

THE SCOTS CANADIAN

Issue II

Newsletter of the Scottish Studies Society

Winter 1998-99

Michael MacMillan to receive the 1999 Scot of the Year Award

Oscar winner and a Canadian Titan in the world of movies and television, Michael MacMillan has been named as the 1999 Scot of the Year by the Board of Governors of the Scottish Studies Society. It was a unanimous choice, something rare for Scots, in Canada or elsewhere!

MacMillan, who wears the kilt whenever possible and enjoys a single malt or two, will be honoured at the Scot of the Year dinner, sponsored by the Scottish Studies Society, at Toronto's posh Granite Club on Thursday, April 27, 1999. The Granite Club is located at 2350 Bayview Ave., just north of Lawrence Ave., East.

This is the Seventh Annual dinner, held to celebrate Tartan Day. And it is an event that you, as a member of the Scottish Studies Foundation and the Scottish Studies Society,

will not want to miss. Along with Michael MacMillan and other celebrity guests, there will be the bagpipers, Scottish dancing, music and a magnificent array of draw prizes.

The dinner is a black tie or formal Highland dress affair. Tickets are \$150 each or \$1,200 for a table of eight. To purchase tickets or a full table, contact Alan McKenzie, 580 Rebecca Street, Oakville, Ontario L6K 3N9, or phone him at (905) 842-2106.

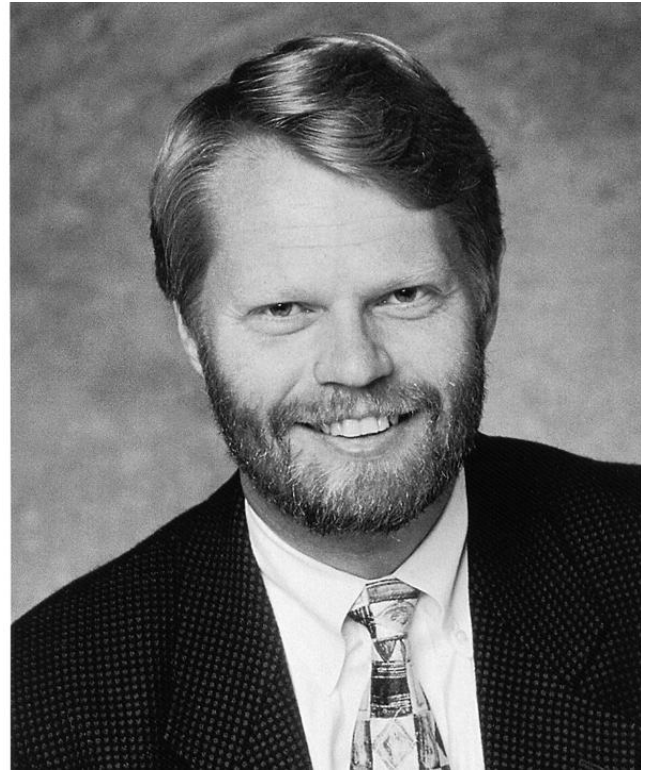
Proceeds from the dinner are donated to the Scottish Studies

Foundation to further its goal to establish a Chair of Scottish Studies at the School for Scottish Studies at the University of Guelph.

Presenting the prestigious award to MacMillan will be the 1998 Scot of the Year, John Cleghorn, Chairman and CEO of the Royal Bank of Canada. Also expected to attend will be past Scots of the Year: Hon. Henry N. R. (Hal) Jackman, former Lieutenant Governor of Ontario and Chancellor of the University of Toronto [1997], the Hon. Donald S. Macdonald [1996], broadcaster Lloyd Robertson [1995], the Hon. Madame Bertha Wilson [1994] and Major-General Lewis MacKenzie [1993]

Michael MacMillan, 42, is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Alliance Atlantis Communications --- a multi-million dollar company which created headlines from coast to coast last July. MacMillan's Atlantis Communications Ltd. joined forces with Alliance Communications to merge into a single \$850-million entity, Canada's largest television and movie producing company.

Born in Scarborough, MacMillan graduated from Upper Canada College with



Michael MacMillan, 1999 Scot of the Year

honours, and from Queen's University with an Honour BA in Film Studies. With two friends, he launched Atlantis Films Ltd. in 1978 with a total capital of \$300 -- their life savings! In less than a decade it developed into a critically acclaimed Canadian production house that has won a bevy of awards, including a 1984 Oscar for high-quality, family-oriented film entertainment.

All in all, MacMillan and Atlantis have produced 750 films and television program since 1978. MacMillan, who lives in Toronto, has been married to lawyer Cathy Spoel for 19 years and is the proud father of three children. He is on the Board of Governors of the Canadian Stage Company, Toronto East General Hospital Foundation, the Canadian Film and Production Association and is vice-chairman of the Canadian Film Centre. Michael MacMillan, a worthy son of Canada and proud of his Scottish heritage.

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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Empire Sandy cruise a great success

It was a lot of fun --- that's the best way to describe the September cruise on the "Empire Sandy," Canada's largest sailing ship, out of the Toronto Harbour. The occasion, sponsored by the Scottish Studies Society, was to celebrate the arrival of the "Hector" in Nova Scotia in 1773 with a full load of Scottish immigrants to settle in Canada. All proceeds from the event are going to assist in the development of the School of Scottish Studies at the University of Guelph.

Only one problem: the cruise of just over two hours was too short. Most of us could have spent the whole day just cruising around the lake under full sail. The weather was magnificent with lots of sun and just a slight breeze. Perfect conditions for sitting back and enjoying a brew or two, or even a wee dram.

And overhead, there was the roar of the many aircraft taking part in the spectacular CNE Air Show. At one point, Canada's famed Snowbirds seem to pass the Empire Sandy's tall masts within inches as they whizzed overhead. They really missed us by much more but it sure felt close. It was a deafening but enjoyable experience. There were two cruises. And both were full. The 270 persons on each cruise were treated to outstanding piping by Bill Cockburn and John Wakefield, two of Canada's finest, along with the splendid dancing of the Georgina Finlay Dancers.

It was a grand event, enjoyed by all. And it will happen again next year --- same time, same place, and, hopefully, the same price. It was a real bargain at \$15 for adults and \$8 for children. Members of the Scottish Studies Foundation get first crack at tickets for the 1999 cruise on Labor Day, Sept. 6 ---



*Piper Bill Cockburn
welcomes everyone on board*



Scottish Country Dancing on the Empire Sandy

for information and ticket reservations, contact Alan McKenzie at (905)-842-2106 or Paul Thomson at (905) 278-5022.

Spring Colloquium set for March 13

The Spring Colloquium at the University of Guelph will feature a series of lectures by students in the School of Scottish Studies on various topics on Saturday, March 13, in association with College Royal, the university's annual open house. The Colloquium probably will be held in the MacKinnon Building --- room number and topics will be announced and available on the Scottish Studies web site in the very near future.

For further information, contact any Governor of the Scottish Studies Foundation or Elizabeth Ewan at the School for Scottish Studies, Room 235, MacKinnon Building, College of Arts, University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario N1G 2W1; or phone at (519) 824-4120, ext. 3209; or e-mail her at ewan@uoguelph.ca

Videos for Sale

The Scottish Studies Society has two excellent videos for sale. One is a one-hour film on the Massacre of Glencoe movie, starring famed British actor James Robertson Justice. Actually, this video has great historical significance --- it is reasonably accurate, even though produced by a Campbell. It was the last movie ever made by Justice, he died shortly afterwards. It was made in the 1970s.

The second one-hour video, also made in the mid-70, is titled "Highland Regiments of

Canada" and was produced by the Fraoch Eilean Canadian Foundation and the Macdonald Stewart Foundation. It depicts the last remaining 16 kilted regiments in the Canadian army, a sharp drop from the 42 kilted regiments in World War II.

Including postage and handling, the Glencoe video sells for \$25.00 while the Regiment video is \$20.00. All profits from the sale of these videos will be donated to the Scottish Studies Foundation. For further information and/or purchase of the videos, contact Alan McKenzie, 580 Rebecca St., Oakville, Ont. L6K 3N9; phone (905) 842-2106.

SSF Governor receives Order of Canada Award

The Hon. Alastair Gillespie, P.C., a Governor of the Scottish Studies Foundation, had been appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada by Governor General Romeo LeBlanc.

Alastair, a former Liberal cabinet minister, was cited for his political and business careers and for his long-standing community service. The order, established in 1967, recognizes outstanding achievement and service in several fields. A ceremony to honour Alastair and other recipients and to present his insignia of the order will be held at Rideau Hall in Ottawa in the near future.

Generous donation received from UDV

UDV Canada Inc. has donated \$10,000 to the Scottish Studies Foundation to help further our efforts with the School of Scottish Studies at the University of Guelph.

UDV Canada is a subsidiary of United Distillers and Vintners in the U.K. Their

range of products include Smirnoff, Tanqueray, Gordon's London Dry Gin, Silent Sam Vodka, Baileys, Johnnie Walker, Gibson's Finest, Rhum, Carioca Rum and some of Scotland's finest malts, such as Cardhu.

UDV Canada Inc. also publishes a most interesting newsletter --- "Slàinte" for the Society of Scotch Connoisseurs. For information on this tasty society, phone toll-free 1-800-670-8811 or in the Toronto area (416) 503-0534, or for more information on Scotch whisky in general visit their Internet site at <http://www.scotch.com>

Our Club luncheons at Bow and Arrow

Make a date to attend the twice-monthly "Our Club" lunches 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.

The name actually, according to legend, was "Hour Club" for the time you would take for a quick lunch, a quick dram or brew and some conversation before getting back to work. Then it was slanged to "OoouR Club" until it reached its present stage --- but no matter the name, the lunches are a lot of fun and well worth the \$15 tab. The conversation and good food are well worth it. And they are for a good cause -- profits go to the Scottish Studies Foundation.

For more information contact Gina Erichsen at (416) 928-0780.

The Emigrant's Guide to North America

The Scottish Studies Foundation has purchased a few copies of "The Emigrant's Guide to North America" by Robert MacDougall and Edited by Elizabeth Thompson. This early guide to emigration was written in 1841 and originally in Gaelic. It attempted to give an accurate picture of Canada for Highland Scots, including preparation for the trip. The illustrated book serves as a type of travelogue, describing particular sights and sounds found by the author on his way to his ultimate destination, Goderich, in the Huron Tract.

"I don't know where else you could find such riches of information and observation so compactly presented, about this exhilarating and trying time in our past. Or get so fresh a sense of a real man of that time, with his energy and sweeping opinions and flourishing rhetoric. The translator and the editor have done a splendid job." commented Alice Munro.

Members of the Scottish Studies Foundation may purchase a copy of this

interesting book by sending a cheque for \$18.95, payable to the Scottish Studies Foundation, to Alan McKenzie, 580 Rebecca Street, Oakville, Ontario L6K 3N9.

New additions to the Scottish Collection at Guelph.

The University of Guelph Library recently received donations of books for the Scottish Collection.

One is a copy of a new book written by the Treasurer and former Chairman of the Scottish Studies Foundation, Alan McKenzie. The book, "An Old Mackenzie Genealogy and a new look at the Fitzgerald Connection," was written specifically for the Clan MacKenzie Society and deals with the historic origins of the Clan.

The second book is another genealogy report, published in hard cover, by Dr John A. McLachlin and donated by him to the Scottish Studies Foundation who have passed it on to the University of Guelph. The genealogy, which is well illustrated with photographs, deals mainly with Dr. McLachlin's two great grandfathers, Archie McLachlin 1799-1869 and Alexander McLarty 1786-1872.

Another book is "Clan Fraser, A history celebrating over 800 years of the Family in Scotland" [1197] by Flora Marjory Fraser, 20th Lady Saltoun, Chief of Clan Fraser. Published for the 1997 Fraser Gathering, it gives a concise overview of the history, including numerous genealogical charts of the principle Fraser families and their cadet branches

Foundation donates Arbroath chemist's notebooks

The Scottish Studies Foundation recently was approached by the faculty at Guelph for financial assistance in acquiring a six-volume collection of records by David Burns, a dispensing chemist in Arbroath, Scotland.

These unusual books contain information on the prescriptions which Mr. Burns filled and lists the names and addresses of each person, what the prescription was and the instructions for use.

The six volumes are 1889-1892, 1892-1899, 1899-1904, 1904-1913, from 1913, and a final volume detailing prescriptions for the "poor," 1910-1918. The volumes detail over 20,000 prescriptions.

The University of Guelph was particularly interested in obtaining these volumes for the Scottish collection. They will be of interest to students and scholars working in a number of inter-related fields of modern Scottish social history, including the history of medicine, the history of science, and the treatment of the

poor in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

One of the graduate students is considering using the volumes as the basis for her Masters' thesis. The Board of Governors of the Foundation approved the expenditure of 650 Pounds Sterling to acquire this valuable collection.



Rosie Donovan

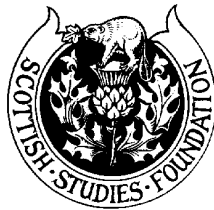
Scots-Canadian photo essay now in print

A recommended book is "Ex Patria" by photographer Rosie Donovan of London, Ontario. Her recently published book deals with 40 expatriate Scots now living in Canada, describing their feelings about leaving Scotland to make a new life in Canada.

For some, like Donovan, had no idea they were leaving for good; the trip to Canada started as a working vacation, a holiday. For others, they knew they were uprooting themselves, leaving family and friends.

Donovan is a Scottish-born photographer who has lived in Canada for 26 years. She studied photography at Beal Art School and the University of Western Ontario. She is a passionate observer of people, with an uncanny knack of capturing the essence of her subjects, meticulously posing them to reflect their personalities, lifestyles and interests. She works exclusively in black and white, using available light.

To purchase copies of "Ex Patria" make a cheque out to Rosie Donovan for \$29.95, including postage and shipping. Send orders to: 9 Prospect Ave., London, Ont. N6B 3A4. For further information, contact Rosie at (519) 673-0334



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