

# *A' Bratach Bhan*

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# *From the Desk of the President*

Dear Clansfolk: Spring 2006

The birds are singing and the trees are in bud, so we look forward to a wonderful Spring and Summer.

Our Newsletter A"Bratach Bhan has a new Editor, Sarah Mallalieu, whom we welcome to the post. Any information you might have to put in our newsletter is always welcome.

Grace Mackay Bird, has moved on to Florida and will retire there with her husband. We will miss her and all the work and dedication she put into all things for Clan Mackay. Many of our Raffle's were made by Grace, her sewing and needlepoint enjoyed by all. The editorials for A"Bratach Bhan were well done and covered a variety of subjects. Good luck Grace, enjoy your retirement, and please keep in touch.

A post office glitz was the cause of the late delivery of our Christmas newsletter, ended up in the dead letter bin, but did get rescued.

Our Clan has been dealt a heavy blow with the passing of Honorary Member Cathy Mackay Ross, Mary Mackay Elliott and M. Jeanne S. Mackay, wife of the late Dr. Iain Mackay. The write up on this item is in another part of the newsletter. Our sympathy go out to all the families.

The 200 Anniversary of Clan Mackay Society of Scotland will be held in Scotland July 20,21,22 . Bob and I will attend as will other members of our Clan. If you are interested in attending this momentous occasion please give me a call.

The Annual Meeting of Clan Mackay Association of Canada will be held June 17th, 2006 at 3665 Autumn Leaf Cr. Mississauga. If you have not renewed your Membership for 2006 please do so. We have a wonderful Scottish painting for our Raffle donated by Nial Mackay.

We are looking for new Directors for Clan Mackay, if you would like to give a few hours of your time to your Clan please e-mail or telephone me. We do need new people to keep our Clan going..

Hurricane Names:

We need more Scottish names for the upcoming hurricanes, Just compile a list of good Scot names, and submit it to the WNO. E-mail your list to [wmo@2mo.int](mailto:wmo@2mo.int) So far in 6 years there has only been 3 Scot names, Bonnie, Sandy and Gordon.

I encourage all people of Scottish descent to come out to the summer Scottish Games and be proud of your heritage.

See you at the Annual meeting,

Sincerely,

*Mora Mackay Cairns*

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Our web site is [http: www.clanmackay.ca](http://www.clanmackay.ca)

# Upcoming Highland Games

## Alberta

May 13	Festival in the Rockies, Cochrane
June 11	Grand Prairie Highland Games, Macklin Field, Cochrane
June 24	Red Deer Highland Games, Red Deer
June 25	Edmonton Scottish Society Highland Gathering, Grant McEwen Park, Edmonton
August 26	High River Highland Games, Highwood High School, High River
September 2	Calgary Highland Games, Shouldice Athletic Park, Calgary
September 3	Canmore Highland Games, Centennial Park, Canmore

## British Columbia

May 20	Comox Valley Highland Games, Lewis Park, Courtenay
May 21	Victoria Highland Games, Esquimalt Road, Victoria
June 10	Sons of Scotland Games, Abbotsford
June 9&10	Cariboo Highland Game, Lebourdais Park, Quesnel
June 17	British Columbia Legion Highland Gathering, Campbell River, Vancouver Island
June 24	BC (United) Scottish Highland Games & Festival, Coquitlam
July 1	Penticton Highland Games, Kings Park, Penticton
Sept. 30	Castlegar Highland Games, Selkirk College, Castlegar

## Manitoba

July 1	Manitoba Highland Gathering, Selkirk Park, Manitoba
July 30-Aug5	Folklorama at Winnipeg, Heather Curling Club, Winnipeg

## New Brunswick

May 26-28	Gathering of the Scots Festival, Perth-Andover
July 28-30	New Brunswick Highland Games, Old Government House, Fredericton

## Nova Scotia

June 1-4	Halifax Celtic Feis, Halifax
July 1	Gathering of the Clans, Pugwash
July 1-8	Nova Scotia Tattoo, Halifax
July 8	Halifax Highland Games & Scottish Festival, Garrison Grounds, Halifax
July 15-16	Antigonish Highland Games, Antigonish
August 9-13	Hector Festival, Pictou
August 16-20	Festival of the Tartans, New Glasgow
Sept 9-10	Heart of the Valley Highland Games, Middleton
October 6-14	Celtic Colours International Festival, Cape Breton Island

## Ontario

June 2-3	Celtfest Callander, Callender Legion, Callendar
June 9-11	Brockville Celtic festival, St Laurence Park & Hardy Park, Brockville
June 10	Georgetown Highland Games, Georgetown Fairgrounds, Georgetown
June 16-18	Windsor Celtic Festival, Civic Terrace, Windsor
June 17	Veteran's Memorial Highland Games, Prescott
June 17-18	Loch Sloy Highland Games, Old Fort Erie, Fort Erie
June 23-24	Cobourg Highland Games, Donegan Park, Cobourg
June 23-25	Hamilton Highland Games, Ancaster Fair Grounds, Ancaster
Jun 30-Jul2	Kincardine Scottish Festival and Highland Games, Victoria Park, Kincardine
July 8	Haliburton Highland Games, Head Lake Park, Haliburton Village
July 7-8	Tarton Sertoma Chatham-Kent Supreme Highland Games, Tecumseh Park, Chatham
July 15	Orillia Scottish Festival, Couchiching Beach Park, Orillia
July 14-15	Cambridge Highland Games, Churchill Park, Cambridge
July 22&23	Highlands of Durham Games, Elgin Park, Uxbridge
Aug 4-5	Glengarry Highland Games, Agriculture Grounds, Maxville
Aug 11-13	Celtic Roots Festival, Lion's Harbour Park, Goderich
Aug 11-13	Fergus Highland Games & Scottish Festival, Fergus Community Centre, Fergus
Aug 18&19	Sarnia Highland Games, Centennial Park, Sarnia
Aug 26	North Lanark Highland Games, Almonte Fairgrounds, Almonte
Sept 9	Trenton Scottish/Irish Festival, Buster Alvea Park, Trenton
Sept 15-17	Owen Sound Celtic Festival, OSCVI Auditorium, Owen Sound

## Prince Edward Island

June 24-25	Summerside Highland Gathering, the College of Piping, Summerside
Aug 5	Eldon Highland Games, Eldon
Aug 26	Woodleigh Highland Games, Woodleigh Replicas, Burlington

## Quebec

June 16-18	The International Celtic-Acadian-Cajun Festival, Vaudreuil-Dorion (near Montreal)
Aug 6	Montreal Highland Games, Parc Centre Sportif, Pierrefond

## Saskatchewan

May 21	Regina Highland Games, Regina
June 3-4	Mosaic Tartan Curling Club, Regina
Aug 17-19	Saskatoon Folkfest, Saskatoon

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### A QUICK SMILE:

One blistering hot day when they had guests for dinner, a mother asked her four-year-old son to say the blessing. "But, Mother, I don't know what to say," he protested.

"Oh, just say what you've heard me say," she told him.

Obediently he bowed his little head and said, "Oh, Lord, why did I invite those people here on a hot day like this?"

## *Searching for Connections:*

"I would greatly appreciate any guidance you can give me on how to go about finding the descendants of the members of my family that emigrated to Canada in the 1850's.

My great grandfather's brother, Aeneas D Mackay, set up a shipping business in Hamilton Harbour back in 1858 and I can find a number of references to him and his immediate family in the Hamilton Harbour papers 1826-1901 (Ivan S Brookes).

He had 5 children (Robert Osborne, Aeneas Donald Jr, Adam Brown, Elizabeth MAltby and Eugenie Owen Makay) and it would appear that the family became well known in the Canadian shipping industry well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Any links/contacts you can provide for me to try and follow the family to the present day would be most welcome.

Thanks and Regards"

Bill Todd  
Residing in the UK  
(Son of Mary Every Makay)

I was born Heather Mackay, in Toronto, 1948, to Robert Makay and Mary Lindsay. Robert's father was Archibald Mackay, also of Toronto ON. That's the sum total of my lineage on my father's side. It would mean the world to me to connect with this family.

Can you help me?

Thank you,  
Heather

A Scots boy came home from school and told his mother he had been given a part in the school play. "Wonderful," says the mother, "What part is it?" The boy says "I play the part of the Scottish husband!" The mother scowls and says: "Go back and tell your teacher you want a speaking part."

# *Card of Thanks*

On behalf of the Presbyterian Church in Grenada, I thank you for your generous contribution for the purpose of a lectern.

As you may be aware, the St. Andrews Kirk was 95% destroyed, Knox House and the manse as well as our two schools received substantial damage as a result of the passage of Hurricane Ivan.

Your contribution and others like yours gives us hope that one day our church building will be reconstructed and our people will be worshipping in a beautifully restored Kirk.

We are all eternally grateful.

Sincerely,

Raphael Osbert James (Rev.)  
Minister and Moderato  
Presbyterian Church in Grenada.

A young Scottish lad and lass were sitting on a low stone wall, holding hands, gazing out over the loch. For several minutes they sat silently.

Then finally the girl looked at the boy and said, "A penny for your thoughts, Angus."

"Well, uh, I was thinkin'...perhaps it's about time for a wee kiss."

The girl blushed, then leaned over and kissed him lightly on the cheek.

Then he blushed. The two turned once again to gaze out over the loch.

Minutes passed and the girl spoke again. "Another penny for your thoughts, Angus." "Well, uh, I was thinkin' perhaps it's noo time about time for a wee cuddle."

The girl blushed, then leaned over and cuddled him for a few seconds. Then he blushed. Then the two turned once again to gaze out over the loch.

After a while, she again said, "Another penny for your thoughts, Angus."

"Well, uh, I was thinkin' perhaps it's about time you let me put my hand on your leg."

The girl blushed, then took his hand and put it on her knee. Then he blushed. The the two turned once again to gaze out over the lock before the girl spoke again.

"Another penny for your thoughts, Angus."

The young man glanced down with a furled brow. "Well, noo," he said, "my thoughts are a wee bit more serious this time."

"Really?" said the lass in a whisper, filled with anticipation.

"Aye," said the lad, nodding.

The girl looked away in shyness, began to blush, and bit her lip in anticipation of the ultimate request.

Then he said, "Dae ye nae think it's about time ye paid me the first three pennies?"

## *In Sympathy*

**CATHY MACKAY ROSS** A dear and faithful member of our Clan Mackay Association of Canada has passed on at the age of 84.

Cathy entered the Orangeville Hospital on December 29<sup>th</sup> where she was diagnosed with Ovarian Cancer, later she had a perforated bowel, following that she suffered a stroke and died on January 13, 2006.

Cathy had been Secretary, Newsletter Editor and helped look after our tent at the Fergus Highland Games.

In August 1998, when the 30 members of the Clan Society of Scotland were here, we had Lady Elizabeth Fairbairn install Cathy as an Honorary Member of the Clan Mackay Association of Canada.

Cathy will be remembered for her charm, good humour, her knowledge of Clan Mackay history, her dedication to our Clan and her love for her family.

She leaves her daughter, Sheila Ross of Flesherton ON.

Cathy's brother Ian Mackay of Ross on Wye, a former member of our Clan, passed away in 2005

**MARY MACKAY ELLIOTT**, was a devoted member of Clan Mackay. We loved to hear her Scottish Accent. The deserts she shared with us were excellent, especially her truffle. She showered us with gifts of Heather, food and pictures of her beloved Scotland.

Mary suffered a stroke in February 2005 and later was diagnosed with A L S or Lou Gehrig's Disease. This is a terminal illness with a life expectancy of two to five years. Mary managed to have one year and one month.

Mary died April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at the age of seventy-five. She leaves her husband Norman, sons John and Jamie and their wives and four grandchildren.

A Presbyterian Minister, Rev. Malcolm MacLeod, from the Isle of Lewis, seven miles from where Mary was born and now preaching in Toronto gave the sermon.

**M JEANNE STERNE MACKAY** Wife of the late Doctor Iain Mackay and Mother of Nial and Roderick Mackay and grandmother of Alexander and Colin, died on January 21 at the age of 88 years. She lived 6 years after Doctor Iain, one of our Honorary members. She suffered from Alzheimers Disease. Jeanne was one thirty second a Mackay as her G G grandfather was a Makay and a merchant in Edinburgh. She was an RN and belonged to many organizations.

*“And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying...” Revelation 21:4*

# *The Final Word*

Greetings!

I hope that you have all enjoyed this, my first edition of the Clan Mackay newsletter as Editor. Grace has done a wonderful job of brining the news of clan to all our members and I can only hope to follow her lead.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to making this transition, especially Grace herself who provided me with ideas, materials and some great advice. Thanks also to Mora who has provided much of this information in this issue (and in the next as well!).

As we head into the busy summer months, there are a great many of activities to look forward to, and I, for one, have perused the Highland Games listings to see which ones I can attend. I hope that you all take the opportunity to come out as well!

I would like to encourage everyone to continue making contributions to the newsletter – my contact info is below – as this newsletter is both for the clan and about the clan – without you, there is no newsletter!

Wishing all the best through the summer,

Sarah