



A'Bratach Bhan (*The White Banner*) is published by The Clan Mackay Association of Canada
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Spring Edition

2010

Dear Clanfolk:

When the yellow blooms of the Forsythia tree comes forth and the bulbs pop up, as well the birds flying around you know it is Spring.

While on Vacation I read Holy Terror in the Hebrides by Jeanne M. Dams. She described Haggis this way. Rather interesting. Haggis-- It is a concoction of ground meat (beef or mutton or other things; I'm told it's best not to ask) Onion, spices, and Scotland's ubiquitous oats.

The classic method of preparation is to stuff the mixture into a sheep's stomach (duly cleaned, one assumes) and steam it. It comes out like a sort of hash, with the oats substituting for the potatoes. It's the traditional dish for Hogmanay (New Year's Eve) and served up with great ceremony, they say, brought in stomach and all, and slit open with a sword if one happens to be handy.

Membership in Clan Mackay is still the life line of our organization. Harry McKay is membership chairman and would like all the members to purchase a membership for one of their relations. This would let us increase our base of Mackay Clan Connections.

Again this year we are making up bags for the residence of Our Place Peel. So when they leave the residence they will have a few useful articles to take with them.

Wondering what to call you new daughter or granddaughter, Mikayla or Kayla would keep the Mackay heritage in tact.

FIRE: Fire in Spring has a special meaning in Scotland. In the history of luck, few events can be considered as important as the discovery of fire. In the Scottish Highlands springtime bonfires were inherited from the Druid rather than Christian influences, but the intent of bringing luck by fire is the same there as in other parts of Europe. The Scots believe that the fires of Spring not only deter the influence of witches, but ensure good health for both man and beast. They also believe that the ashes from these fires have the power to neutralize any poison.

Have a great spring, and try to attend some of the Scottish Games this summer, a list will show up in this newsletter.

Sincerely

Mora Mackay Cairns. Morabob@rogers.com 905-820-5715

For sitting by the fire: Drambuie: made from aged malt whisky and honey, this smoky-sweet spirit is fragrant with anise, nutmeg and cloves. Enjoy it along, or mix it with an equal part of Scotch to make the famous rusty nail.

The Spring Mistletoe:

In ancient times, the Druids held a special ceremony five days after the new moon following the Winter Solstice, in which they cut the boughs of the Mistletoe from the sacred Oak tree with a golden sickle. It was important that branches did not touch the ground and become contaminated. Then the priests divided up the boughs into sprigs and distributed them among the people who believed the Mistletoe protected them from storms and evil spirits.

In the Celtic language, Mistletoe means "All Heal". The ancient Celts believed Mistletoe possessed miraculous healing powers and held the soul of the host tree. According to Francis X. Weiser, in his Handbook of Christian Feasts and Customs. In fact, Mistletoe was considered so sacred that even enemies who happened to meet beneath a Mistletoe in the forest would lay down their arms, exchange a friendly greeting, and keep a truce until the following day. From this old custom grew the practice of suspending Mistletoe over a doorway or in a room as a token of good will and peace to all comers, which we seem to do during the Christmas season.

A good book to purchase: Resolis Slope of Light::: by Dr. Jim Mackay, Firichean House, Cullicudden, Dingwall 1V7 8LL, Scotland . About \$19.00

Mora Mackay Cairns

Letters to the Editor:

CHRISTMAS IN AUSTRALIA

Responding to Sarah (vol 27 number 4), may I describe how my family celebrate? As she said, our celebration occurs at the height of our hot summer. My MacKay great-grandmother Anne migrated from Aberdeen in 1883. She and her daughter Agnes (born in Aberdeen) and my mother Marjorie born in Australia in 1903 all cooked hot meals for both midday and evening meals on Christmas Day. Younger generations of Scottish Australians have adopted a more rational way of celebrating. We favour salads and cold meats, ice cream and cold mince pies. After midnight or early morning church services, we relax in the shade or swimming pool.

Our Mediterranean immigrants introduced seafood meals which suit our summer climate. Recent Asian immigrants also prefer lighter meals. Our church holds a Christmas Day lunch with a mix of Asian and cold dishes for people with no family to celebrate with.

On Christmas Day 2009, my wife Loreen (roots in clan Ferguson from Lanark) and I enjoyed lunch with our son and daughter-in-law, who served seafood appetisers, salads and cold cuts, followed by warm (not hot) plum pudding and cream or ice cream. Participants included our youngest grandchild Jack whose middle name MacKay acknowledges the clan origin.

John Stanhope

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#### **Message from the Editor:**

We have started to send the newsletter out by email to those who are interested. Advantages? It's in your mailbox within minutes of being completed

Save paper – read it onscreen or only print the sections you choose. Save the clan costs of printing and mailing

If you would like to receive yours this way, please email [thewebmaster@clanmackay.ca](mailto:thewebmaster@clanmackay.ca) to have your name added to the list.

## Recipes, Recipes, Recipes

### Easy Squares

1 Package (250) Ritz Crackers  
1 Package Skors bars (regular size) they are round balls

1 can Sweetened Condensed Milk  
Use Plastic bag and rolling pin – roll Ritz Crackers fine

Put in a Bowl, add Skors and milk. Mix. Put into a 9x9 greased pan, oven at 325°F for 30 minutes, cut into squares.

### Clapshot:

Enjoy this Scottish specialty year-round with all kinds of hearty meals.

1 lbs (450g) peeled rutabaga, cut in 1" cubes

1 tsp salt

2lbs. (900g) Yukon potatoes

¼ tsp pepper

¼ cup each milk, butter

1 bunch chives, finely chopped.

Cook rutabaga in water for 30 minutes, Drain. Peel potatoes and cut into 1 inch cubes, cook in boiling water for 15 minutes. Drain. Put milk and butter in pan. Heat until butter melts. Remove from heat, add rutabaga and potatoes, mash coarsely with potato masher. Stir in all but 1 tablespoon chives. Scrape into serving bowl and garnish with remaining chives. Serves 6.

### Nova Scotia Oat Cakes:

3 cups rolled oats

1 tsp baking soda

3 cups flour

1 ¼ cups lard

1 cup sugar

¼ cup bacon fat

2 tsp salt

¾ cup cold water

Preheat oven to 350°F. Mix together dry ingredients. Cut in lard and bacon fat. Water and work dough into a ball. Divide into 3 sections. Roll out each section on a well-floured board, slightly thicker than pie crust. Use a knife, cut dough into diamond shapes. Bake on an ungreased baking sheet for 15 minutes or until golden brown.

## The Story of Three Mackays – 3<sup>rd</sup> Installment

### Albert (Bert) MacKay. (1939 - )

Bert MacKay was born on the Lord Lovat Estate as his parents worked for that famous leader of the Scots Commandos. At the outbreak of war, everything changed. His father went off to join the Royal Air Force and Bert was moved to his grandfathers home at an early age. This proved very beneficial, as his world war one veteran was a former sniper and a Scots historian and so Bert was trained to become a marksman at 12 years of age in all manner of weapons from rifles to shotguns to small arms and won regional awards at an early age.

Berts grandmother, born in the Hebrides did not learn English until she was 12 years of age, Gaelic was spoken daily in the household north of Inverness.

The entire family were away at war in various world locations from Hong Kong to the South of England. Bert excelled at school and took technical training in London, England. Hobbies included playing jazz guitar in a 10 piece group and the band played all over Scotland in the days of the Clyde Valley Stompers, Chris Barber, Mick Mulligan, early Beatles whom the band met on its travels, and also played for Princess Margaret at the Annual Ball in Inverness.

In 1964, Bert married a journalist from Inverness and in 1966 he was offered a job in Northern Alberta with the Alberta Power Company. That led to a lengthy career in the energy business. Hobby wise, Bert took an active part in the founding of Big Brothers in Western Canada, A

Director of the Robert Burns Society for 20 years, and a Director of Alberta United Way. He also raised thousands of dollars for the Heritage Park. He was also, pleased to support Amnesty International and presented Canada's Charter of Rights to Regional Schools.

In 2005 after he helped to host the Duke of Edinburgh at Alberta's Centennial and Queens visit, he was awarded the Alberta Centennial Medal for Community Service. Later he was inducted into the prestigious International Volunteers' Guild in London England with 15 others. He continues to write about Robert Burns and assist the elimination of racial discrimination in Canadian Society. Bert and Caroline have 4 grown up kids. One is an Ironman Athlete who travels world wide to events.

He continues to write about Alberta's energy history and chairs a retiree club as well as Scottish Advisory Council (Canada).

He is meeting at Alloway to update himself on Burns history later this year.

"Changes are taking place in Canada" he says. "Some are good and some are not so good...we must be vigilant. Please support Canada's troops".

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**Our Raffle this year is a framed embroidered picture of Thistles, kindly donated by Diane Koobas. This will be drawn at the September Meeting. Tickets are \$2.00 each or 6 for \$10.00. Tickets are included in this message in a separate file.**

**Renewal Form:**

**THE CLAN MACKAY ASSOCIATION OF CANADA**

C/O Mr. Harry McKay, Treasurer

52 Mendota Road, Etobicoke, Ontario, M8Y 1G2

ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

|  |        |      |          |
|--|--------|------|----------|
|  | Street | City | Province |
|--|--------|------|----------|

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Publish on our web directory:      Name       Phone #

E-Mail address       Do not publish

Annual Membership Fee is \$15.00. Total Enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

*Why not consider paying two years at a time?*

Please forward to the above address with your enclosed cheque.

**Thank you for supporting The Clan Mackay Association of Canada.**

<http://www.clanmackay.ca/>

Clan Mackay Society - ROLL OF HONOUR of  
Members of the Mackay Clan Serving in the  
Forces of the British Empire on sea and land,  
during the European War, 1914 – 1915

### Third Listing

Donald, Seaforths (Kilmaluy Schoolhouse, Skye)

Donald, A.B., R.N.R. (Collam, Harris)

Donald, Sgt, 6744, 3<sup>rd</sup> Seaforths

Donald, R.N.V.R. (Oban)

Donald, 4<sup>th</sup> Camerons (Oban)

Donald, R.A.M.C. (Torosay, Mull)

Donald, Gunner, 83326, Royal Field Artillery

Donald, Gunner, 11356, 20<sup>th</sup> Battery, R.F.A.

Donald, 54756, 20<sup>th</sup> Battery, R.F.A

Donald, Chief Petty Officer, Mine Sweepers

Donald, Officer, Training Corps (Edinburgh  
University)

Donald, Pte, Lovat Scouts (Scourie)

Donald, jun., Lovat Scouts (Scourie)

Donald, 2<sup>nd</sup> Seaforths

Donald, 1907, D Coy, 5<sup>th</sup> Argylls, Greenock  
(Wick)

Donald John, Pte, 2876, B Coy, 5<sup>th</sup> Camerons

Donald James, Cpl. 336, A Troop, C Squad, 1<sup>st</sup>  
L.S.

Donald, Trooper, 2364, 4<sup>th</sup> Troop, Berks  
Yeomanry

Donald, Pte, 1601, B Coy, 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion Seaforths

Donald A., H.M.S. Kent (Melness)

Donald A.H., R.A.M.C., 2<sup>nd</sup> Lowland Field  
Ambul.

Duncan, 4175, 4<sup>th</sup> High. Brigade, R.G.A.  
(Lochcarron)

Duncan, Pte, 9<sup>th</sup> A. & S. Highlanders

Duncan, 2500, 2nd Scottish Horse

Duncan, 5190, 1<sup>st</sup> Scottish Horse (Reserve)

Duncan, Lieut, R.A.M.C.

Duncan, Pte, Bute R.G.A. (12 Bridge Street,  
Rothesay)

Duncan, L.Cpl, 53115, 104<sup>th</sup> Field Coy, R.E.

Duncan, Camerons (killed in action)

Duncan, Trooper, 2<sup>nd</sup> Scottish Horse (Rogart)

Duncan, Lovat Scouts, (Scourie)

Duncan, Surgeon-Lieut, H.M.S. Doune

E., Gunner, 31332, R.G.A.

E. Pte, 3835, Liverpool Scottish

E. Pte, 11360, B Coy, 5<sup>th</sup> Camerons

E., L-Cpl, 9901, Camerons (missing)

E.A., Capt, 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion Wiltshires

E..M., Capt, 4<sup>th</sup> Scottish General Hospital

E.R. Capt, 13<sup>th</sup> A. & S. Highlanders

Eric, Asst-Paymaster, Royal Navy (Glenelg,  
Helensburgh)

Edward, Pte, 19275, No. 2 Coy, 16<sup>th</sup> Royal Scots

Edward, Pte, 19562, No. 4 Coy, 16<sup>th</sup> Royal Scots

Ernest, Gunner, 25171, Royal Field Artillery

Ernest Charles, M.D., Red Cross Society

Ernest John, L-Cpl, 49135, 81<sup>st</sup> Field Coy, R.E.

Ewen M., M.M.P. Grantham (4 Dolphin Rd.,  
Glasgow)

F., Pte, 8036, Border Regiment

F., Gunner, 16552, Royal Field Artillery

F., L-Cpl 2682, G. Coy, 5<sup>th</sup> Seaforths (Halkirk)

F., Pte, 4495, Loyal N. Lancashire Regiment  
(Missing)

F., Pte, 17949, 15<sup>th</sup> Royal Scots

F.A., Pte, 2155, C Coy African Infantry

Frank, Pte, 2023, A. & S. Highlanders

Frank, Trooper, 3945, 1<sup>st</sup> Scottish Horse  
(Reserve)

Frederick C., 64947, 6<sup>th</sup> Battery, R.F.A.,

Frederick, Driver, 45578, Royal Field Artillery

Frederick, Lieut-Commander, H.M.S. Harrier

Finlay, 3618, 1<sup>st</sup> Scottish Horse

Fred, Driver, 64779, Royal Field Artillery

Frederick, 45578, 29<sup>th</sup> Battery, Royal Field  
Artillery

G., Pte, 17947, 15<sup>th</sup> Royal Scots

G., Pte, 5008, M Squadron, 2/2<sup>nd</sup> Lovat Scouts

G., Staff-Sgt, 2202, D Squadron, 1<sup>st</sup> Lovat  
Scouts

G., Pte, 9777, Gordons (Prisoner of War)

G., Pte, 19845, No. 5 Coy, 16<sup>th</sup> Royal Scots

G., 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut, Reigate O.T.C.

G., 2677, 4<sup>th</sup> Gordons

G., Cpl, 9<sup>th</sup> Argylls (died of wounds)

G., Pte, 8973, Highland Light Infantry  
(wounded)

G., 23626, Royal Garrison Artillery

G., Pte, 12576, 3<sup>rd</sup> Scottish Rifles

G., Pte, 8359, 8<sup>th</sup> Scottish Rifles

G., 7628, Camerons (wounded)

G., Pte, Seaforths (wounded)

G., Cpl, 446, A Coy, 5<sup>th</sup> Seaforths (Golspie)

## Highland Games - 2010

This information is compiled from various websites on the net. This is not a complete listing of the Festivals and Highland games held in Canada. If you wish to have the information on your event added to the list please contact the webmaster at the address below. Please note, while every effort has been made to maintain the accuracy of this data, the information is subject to change and no guarantee of accuracy can be made. Dates in **Bold have been updated for 2010**. We have been unable to update events which appear in regular print.

### Alberta

- June 13, 2010**      [Grand Prairie Highland Games](#), Macklin Field, Cochrane  
**June 26, 2010**      [Red Deer Highland Games](#), Westerner Grounds, Red Deer  
 June 28              [Edmonton Scottish Society Highland Gathering](#), Grant McEwen Park, Edmonton  
**July 10, 2010**      Fort Edmonton Highland Games, Corner Fox Drive / Whitemud Drive  
**August 28, 2010**    [High River Highland Games](#), Highwood High School, High River  
**September 4, 2010** [Calgary Highland Games](#), Springbank Park for All Seasons, Calgary  
**September 5, 2010** [Canmore Highland Games](#), Centennial Park, Canmore

### British Columbia

- May 22, 2010**      [Comox Valley Highland Games](#), Lewis Park, Courtenay  
**May 22 & 23, 2010** [Victoria Highland Games](#), Esquimalt Road, Victoria  
**June 19, 2010**      [BC Legion Highland Gathering](#), Squamish (Held on the 3rd Saturday in June)  
**June 26, 2010**      [BC \(United\) Scottish Highland Games & Festival](#), Coquitlam (Held on the last Saturday in June)  
**July 10, 2010**      [Kamloops Highland Games](#), Albert McGowan Park, 2025 Summit Drive, Kamloops

### Manitoba

- June 19, 2010**      [Manitoba Highland Gathering](#), Selkirk Park, Selkirk, Manitoba  
**Aug 8-14, 2010**    [Folklorama's Scottish Pavilion at Winnipeg](#), Glenwood Community Centre, 27 Overton Street, Winnipeg

### New Brunswick

- July 23-25, 2010**    [New Brunswick Highland Games](#), Old Government House, Fredericton

### Nova Scotia

- July 1, 2010**              Gathering of the Clans, Pugwash (Held July 1)  
**July 1-8, 2010**          [The Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo](#), Halifax  
**July 17, 2010**          [Halifax Highland Games & Scottish Festival](#), Garrison Grounds, Halifax  
**July 4-11, 2010**        [Antigonish Highland Games](#), Antigonish  
**August 13-15, 2010** [Hector Festival](#), Pictou

- August 5-8, 2010** [Festival of the Tartans](#), New Glasgow  
 September 9-10 Heart of the Valley Highland Games, Middleton  
**October 8-16, 2010** [Celtic Colours International Festival](#), Cape Breton Island

## Ontario

- May 22 & 23, 2010** [Greater Sudbury Celtic Festival & Highland Games](#), (Venue to be confirmed)  
**June 5, 2010** [Celtfest Callander](#), Callander Legion, Callendar  
 June 9-11 Brockville Celtic Festival, St Lawrence Park & Hardy Park, Brockville  
**June 12, 2010** Georgetown Highland Games, Georgetown Fairgrounds, Georgetown (Held the 2nd Saturday in June)  
 June 16-18 Windsor Celtic Festival, Civic Terrace, Windsor  
 June 19-20 Veterans Memorial Highland Games, Prescott  
**June 26, 2010** [Cobourg Highland Games](#), Donegan Park, Cobourg.  
**Jul 2-4, 2010** [Kincardine Scottish Festival and Highland Games](#), Victoria Park, Kincardine.  
**July 10, 2010** [Haliburton Highland Games](#), Head Lake Park, Haliburton Village.  
**July 16-18, 2010** Orillia Scottish Festival, Couchiching Beach Park, Orillia  
**July 16-17, 2010** [Cambridge Highland Games](#), Churchill Park, Cambridge  
**July 24-25, 2010** [Highlands of Durham Games](#), Elgin Park, Uxbridge  
**Jul 30-31, 2010** [Glengarry Highland Games](#), Agricultural Grounds, Maxville  
**August 6-8, 2010** [Celtic Roots Festival](#), Lion's Harbour Park, Goderich  
**August 13-15, 2010** [Fergus Highland Games & Scottish Festival](#), Fergus Community Centre, Fergus  
 June 15-16 Sarnia Highland Games, Centennial Park, Sarnia  
 August 22 [North Lanark Highland Games](#), Almonte Fairgrounds, Almonte  
**September 10-11, 2010** Trenton Scottish/Irish Festival, Buster Alyea Park, Trenton  
 September 8 Fort Erie Celtic Festival, Old Fort Erie, Fort Erie  
 September 19 [Owen Sound Celtic Festival](#), OSCVI Auditorium, Owen Sound

## Prince Edward Island

- August 2 Eldon Highland Games, Eldon

## Quebec

- August 1, 2010** [Montreal Highland Games](#), Parc Centre Sportif, Pierrefond

## Saskatchewan

- May 23, 2010** [Regina Highland Games](#), Regina  
**August 19-21, 2010** [Saskatoon Folkfest](#), Saskatoon

## Wisconsin

- September 3-5, 2010** [Wisconsin Highland Games](#), Waukesha, Wisconsin