

THE SCOTS CANADIAN

Issue III

Newsletter of the Scottish Studies Society

Spring/Summer 1999

Largest attendance yet at 1999 Scot of the Year Dinner

It was a grand night. The bagpipers were magnificent, the dancers dazzling, the speeches short and to the point.

The seventh annual Scot of the Year Dinner, sponsored by the Scottish Studies Society, at Toronto's Granite Club in April was the most successful ever held --- with our largest attendance of 366 and a net profit of more than \$29,000 for the Scottish Studies Foundation. Funds raised at the Scots of the Year dinners are destined for the Scottish Studies Foundation and the Centre for Scottish Studies at the University of Guelph.

John Cleghorn, the 1998 Scot of the Year, cutting a dashing figure in his new kilt and evening regalia, presented the 1999 Scot of the Year award to Michael MacMillan, also kilted. Mr. Cleghorn, Chairman and CEO of the Royal Bank of Canada, noted that he is Michael's banker and was in attendance to check on his company's credit rating. Mr.



MGen. Lewis MacKenzie, Pattie Cleghorn, Michael MacMillan, his wife Cathy Spoel and John Cleghorn

Scots Wha Hae

*a desire to nurture and preserve
their heritage in Canada
are invited to join*



THE SCOTTISH STUDIES FOUNDATION

*a charitable organization dedicated
to actively supporting the
Scottish Studies Program
at*

The University of Guelph

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MacMillan, 41, is the dynamic Chairman and CEO of Alliance Atlantis Communications, an \$850-million entity which is Canada's largest television and movie production company.

John also recounted how Michael and one of his partners were off on a fishing trip to New Brunswick by air when they thought they would surprise two late-arriving Royal Bank officials. They hid behind two seats in the plane and jumped out when new passengers boarded.

To the astonishment of everyone, the boarding passengers were not the Royal Bank officials but rather U.S. Secret Service personnel guarding former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, also on the same flight. Fortunately, the Secret Service guards asked questions first, rather than opening fire and asking questions second.

The dinner had an international flavor --- just back from the war in Yugoslavia, where he was reporting for the CTV network on what was happening in Belgrade, was Major-General Lewis MacKenzie (our first Scot of the Year). Also in attendance were Prof.

Ted Cowan and Dr. Drummond Bone of the University of Glasgow. Dr. Mordechai Rozanski, President of the University of Guelph, re-named himself "MacRozanski" for the night.

Another highlight of the evening was the presentation of a top-of-the-line bottle of Johnnie Walker Blue Label to Michael by UDV Canada Vice-President Larry Nowak. UDV is the dinner's major sponsor, with a generous donation of \$10,000.

This was the first Scot of the Year dinner held at Toronto's Granite Club and it was a magnificent setting. Of special note was the wonderful dinner created by the Granite Club's Executive Chef, Jim Edwards.

Heartiest congratulations to the Dinner Committee: Co-Chairmen John Macdonald and Neil Fraser, along with Alan McKenzie and Iain MacMillan. Iain is the very proud father of the Scot of the Year --- however, Iain was not allowed to vote on this year's selection so there would be no question of a conflict of interest.



Looking Forward, Looking Back

*A review of the University of Guelph's
Spring 1999 Colloquium
by Alan McKenzie*

This year's Spring Colloquium coincided with the University of Guelph's open day which goes by the name of College Royal. As a result, many family members and parents of students could be seen passing through the University eager to see where their bright sons and daughters were taught and what they were doing. And, as usual, there was a good turnout of Scottish Studies Foundation members anxious to hear more about Scottish history from professors and students alike.

The first paper was a presentation from Shannon Creps, a graduate student from Dayton, Ohio, who chose the subject of John Knox and his relationship to women. As the author of *The First Blast of the Trumpet Against the Monstrous Regiment of Women*, Knox became tarred as a misogynist, or woman-hater. Hardly surprising as among other things he claimed woman to be "the port and gate of the devil!"

Shannon, however, gave a somewhat different interpretation of Knox's reputation, pointing out that he had married twice and had close relationships with other women. Shannon's presentation claimed that in fact his relationship with women appeared to be amicable and he was never truly a woman-hater, despite his diatribes against Mary Queen of Scots and England's Mary I -- or at least their adherence to the Catholic religion.

The next paper was by student Tolly Bradford who looked at moral reform in Scotland in the 1840s. In particular, around the time of Chalmers, the disruption of the Established Church of Scotland and the formation of the break-away Free Church of Scotland.

This occurred at a time when urban parishes were expanding at a rapid rate. For example, some parishes in Glasgow experienced a huge growth in population, one having a population of over 10,000. This overwhelmed the abilities of the parishes to meet the spiritual and educational needs of their parishioners.

The new Free Church built many new churches to meet the infrastructure needs of the rapidly growing urban populations and sent urban "missionaries" into the

community. These were funded by a middle class who wanted to ensure where their money was going. They were anxious to ensure that education, both technical and religious, was stressed.

Tolly also dealt with issues of the idle (unemployed) poor and the church's desire to keep them on the road to righteousness.

Professor Linda Mahood gave an entertaining presentation on an unentertaining subject -- the birching of young offenders in Scotland in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Titled "Giving him a Doing" Linda looked at the treatment of young offenders at a time when it was felt that moral education had broken down. Corporal punishment by means of the birch cane was seen as a necessary component of the reform package.

Scotland built the first juvenile reformatories and some became very large -- one had 700 boys! The Scottish juvenile system of reform was well respected in the world and parts of England adopted the systems.

However, birching was retained in Scotland long after it had been discontinued in other countries. Some members of the audience stated that they could give first hand evidence in that regard!

Linda gave details of the methods of birching and the presence of doctors who would examine boys about to be punished to ensure that they were able to receive birching without permanent physical harm. The system was based on the concept that there should be a "just measure of pain" in reforming juvenile delinquents.

It was also interesting to note that inmates of Scottish prisons were obliged to make the actual birch canes as part of their labour.

Tara Csont, another student, spoke on "Jews in 19th Century Scotland". It was not until 1820 that it was officially acknowledged that there was a small community of Jews living in Edinburgh. Originally these were hawkers or general dealers and it appears that they were an isolated community. They were discriminated against and frequently stereotyped as being criminal or linked to poverty and economic issues. With immigration, the Scottish Jewish population grew rapidly later in the 19th century and eventually became accepted.

Scottish foreign missionaries went to Europe (Germany and Budapest, were mentioned) in an attempt to convert Jews in these countries to Christianity.

The Chair in Scottish Studies at Guelph, Professor Elizabeth Ewan, gave a fine talk on the Countess of March and Dunbar, known to history as "Black Agnes".

Agnes Randolph was the daughter of the Earl of Moray and established her reputation as a true Scottish heroine for successfully resisting the forces of Scotland's antagonist, Edward III, during Scotland's second war of independence which commenced in 1331.

In 1338 the English under the command of Montague, laid siege to the Castle of Dunbar and tried a variety of methods to force Black Agnes to yield the castle to them. So effective was she was in resisting their attempts that Montague abandoned the lengthy siege which ended up costing the English £6,000 -- a huge sum in those days.

Graduate student, James Fraser, gave another interesting talk entitled "Like a Swan from the Raven: The Medieval Image of William Wallace." No doubt, with so many attendees having seen the movie *Braveheart*



Professor Elizabeth Ewan and Scottish Studies PhD candidate Scott Moir

they would be familiar with the current popular image of Wallace. Certainly the English portrayed William Wallace as ... "an ogre to quieten their children."

James spoke of two contemporary historical records of Wallace's endeavours by the ancient historians, Wynthoun and Fordun.

Fordun, who wrote the first narrative, would have been a child at best when Wallace was around. On the other hand, Wynthoun wrote his history 50 years later; the implication being that perhaps all was not entirely factual and that the legend of the man comes through stronger than the actual events.

What James concentrated on was the probability that Fordun's history was itself propaganda on behalf of Robert the Bruce. This would give justification to Bruce's claims that he acted in the same way and towards the same ends as Wallace, the great hero of Scotland. He suggested that Fordun's report was a document aimed at telling the Scottish people what they wanted to hear and that Wynthoun's history was largely modeled upon Fordun's.

Shelley Biernes, another student, spoke about the myths and the realities of coal miners in Victorian Scotland. She described the impact on small mining communities as family owned mines were gradually acquired by large mining corporations.

Shelley also spoke about the terrible working conditions. There were the usual problems of the narrowness of the mining tunnels, poor ventilation and the danger from roofs collapsing as more coal was extracted from the heads of coal seams.

The Scottish miners regarded themselves as independent tradespeople and as skilled workers. This clashed with the mine-owners' view that low-priced labour was crucial and this prompted them to introduce Irish immigrant labourers to Scotland.

Miners' wives resigned themselves to catering to their husbands and families -- often while their men were out at the social centre of the mining community -- the pub!

Mining was originally established in isolated communities, which fostered a strong sense of community and kinship. However, the introduction of the railways soon ended that isolation.

The final presentation of the day was from graduate student Scott Moir, who happens to run the Scottish Studies Foundation's office at Guelph. His subject was "The First Devolved Scotland, 1603-1707".

He dealt with James I & VI's efforts to create closer union between England and Scotland, understandable enough since he happened to be the king of both countries! To this end he was ably assisted by the Earls of Dunbar and Dunfermline, and this enabled James to rule Scotland from England.

James used his compromise to establish a devolved government in Edinburgh. Whitehall in London became the imperial government with worldwide aspirations, while the Edinburgh government had national objectives. However, this accord disappeared under Charles I during the difficult times of the National Covenant... "the only time in Scottish history God was committed to a written agreement".

Scott went on to review the lessons learned from this original Scottish devolved parliament that would be meaningful today in future relationships between Westminster and Edinburgh.

Ann McLennan, a former graduate student of the Scottish Studies program at Guelph, and now the Canadian Commissioner for the Scottish Tartans Society, as well as being a Guelph businesswoman, was invited to say a few words about tartans.

Ann mentioned that there are four tartan mills in Scotland but there are also two in Canada -- one in British Columbia and another in Quebec.

In summary, another fine weekend of Scottish Studies. The papers were all presented on Saturday and repeated for a new audience on Sunday. ■

Changes to Guelph Library

Visitors to the University of Guelph will notice there has been a change in the organization of the library. Most Scottish books are now on the third floor, while Scottish journals are on the second floor. Because of limited capacity of the building, some books are now in storage. They can be retrieved by ordering two days ahead.

If you are planning a trip to the library, it would be a good idea to check the location of the books you want, and order ahead by telephone if they are in storage. The library has joined with the libraries of Wilfrid Laurier and Waterloo to produce a new combined catalogue called TRELIS. This catalogue gives you the location of books in all three libraries. To use the catalogue on line, visit the website at <http://www.tug-libraries.on.ca/info/>

Faculty News

After twelve years at Guelph in the English Department, Catherine Kerrigan has taken early retirement. She will be leaving in May 1999 to take up a research position at the University of Glasgow, joining another former Scottish Studies faculty member, Ted Cowan. Guelph's loss is Glasgow's gain!

Peter Loptson, a specialist on the work of David Hume, has joined the Philosophy department at its new chair. We hope to encourage his participation in Scottish

Scot of the Year 2000

Who do you think should be the *Scot of the Year* for 2000?

This is your opportunity, as a member of the Scottish Studies Foundation, to help in the selection process for this coveted honour.

Recent *Scots of the Year* include Michael MacMillan, John Cleghorn, the Hon. Hal Jackman, the Hon. Donald S. MacDonald, Lloyd Robertson, the Hon. Madame Bertha Wilson and Major-General Lewis MacKenzie.

As for the 2000 winner --- the choice could be up to you.

Nominate the Canadian of Scottish ancestry you consider deserves the honour, have your entry endorsed by two other members of the Foundation and mail it to: John H. Macdonald, Chairman, Scottish Studies Society, 2 Sandbourne Cres., Toronto, Ontario M2J 3A6. Deadline is Sept. 1, 1999.

The Directors of the Society shall research the nominees and forward the three best to the Governors of the Scottish Studies Foundation. The Governors will then elect the *Scot of the Year* for the year 2000 and the winner will be honoured at the Granite Club in Toronto in April, 2000.

Studies in the future. He has admitted to being a "scotophile"!

Elizabeth Ewan, Linda Mahood, and Gil Stelter will be speaking to Our Club later this year. Scott Moir gave a talk on "the first Scottish devolution" to the Club in April. Scottish Studies will also have an exhibition at the Fergus Highland Games in August.

Graduate and Alumni News

Scott McLean, who ably ran the Scottish Studies Office at the University of Guelph until December 1998, has just spent a semester as an instructor for Queen's University at Herstmonceux Castle in England. As well as teaching his students history, Scott was able to introduce them to the historical delights of Wales, Scotland and England in field trips.

James Fraser successfully defended his MA thesis on medieval images of William Wallace in April 1999. James has been accepted for doctoral work by the prestigious Centre for Medieval Studies at the University of Toronto.

Scott Moir, who is now in charge of the Scottish Studies Office at Guelph, has been awarded a SSHRCC (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada)

doctoral scholarship for 1999-2000. These national scholarships are awarded to the best graduate students in Canada and are highly competitive; the award recognizes the high standard of Scott's research work. He has also been awarded another Ontario Graduate Scholarship for 1999-2000.

Our congratulations to Scott for his achievements and for letting the Scottish Studies Program bask in the reflected glory!

All three students above have been recipients of the Stanford Reid Bursary in Scottish Studies, funded by the Foundation.

Andrew McDonald, a graduate of the program, has accepted a position in the History Department at the University College of Cape Breton. There he will join another Scottish Studies alumnus, David Mullan. Andrew will be developing courses in medieval Scottish and Celtic studies.

We are delighted to have the opportunity to strengthen the links between Scottish Studies at Guelph and that homeland of emigrant Scots, Cape Breton. Andrew's book on the early lords of the Isles, *The Kingdom of the Isles*, was recently published by Tuckwell Press.

Stuart MacDonald, now Dean of Students at Knox College, has had his book on the Witchhunt in Scotland accepted for publication by Tuckwell Press. It should appear next year.

Three new doctoral students will be entering the program in the Fall. This represents almost half the students entering the Tri-University Doctoral program, of which Guelph is a member, and all the history doctoral students entering Guelph this year, showing the ongoing importance of Scottish Studies to graduate study at Guelph.

The topics to be researched include nationalism in fourteenth to sixteenth century Scotland, nationalism and education in nineteenth-century Scotland and the family in early modern Scotland. Two of our new students come from Alberta and one from Ontario.

The new Access Award, funded by the Foundation, will be awarded for the first time to an entering student this summer.

New Courses etc

We are delighted to announce the introduction of a new course "Witchcraft and Popular Culture in Early Modern Scotland" which will be offered as a Distance Education course this summer and as an on-campus course in the fall.

The latest registration figures indicate that this is one of the most popular Distance Education courses this summer. Another Distance course on Scotland in the Age of Emigration is being developed this summer. With this fifth Scottish course, we will soon be able to offer a certificate in Scottish

Studies for Open Learners, available entirely by Distance Education for those unable to attend the University of Guelph campus.

The History Department at Guelph has approved in principle the creation of a Distance Education MA in Scottish History. This will enable people throughout North America to take an advanced degree in Scottish History. We will be developing new graduate courses in Scottish History for this degree. We hope to have it available shortly after the year 2000. Emigration to North America will be a major focus. ■

Tall ship cruise planned for Sunday, September 5th

Members of the Scottish Studies Foundation are urged to participate in our annual Scottish Cruise to commemorate the arrival of the "Hector" in Canada in 1773. The "Hector" carried the first wave of Scottish immigrants to Pictou, Nova Scotia.

On Sunday, Sept. 5, the "Empire Sandy" will sail out of Toronto Harbour into Lake Ontario on two 2-hour cruises.

The prices are the same as last year --- \$15 for adults and \$8 for children --- you can't beat the price! Or the fun.

It will be a festive occasion with bagpipers and Scottish dancers taking part in this short but memorable voyage. And to add to the fun and excitement of cruising on a tall ship under full sail--- the world famous CNE Air Show will on at the same time. Those on the "Empire Sandy" will be able to have an unrestricted view of the training flights and the actual Air Show performances in the sky above them.

There will be two sailings --- the first at 11.30 a.m. (boarding at 11 a.m.) and the second at 2.30 p.m. (boarding at 2 p.m.). Both departures will be from Pier 27, just east of Yonge St. on Queen's Quay East. There is ample parking.

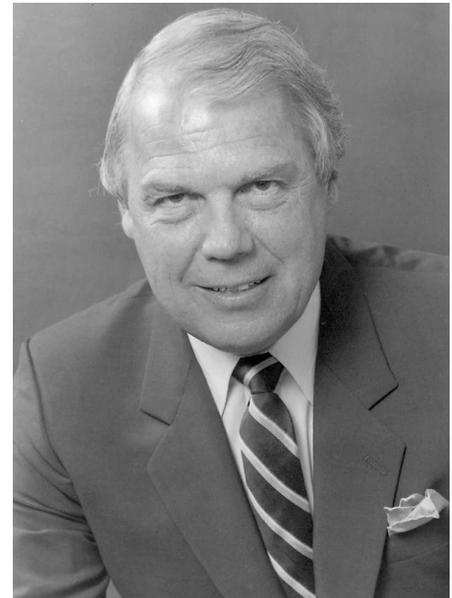
Those taking part in the cruise are encouraged to display the tartan --- kilts, tams, bonnets, shawls, skirts, trews or whatever. But bear in mind the weather can be cool out on the lake.

For details, phone: David Hunter (416) 332-7353, Paul Thomson (905) 278-5022, John Macdonald (416) 756-0345 or Neil Fraser (416) 920-6851.

For tickets and reservations: send cheque payable to Scottish Studies Society to Alan McKenzie, 580 Rebecca St., Oakville, Ontario L6K 2M6 or e-mail Alan at "alanmck@cgcable.net"

Order your tickets NOW --- last year's cruise was a sellout. And with the prices staying the same, it will happen again.

New boards elected



*Scottish Studies Foundation Chairman
Edward Stewart*

The Annual General Meetings of the Scottish Studies Foundation and the Scottish Studies Society were held recently at the Arts and Letters Club in Toronto.

Elected to the Board of Governors of the Foundation were: Dr. Elizabeth Ewan, W. Neil Fraser, The Hon. Alastair W. Gillespie, P.C., O.C., David Hunter, John H. Macdonald, Iain MacMillan, Alan McKenzie, Bill Somerville, Dr. Edward E. Stewart, O.C., Dr. Paul Thomson.

Two long-standing Governors of the Foundation, Prof. Ron Sunter and Hugh MacMillan, retired from the board --- Ron will soon be retiring from the University of Guelph while Hugh is moving to Ottawa. However, Hugh will maintain his links with the Foundation through the Scottish Studies Society and will continue to be active in working on various academic projects.

New to the Board of Governors is Dr. Elizabeth Ewan, head of the Centre for Scottish Studies at the University of Guelph, and long-time supporter Iain MacMillan.

Elected to the Board of Directors of the Society were: Christine Boyle, W. Neil Fraser, The Hon. Alastair W. Gillespie, P.C., O.C., David Hunter, John H. Macdonald, Hugh MacMillan, Iain MacMillan, Alan McKenzie, Dr. Edward E. Stewart, O.C., Dr. Paul Thomson.

New to the Society's Board of Directors is Christine Boyle, External Liaison Officer at the University of Guelph.

Life and times of the Glasgow growler

This article was adapted from one published on March 11 by Scottish Journalist Jack Webster who writes for Scotland's Herald newspaper

It's a famous quotation but it gained a tinge of chilling reality the other day when I had to reassure friends, like Mark Twain before me, that reports of my death were exaggerated.

Though fairly sure that I had come alive that morning, the news that journalist Jack Webster had passed away was still enough to pull me up over my porridge. A string of friendly phone-calls, however, restored the blood pressure and let me know that all is not lost with the world.

I then settled to warm recollections of my old namesake in Vancouver, the lad from Glasgow who took Canadian radio by storm after the war and became a legend, the best-known media personality in the land.

What a man! And what a story he had to tell, not just about the rough-and-tumble of politics and journalism but about a particular matter of the heart which could reduce the hard nut from Glasgow to the tender tears of love and joy.

But first, the public outline of Jack Webster, one of three brothers from a working class home in the South Side's Battlefield Avenue, all of whom reached the heights in journalism. Sandy became editor of the *Sunday Mail* and Drew was a highly

Distinguished lobby correspondent at Westminster.

As a 14-year-old in 1932, Jack was an office boy with *The Herald* and *Evening Times* but was soon reporting on the gangland scene of his native city.

Webster was going places. With gravel in his voice and steel in his nerve, there was not much that would deter him. By the end of the war he was with Kemsley Newspapers in London, a colleague of Ian Fleming, who was even then dreaming up the persona of James Bond.



Jack at work

Emigrating to Canada in 1947, he came home in the mid 1950s to help Roy Thomson establish Scottish Television, before settling finally in Vancouver. And that was where the career took off, as he shaped up the future of radio journalism, invented the phone-in, set the pattern for talk-shows - and held his audience spellbound by challenging anyone from judges to Prime Ministers.

He hit world headlines in 1963 when inmates at British Columbia's Penitentiary, holding a guard hostage at knife-point, said they would negotiate only with Prime Minister Lester Pearson - or Jack Webster. The Glasgow Growler went in, only to be held hostage himself. He talked his way out of trouble - and emerged with a tape-recording for his next programme!

Extending his career to television, he was then seen more clearly as a burly bundle of aggression and good humour. I went to Vancouver to appear on his show, along with Prime Minister John Turner, by which time Jack had discovered that the coincidence of our names did not stop there.

We were both the sons of a Margaret Webster, had both worked for the same newspapers and, when I arrived in Glasgow 40 years ago, I found digs in the very same Battlefield Avenue where he had grown up.



Jack on his farm on Saltspring Island BC

His mother was better known as Big Daisy, a formidable character who was to be the catalyst in a sad but touching tale. Young Jack had met the beautiful Margaret Macdonald from the neighbouring King's Park. There was a daughter of that liaison and, even though the young couple would later marry, it was Daisy who put her foot down and insisted the child should be sent for adoption.

The Websters had three more children but, in the shadow of her famous husband, Margaret quietly brooded over the loss of the first one, to the point of mental upset. Where could she be?

As her husband investigated graft and corruption at the top, Margaret set out very privately on an investigation of her own. She was determined to find her long-lost daughter - and she did!

Her beloved Joan was by then a married woman in England, with children of her own - and never even having been told she was adopted. She had actually been brought up in Edinburgh and educated at the same Gillespie School as Muriel Spark, who had used it as the setting for *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*. In her thirties, she was joyfully reunited with her real parents and had found sisters Linda and Jenny and brother Jack, now a barrister in Vancouver.

Today, Joan Troup is back in Scotland, a pharmacist in Perthshire who was glad that her life was finally brought into perspective. Her mother died in 1985 and, when the call came that time was running out last week, she flew straight to Vancouver. Told of her impending arrival, Jack gritted his teeth to stay alive. All four children were round the bed when Jack Webster passed away, aged 80. He had always joked that the doughty Daisy was watching him from a corner of the ceiling. And his final act was to glance meaningfully at that favourite corner. If Daisy was indeed there, she would surely have been smiling on the adopted baby, now back in her rightful place. ■

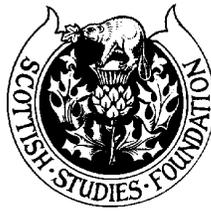
Our Club Luncheons

"Our Club" luncheons are just that --- a gathering once every two weeks for members of the Scottish Studies Foundation, and like-minded Scots.

The luncheons are a lot of fun. And a portion of the luncheon tab of \$15 goes to help the Foundation with its work at the University of Guelph. The conversation and good food are well worth it. Add that to special speakers on a wide variety of Scottish topics and you have the menu for a delightful and informative couple of hours.

The luncheons are held at Toronto's Bow and Arrow Pub, 1954 Yonge St. just a few buildings north of Davisville on the west side of Yonge. The noon-hour luncheons are held on Fridays, once every two weeks.

For further information and to get the dates of upcoming luncheons, contact Gina at (416) 928-0760.



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