, Siobhan Redmond.

Good news from the West!

Foundation members will be delighted to know that on March 18, the following letter was received from Gwyn Morgan, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Alberta Energy Company Ltd. of Calgary (see Tartan Day story inside).

"Alberta Energy Company salutes the Scottish Studies Foundation in recognizing the Honourable Donald Macdonald, not just for his many and varied services to Canadian society, nor just for his significant contributions of self and resources...but for his impeccable ancestry!

Chairman David Mitchell and my colleagues on the AEC board of directors are pleased to join the Foundation in this tribute. In recognition of those Macdonald traits and achievements that have helped guide Alberta Energy Company in building value for its shareholders, I am pleased to commit a \$5,000 grant to the Scottish Studies Foundation. Specific allocation of these funds is at the discretion of Donald Macdonald.

Sincere best wishes to the 1996 Scot of the Year and to your Foundation for continued success!"

AEC was created in the mid-1970s by the Alberta government to provide an opportunity for Albertans and other Canadians an opportunity to participate in the industrial and energy-related growth of the province of Alberta. Over the years, AEC has invested in various industries in addition to oil and gas, including pipelines, forest products, coal and steel.

Foundation Chairman, Alan McKenzie, brings you his first report

y first duty as your new Chairman is to extend thanks to Bill Somerville, who over the last four years has worked tirelessly to establish the Scottish Studies Foundation in the consciousness of the Canadian and Scottish public.

The establishment of the annual Tall Ship Cruise to commemorate the arrival of the *Hector*, the now-prestigious Tartan Day Dinner with its Scot of the Year Award, "Our Club" lunches at the Jack Russell Pub on Toronto's Wellesley Street and numerous other events have helped to make the Scottish Studies Foundation a formidable organization.

And this organization is needed! We have an important role to establish, in perpetuity, a Chair in Scottish Studies at the University of Guelph and to support their fabulous library of Scottish books and manuscripts.

I am fully aware that I have a truly challenging task following Bill. To assist in this, I proposed at the AGM that we establish a number of committees. Their purpose is to bring in members who wish to use their particular talents to help the Foundation. Some of our activities and events require considerable planning and the genuine offers of help have indeed been gratifying. Below is a listing of these committees and the names of members who have so far volunteered to serve.

On becoming Chairman I have given up my role as Secretary and Newsletter Editor. I have no hesitation in saying that my successor, David Hunter, will do an outstanding job with the expertise, advice and assistance of Marie Fraser. This newsletter is striking evidence that the strong skills of this team will continue to benefit our Foundation.

Strategic and Financial Planning Committee

A number of members have suggested that we should start this next phase of building on the good work done to date by having this committee. Volunteers so far include Neil Fraser, Dr. Paul Thomson, Enoch Kent and Ian Henderson. Because of my financial background, I have volunteered to chair this committee.

Tartan Day Dinner Committee

The objective is to plan next year's dinner (tentatively set for Saturday, April 5, 1997). Members of this committee will be looking at sponsorships, entertainment and sales of corporate tables. The dinner is vitally important for establishing relationships

between the Foundation and large corporate organizations. Neil Fraser will chair this committee with volunteers Phil Reid, John Macdonald, Alasdair Gillespie, Duncan Campbell, Ed and Anne Patrick, Bill Somerville, Duncan Campbell and Bill Cockburn.

Membership Committee

We have printed thousands of Annual Reviews and brochures with a view to a big membership push in 1996/7. Dr. Paul Thomson will chair this committee with volunteers Enoch Kent, Ed Patrick, Phil Reid. Robert Stewart and Hugh MacMillan.

"Our Club" Lunch Committee.

This committee will help organize speakers, entertainment and sponsors as well as publicity for these popular lunches. Volunteers include Enoch Kent (Chair), Bill Somerville, Phil Reid, Bill Cockburn, Duncan Campbell, Gerald Steele and Gina MacKenzie Ericksen.

Publicity, Promotions and Fund-Raising Committee

The objective of this committee is to "spread the word" widely with a view to gaining major sponsorships. Volunteers include John Johnstone, John Macdonald, Nona Macdonald Heaslip, Professor Elizabeth Ewan, Dr. Paul Thomson, Ian Henderson, Enoch Kent, Ed Patrick, Robert Stewart, David Hunter and Hugh MacMillan.

Special Events Committee

The purpose here is to help organize our Tall Ship Cruise which commemorates the arrival of *The Hector* at Pictou and other special events such as the proposed visit of the Rowan Tree Company from Scotland. Members include Bill Somerville (Chair) David Hunter, Dr. Paul Thomson, Wendy Ackerboom, Janice Parker and Ed Patrick.

Other Help

Special skills are always needed particularly for the writing of the Annual Review or in the organization of the colloquia at Guelph University. Volunteers include Professor Elizabeth Ewan (Colloquia, Newsletter articles and the Annual Review) Ed Patrick (Annual Review, Newsletter articles), Bruce McCowan (Newsletter articles), Gerald Steele (Newsletter articles), Robert Stewart and Enoch Kent.

It can be seen that we already have an encouraging list of volunteers, quite apart from the role of the ten Board members, including Bill Somerville, who will also be involved in all activities. Perhaps this will

encourage others to join the throng of willing helpers. If that includes you then please phone me at my office at (416) 359-8012, or catch me at home in the evening or week-ends at (905) 842-2106.

More about Alan

Alan McKenzie is extremely proud of his Scottish heritage. He is the younger son of the late Major William Alexander McKenzie, Royal Army Service Corps, and the late Ada Ethel May Cross. His father was born in Perth, Scotland of Highland ancestry. The family moved to England when his grandfather transferred from the Seaforth Highlanders to the Military Corps of Staff Clerks and moved to the Woolwich Arsenal. Alan and his wife, Jill, have four children and four grandchildren.

Alan joined Barclays Bank in Devon, England in 1953 and has worked for Barclays Bank of Canada in Toronto since 1978, where he is Senior Vice President and Secretary. He has always been heavily involved in charitable and social activities and was a founder member of the Institute of Directors and a past-President.

He is currently President of the Clan MacKenzie Society in Canada, which he started in 1986 and is also a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. He has written numerous articles for the Foundation's Newsletter and has recently published a book on the genealogy of the Mackenzies. Alan is working on two other books at the present time.



The Scottish Studies Foundation
P.O. Box No. 45069, 2482 Yonge Street
Toronto, Ontario
CANADA
M4P 3E3

Contributions to this newsletter are most welcome. For information please contact David Hunter (416) 482-8227 (home) or (416) 595-4112 (business)

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Foundation Holds Receptions For Top Scottish Theatre Companies

Two of Scotland's most celebrated theatre companies visited Canada last month to participate in the du Maurier World Stage Festival at Harbourfront in Toronto. The Foundation was on hand with traditional Scottish fare at "opening night" receptions which gave Foundation members attending the performances a chance to meet the cast.

Up in the mornin's no for me,

When a' the hills are covered wi' snaw,

Bondager's work song

Up in the mornin' early

Up in the mornin' early.

Bondagers

Traverse Theatre Company, Edinburgh Director: Ian Brown

ue Glover's *Bondagers*, a play portraying the hardships experienced by a team of female Scottish Border Country farm workers back in the 19th century, opened at Harbourfront on April 12. It was the first Scottish drama in an eclectic series of stage productions from all over the world.

A powerful performance by an extremely talented cast brought to life the plight of women forced by circumstances to work under the bondage — a system where women

were contracted by tenant farmers to toil as virtual serfs for food, a roof over their heads and very little money.

Throughout the conversations and

gossip of the characters in the play, all in the old broad Border dialect, the audience is able to gain an understanding of the challenges, hopes and aspirations of a group of women living at the mercy of the elements.

All of this of course took place before the agricultural revolution when everything on the farm had to be done by hand. Its easy to forget that back then, agriculture was made possible only by the slow, tedious and backbreaking efforts of a multitude of farm workers. And in early 19th century Scottish farming hierarchy it was the "bondagers" who were placed way down on the bottom rung of the ladder.

However, despite the bondager's tenuous existence amidst the monotony of an endless cycle of digging, sowing weeding, harvesting and an unending host of menial tasks, the strength, kindness, humour and wisdom of these strong-hearted Scots women prevails.

For those of us who might complain about weeding the garden or mowing the lawn the performance was quite a reality check!

The Trick is to Keep Breathing

Tron Theatre Company, Glasgow Director: Michael Boyd

Ton Theatre won the hearts of Canadian theatregoers a few years ago with its adaptation of Quebec playwright, Michel Tremblay's Les Belles Soeurs, translated from French to Scots and entitled The Guid Sisters. This time the company has returned with an adaptation of Janice Galloway's novel about Joy Stone, a young women suffering from depression triggered by her lover's tragic death by drowning while on vacation together in Spain.

Starring Siobhan Redmond from BBC's TV series Inside the Line, the drama is set in the late 1980s in West Central Scotland. This powerful piece

of theatre explores the torment and anguish of a woman's grief as she tries to come to terms with a troubled past and an uncertain future.

Her encounters with the institutions that supposedly exist to provide her with answers only reinforce her belief that they are self-

Opera Ceilidh

This was the title of a unique blend of opera and Scots songs under the direction of Dr. Philip Leger, C.B.E., Principal of Glasgow's Royal Academy of Music and Drama, which was presented by the Canadian Scottish Philharmonic Foundation on Friday, May 3.

The event was held at the University Women's Club in Toronto where Dr. Leger accompanied his graduates, Adeline Ramage and Douglas Telfer.

The Rowan Tree Company

Talks are still taking place between the Foundation and Lady Steel of this theatre group from the Borders of Scotland. It is hoped that we will once more be able to hear the old Scots Border dialect on the stage here in Canada.

We are looking for corporate sponsors who would be interesting in participating in this project and will keep members upto-date with our progress.

serving entities which merely generate more questions.

In this deep psychological drama, the mind of Joy Stone is revealed to the audience by three separate actors. Accompanying Ms. Redmond, who plays the part of Joy's inner self, is Jennifer Black, playing the part of Joy as seen by the outside world and Tracy Wiles who plays Joy the child. Adding to the dynamics of the production is a supporting cast of 12 more members including pianist, Simon Burbury, and cellist, Jane MacFarlane.

Despite the rather melancholy nature of the subject, the production cannot restrain the characteristic Central Scotland sense of humour from coming through.



Bill Somerville is seen here with Anne-Louis Ross and Kathryn Howden of Bondagers

TARTAN DAY CELEBRATION

1996 Tartan Day Celebration Dinner a huge success

Former top Canadian Diplomat, Honourable Donald Macdonald - 1996 Scot of the Year



Reverend Malcolm Sinclair Master of Ceremonies

his Year's event, held on March 30 at Toronto's historic King Edward Hotel, reinforced the reputation of the Foundation's annual Tartan Day Celebration Dinner as being one of the most glamorous functions in the Scots-Canadian social calendar.

Master of Ceremonies for the evening was the Reverend Malcolm Sinclair of the Metropolitan United Church in Toronto, who provided a balance of humour and eloquence in keeping with the sophistication of the evening.

Of course, the celebrity of the evening was renowned Canadian lawyer and former Federal Cabinet Minister, the Honourable Donald S. Macdonald, who was proclaimed *Scot of the Year* for 1996.

Donald Macdonald was born in Ottawa on March 1, 1932 and is presently Counsel at the national law firm of McCarthy Tetrault.

He was first elected to the House of Commons in 1962 as a member for Toronto Rosedale. He entered the Liberal Cabinet in 1968 and served as Minister of Energy Mines and Resources from 1972 to 1975.

The highly successful Macdonald Commission takes its name from him when, in 1983, he was appointed by Pierre Trudeau to act as chairman of this royal commission

And I thought to myself, if only they could see us now -- that group of Scottish nobles who came together at Arbroath Abbey in 1320 to declare Scotland's independence under King Robert the Bruce. What would they possibly think of us here tonight? Here we are, thousands of miles away at the other side of the Earth in a land they had never heard of, in a country they never even knew existed. Here we are to honour a fellow Scot.

Madame Justice Bertha Wilson, 1994 Scot of the Year

on economic and development prospects for Canada. He was also Canada's High Commissioner to Great Britain from 1988 to 1991.

The Hon. Donald Macdonald's ancestors emigrated to Antigonish in Nova Scotia from Lochaber in the Highlands of Scotland at the end of the 18th century. He retains an interest in genealogy and assists the Clan Donald as a trustee of the Clan Donald Land Trust at Armadale in the Isle of Skye in Scotland.

Tributes were received from past recipients of the Scot of the Year Award; Madame Justice Bertha Wilson, Canada's first female Supreme Court judge, and CTV's Chief Anchor and Senior News Editor, Lloyd Robertson.

Madame Justice Wilson's message was

read by University of Guelph Professor Liz Ewan and a recorded "radio announcement" from Lloyd Robertson was played over the PA system.

The event featured specially prepared cuisine by Executive Chef, John Higgins, formerly of Buckingham Palace and Scotland's famous Gleneagles Hotel. It certainly was a meal fit for royalty!

Traditional Scottish entertainment included the Metro Toronto Police Pipes & Drums, the Georgina Findlay Dancers, Scottish singer Douglas Cameron and Jim Galloway and his jazz band.

There was a poignant moment when Martin Rawlings paid tribute to the victims of the tragic Dunblane massacre. Martin is with United Distillers, a major sponsor of the event.



Martin Rawlings of United Distillers presents the Hon. Donald Macdonald with a rare bottle of Scotch whisky.

TARTAN DAY CELEBRATION

The Declaration of Arbroath was more than just a claim for independence by an individual nation. It was one of the first European statutes that actually placed limitations on the monarchy. It has to be seen as an important milestone in the evolution of Western democracy.

Ted Cowan, Glasgow University (formerly of Guelph)

Thanks to the change in venue, there was record number of attendees, somewhere in the vicinity of 240. Our previous venue, Casa Loma, was certainly the right type of setting for an event such as this, but it did have the disadvantage that its seating capacity was much less than the King Edward.

The main tribute to the Hon. Donald Macdonald was given by the Hon. Alastair Gillespie, his long time friend and colleague who brought along a distinguished party of guests. Speeches were also given by Lieutenant Governor, the Honourable Henry Jackman, and Foundation Chairman, Bill Somerville. Dinner chairman Philip Reid introduced John Higgins and his staff.

Others present included a distinguished group from the British Consulate, Richard Armstrong and his team from Upper Canada Brewers, a party from the University of Guelph including Vice President, Dr. Ian Campbell and of course, Foundation Governor, Neil Fraser, with guests of the Clan Fraser Society.



Frank Watson, Cicely Watson, Carol Eddington and Liz Ewan



Chairman, Bill Somerville and the Hon. Donald Macdonald displaying the Scot of the Year Award

In addition, Robert Gillespie, Chairman and CEO of General Electric Canada was present with his guests, as well as Mary Heron with her party from British Airways and a team from Heylar Associates.

Tables were also taken by John Johnstone, Executive VP of Marsh & McLennan, Slough Estates President, Marshall Hees, Chairman John D. McNeil of Sun Life Assurance, Steve Somerville of CIBC, Jim MacNeil of MacNeil's Scottish Imports,

Martin Rawlings of United Distillers, and Philip Reid of the "Jack Russell" Pub.

The Clan Society MacKenzie outdid themselves by filling two tables and were also we delighted to have Trans Canada Pipelines Liaison Officer, Caroline Venn and Ontario Hydro Executive VP, Hugh George, along as well. As usual, our resident piper, Bill Cockburn, was on hand to pipe

guests to their tables.

As well as the Scot of the Year presentation, the award ceremony for the Frank Watson Prize in Scottish History took place at the event, and we were delighted to have Frank Watson witness the presentation made by Professor Elizabeth Ewan.

This year's recipient was Dr. Carol Eddington of St. Andrews University in Scotland who received the award for her book, Court and Culture in Renaissance Scotland, Sir David Lindsay of the Mount. Carol is presently working on a study of aspects of chivalry in Medieval Scotland.

The prize was donated by Frank's wife, Cicely, in honour of his 80th birthday and was awarded for the first time in the Spring of 1994.

By coincidence, the Watsons celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on March 30th.

The Declaration of Arbroath..."is worthy of being carved in letters of gold."

Sir Walter Scott



Board of Governors

Chairman

Alan McKenzie, FSA(Scot) 580 Rebecca Street Oakville, ON L6K 3N9 Res: (905) 842-2106

Bus: (416) 359-8012

Fax: (416) 359-8230

Executive Secretary

Ian D. Henderson 7700 Hurontario St. #407

City South Plaza Brampton, ON L6Y 4M3

Bus: Fax: (905) 451-7700 (905) 451-6620

Secretary & **Newsletter Editor**

David Hunter 195 Glengrove Ave. West

Toronto, ON M4R 1P4 Res: (416) 482-8227

Bus: (416) 595-4112

Fax: (416) 595-0925

Immediate Past Chairman

Bill Somerville Director

Broadcast & Recording Service, Queens Park

Toronto, ON M7A 1A2

Bus: (416) 325-7365 Fax:

Res:

(416) 325-7916 (416) 284-0700

Governors at large

Professor Elizabeth Ewan Department of History University of Guelph Guelph, ON N1G 2W1

Bus:

(519) 824-4120 Ext. 3888

W. Neil Fraser 71 Charles St.E., #1101

Toronto, ON M4Y 2T3 (416) 920-6851 Res:

(416) 920-1275 Fax: Bus: (416) 326-7521

Dr. Hugh MacMillan,

FSA(Scot)

21 Suffolk St. West Guelph, ON N1H 2H9

(519) 824-0126 Res:

Fax:

(519) 836-2418

Ed Patrick

19 Dundonald, #206 Toronto, ON M4Y 1K3

Res: (416) 964-8180

Steve Somerville 149 Roselawn Avenue Toronto, ON M4R 1E7

Res: (416) 932-0745 Bus: (416) 980-6320

Fax: (416) 980-7377

Dr. Paul Thomson 1515 Skyline Drive

Mississauga, ON L5E 2W6

Res: (905) 278-5022 Fax: (905) 274-1817

(416) 467-9738 Bus:

Ext. 266

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