

# THE SCOTS CANADIAN

Issue XIII

Newsletter of the Scottish Studies Society: ISSN No. 1491-2759

Summer 2002

## All aboard the Empire Sandy!

10th Anniversary Tall Ship  
Cruise planned for Sunday,  
September 1

Once again, the crew of the Empire Sandy, Canada's tallest sailing ship, will be hoisting the sails to get the Scottish Studies Society's annual cruise underway on Sunday September 1.

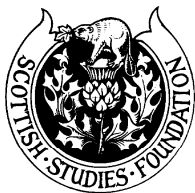
Almost to the day, this will mark the tenth anniversary of our first Tall Ship Cruise, designed to commemorate the arrival of the Scots pioneers in Pictou, Nova Scotia, back in 1773 on board the old ship Hector.



*The Empire Sandy getting ready to sail at last year's event*

### *Scots Wha Hae*

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



#### THE SCOTTISH STUDIES FOUNDATION

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The intrepid emigrants who made that historic and difficult voyage are a major part of Canada's pioneer heritage. They encouraged their fellow clansmen to follow and help change Canada from a backwoods colony into a nation that is now the envy of the world. So let's not forget them!

As in the past, we ask you to dig out your old tartan or plaid clothing or anything that might look a bit pioneerlike and come down to Harbourfront in Toronto to help us recreate the pioneer spirit! It's an event for all age groups. And don't forget to tell your friends!

We have arranged to give you a taste of the Scots experience with the pipes, fiddle music and other entertainment on board the ship. It's a great time to be out on Lake Ontario and if you are looking for a photo or video opportunity this is it!

Food and beverages are available on board or you can bring a picnic snack if you wish.

The Empire Sandy gives you a great sense of fun and adventure as its billowing white sails on three lofty masts glide you along Toronto's spectacular waterfront, beyond Toronto Island and out into Lake Ontario.

We look forward to seeing you on board!

## CRUISE INFORMATION

There will actually be two cruises, one boarding at 11:00 a.m., departing at 11:30 a.m., the other boarding at 2:00 p.m., departing at 2:30 p.m.

Please note that the Empire Sandy will leave from Pier 6 at Marina Quay West, between Portland St. and Lower Spadina.

For more information please contact:

Ed Patrick (416) 964-8180  
Gina Erichsen (416) 928-0760  
Paul Thomson (905) 278-5022

Ticket Prices are as follows:  
Adults: \$15.00 in advance,  
\$20.00 at the dockside  
Children: \$8.00

## Letter from the Chair

Dear Fellow Members,

It gives me great pleasure to write to you again, first of all to thank you for your ongoing support and secondly, for all the good wishes we have received.

As I mentioned to you last time, our funds are continuing to grow and, therefore, it was with great pride that the Board of Directors was able to pledge an additional \$250,000 to the University of Guelph's Campaign for Scottish Studies. This raises the total amount pledged by the Foundation to \$750,000 and when this is coupled with the funds received directly by the University it brings us over the \$1.5 million mark bringing us ever closer to our goal of raising the \$2 million needed to establish the Chair. So a very big thank-you indeed to all concerned.

I would also like to thank Gordon Hepburn who headed up the team responsible for organizing the Society's Tartan Day Dinner which took place on April 24.

Aided by Duncan Campbell, Alan McKenzie and Iain MacMillan the event made for a wonderful evening and it was a great honour to have top Canadian writer, Alistair MacLeod, as our Scot of the Year.

This event would not be possible without the generous support of many of our sponsors and in this regard I would like to thank Alliance-Atlantis, the major sponsor, as well as Wm. Grant & Sons, the Colony Hotel and Sony of Canada. And to Hector Russell Scottish Imports for donating the actual Award.

A special thank you is also due to the talented performers who entertained everyone throughout the evening: Sandy MacIntyre and his Trio, the 48th Highlanders Pipes & Drums, French-Canadian Scottish folk singer Danielle Bourre and to George Walker for his lively and dramatic *Address to the Haggis*. And to Gordon Hepburn himself who performed the role of Master of Ceremonies.

As we move into the summer season, the various Highland Games that are being held throughout the country are a continual reminder of the strong Scottish heritage that is being maintained by many dedicated individuals and organizations.

Having just returned

from three weeks in the Scottish Highlands, I was once again struck by the strong connection that exists between Scotland and Canada. Ruins of former crofts in now-desolate glens were a constant reminder of the times of the "clearances" when landowners shipped poor tenants off to North America to make way for more lucrative revenues from sheep farming.

However, the big Scots-Canadian story in the news when I was there had a much more hi-tech aspect to it. I'm talking about the dramatic rescue on May 20 of Scots explorer David Mill by a Canadian team.

Described by himself as one of the last "true" explorers, Mill was attempting to be the first man to walk to the North Pole solo and unaided.

He had been travelling using a pulk, a sledge which could also be used as a small boat, to cross water since leaving Ward Hunt Island, Canada's most northern point, in March.

But after more than 50 days, rising temperatures caused ice packs to break up earlier than expected, leaving him stranded on an ice floe miles from land.

He had just seven days before the next full moon would change the landscape dramatically, making it impossible for a plane to land and sentencing him to certain death.

Determined to find a way to escape, Mill used his sledge to mark out a 400-yard runway in the ice, took a digital photo of it and e-mailed it by satellite phone to a rescue team in Canada.

There was no doubt that his mobile phone saved his life. Mill's e-mailed imagery showed the rescue team from Resolute Bay exactly where they had to land. And thanks to the rescue



Kathie Macmillan presenting Alistair MacLeod with the Scot of the Year 2002 Award. Kathie was the recipient of the award last year.

pilot's 26-years' flying experience in the Arctic there were few problems in getting off the floe again.

As this story appears to have had little or no coverage in the Canadian press this just speaks to the modesty of the courageous people who are at work in Canada behind the scenes taking danger in their stride.

It is the spirit of people like that who made it across the Atlantic on the old ship Hector and as you will have seen on the front page, we will be commemorating their voyage on the Empire Sandy on September 1. For those of you who are able to come along, we extend a very warm welcome. And to all of you across the country and overseas, once again, on behalf of the Foundation, thank you again for all your wonderful encouragement and support.

David Hunter



Scots explorer David Mill



Professor Kevin James, Alistair MacLeod and University of Guelph President, Mordechai Rosanski

# *Tartan Day Dinner 2002*

## *A night to Remember*

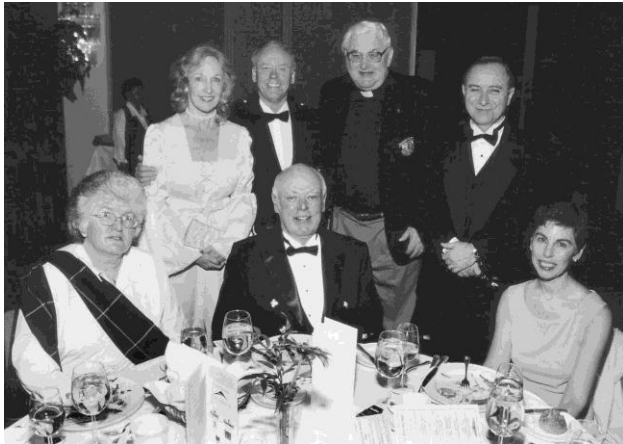
On the banks of the meandering Don River, in what a 1920s issue of the Nation Geographic once called the "Highlands of Toronto," the sound of the pipes could be heard across the still air of an April evening. Closer inspection would have revealed this to be emanating from the Granite Club on the occasion of the Society's Annual Tartan Day Dinner.

Alistair MacLeod, our Scot of the Year 2002, was in familiar company -- the organizers had made sure that Sandy MacIntyre and Father MacLellan, two of Alastair's old school pals from Canada's East Coast, were there for the event.

As you can see, a great time was had by one and all.

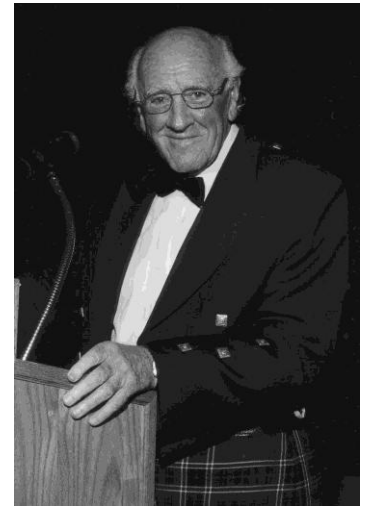


The Pipes and Drums of the 48th Highlanders



Seated: Anita and Alistair MacLeod and Mrs. Rosanski  
Standing: Jeanne Isley, SSF Chair David Hunter, Father MacLellan and Dr. Mordechai Rosanski

Having done a magnificent job as Master of Ceremonies at the Tartan Day Dinner, Gordon is now putting his expertise to organizing next year's Burns Night. Scheduled for Saturday, January 18, 2003 at Toronto's Colony Hotel it promises to be another memorable evening. Gordon is taking advance bookings, so please call him at 905-881-5780 to reserve!



Gordon Hepburn



No mere "seventh inning stretch" here -- everyone is up and dancing between courses!



George Walker giving a highly animated "Address to the Haggis"

# "Not Proven"

## *a peculiarly Scots verdict*

by Angus MacCulloch

Scotland has a completely separate legal system from that of England and Wales. This stems from Scotland's independence before 1707 and is enshrined in the Act of Union.

Scots law originates from two main sources -- enacted law and common law. Enacted law has the authority of a body with legislative powers. Enacted law can come from many sources, some include Royal proclamation or order, Acts of Parliament (either the old Scots Parliament or the UK Parliament), the European Community Treaty or European legislation, or local authority by-laws.

Common law derives its authority from the courts and is based on Scots legal tradition. Both forms of law have equal authority and often operate in the same areas. Under the theory of the "supremacy of Parliament," as partially recognised in Scotland, enacted law will override common law, but common law cannot override an enacted law.

Common law develops through the judgements of the courts. To predict how it will deal with a given situation one must examine the decisions of the courts in similar cases. Common law initially derived from the Roman law, as codified under the Emperor Justinian, and canon law, the law of the church.

One of the other sources of law was the writings of eminent legal scholars such as Lord Stair, Erskine and Bell, Hume, and Alison.

The Scottish courts separate into two



**Madeleine Smith**

Charged on July 9, 1857, with two attempts of murder by arsenic poisoning and one charge of murder by arsenic, she was found "not guilty" of one of the attempted poisoning charges, and "not proven" of the other attempt and of the murder charge.

streams, those that deal with criminal cases, and those that deal with civil cases. Criminal law regulates the relationship between the individual and the state. Civil law regulates relationships between individuals.

The criminal courts are, in ascending order of authority: The District Court, the Sheriff Court, and the High Court of Justiciary.

The civil courts are, in ascending order of authority: The Sheriff Court, the Court of Session, and the House of Lords.

The doctrine of "precedent" means that the decision of a higher court will be binding on a lower court.

The High Court of Justiciary and the House of Lords are not bound by their own decisions. The decision of an English court is never binding upon a Scottish court. The decisions of the House of Lords sitting as an English court will be of a persuasive nature in a Scottish case.

There are also specialist courts dealing with particular areas, such as industrial disputes, land matters, criminal charges against children, and heraldry.

The courts have a long history. The Sheriff courts date back to the 12th century, the Court of Session was established in 1532, and the High Court of Justiciary was established in 1672.

Scottish judges will sit on both criminal and civil courts, although some may be seen as specialising in particular areas. The judges are appointed by the Crown from practicing lawyers, both solicitors and advocates.

The "Not Proven" verdict in Scots law is unusual in allowing three alternative verdicts in a criminal trial. Although the "Not Proven" verdict is known, incorrectly, as the third verdict, it has a 300-year history in Scotland.

Even though it has a long history it has been the subject of criticism since 1827 when Sir Walter Scott, novelist and Sheriff, described the not proven verdict as... "that bastard verdict, not proven."

The verdict of not proven is essentially one of acquittal. In all respects the verdicts of not guilty and not proven have exactly the same legal effects. In practice it is thought that a verdict of not proven simply means that the judge or jury have reasonable doubt as to the accused's guilt.

It is interesting to note that the not proven verdict is used in one third of acquittals by juries, and in one fifth of acquittals in non-jury trials. Because of the higher number of non-jury trials ninety per cent of all not proven verdicts are returned in such cases. It is generally thought that the verdict gives juries, and judges, an option between not guilty and guilty where they feel that the charges have not been proved but they equally cannot say the accused is "not guilty" because of its moral connotations.

Current challenge to the verdict stems from the dissatisfaction and feelings of injustice suffered by the families of victims of crime. Political influence has also been apparent. In 1993 George Robertson tabled a Private Members Bill to abolish the verdict. The legal profession has been divided over the issue most of this century.

A number of eminent judges have attacked the verdict. One saying that it was theoretically and historically indefensible, Lord Moncrieff in 1906. Others have supported it. In 1964 Lord Justice General Clyde stated that... "for upwards of 200 years a not proven verdict has been available... and no convincing argument has been advanced to justify its elimination from our law."

One view from England helped to explain the reason for the not proven verdict. Judge Gerald Sparrow wrote... "I have often thought that the distinction typifies the different spirit of Scottish and English law: the Scottish being the more logical, the English more sporting."

The original verdicts in Scots law were "culpable" and "convict"; or "cleanse." Guilty and not guilty were introduced by Cromwell during the Usurpation, when he imposed English judges on Scotland. After the reformation the Scots courts reverted to asking judges to find whether the facts in the indictment were "proven" or "not proven."

The "not guilty" verdict was reintroduced in 1723 in the trial of Carnegie of Findhorn for the murder of the Earl of Strathmore. In 1975 the Thomson Committee which examined Scottish criminal procedure recommended that the three verdict system be retained.

In 1993 the Scottish Office said that... "it was not convinced that there was enough groundswell of dissatisfaction from the public and, crucially, from the legal profession" to justify any scrutiny of the not proven verdict. Most recently in 1994 the Government in a White Paper, *Firm but Fair*, dealing, inter alia, with the verdict made no proposals for any changes as in the absence of "a considerable weight of informed opinion against the verdict" the three verdict system should be retained. It would appear that there is no immediate prospect that there will be any change in the current three verdict system.

A "not proven" verdict is an acquittal. Like a case where a "not guilty" verdict is returned, the accused cannot be tried a second time for the crime charged, and is able to walk free from the court with his innocence established.

"Guilty" and "not guilty" are the same as in English law, but in Scotland if a defendant is guilty of murder he or she must be sentenced to life in prison. ■

# One Came Back

by Philip Gray

*Born in Scotland, Philip Gray is a journalist now living in Canada but in World War Two he found himself as Captain of the crew of a Lancaster bomber as the RAF took the war right into the heart of Germany.*

War is like an honest politician. Its coming is so unreal it catches everyone off balance. The two of us, Canada and I, were classic examples of those off balance.

Before the outbreak of a fracas that would come to be known as World War Two, I was a country boy, my township lost along the byways of the Kingdom of Fife in Scotland. Summer holidays were bliss for our clique of five small troublemakers, the Fearless Five. Running barefoot with cuts and bruises everywhere, we would chase rabbits across the harvest fields, scoop frog's eggs and newts from none too healthy looking ponds at the rubbish dump, live dangerously at the local sewage complex, and nick apples from the minister's orchard. Trouble? Of course we were trouble. It was expected.

By 1939 Canada was moving out of the Great Depression, with its people feeling grief on all fronts. They need not have worried. After the holocaust of 1939-1945 had run its course, Canada was a wealthy land with its industrial potential fully established.

My personal wealth hadn't changed by the time the guns fell silent, but my one and only youth had gone forever. The early 1940s was no time to be twenty-one.

I can still remember my thoughts of disbelief as I strapped myself into the pilot seat of an operational Lancaster bomber for the first time. How had a reticent country boy like me finished up in a lethal situation like this? The day before yesterday I had been chasing rabbits across a field. Today here I was a Captain of Aircraft of Bomber Command, about to reduce selected Deutsche real estate to rubble, 12,000-pounds of

dynamite dangling inches beneath my toes.

Was this bizarre set-up a reality, or had I slipped through to the other side of the mirror? The unmistakable growl of four Rolls Royce Merlin engines quickly answered that one.

Up to that point my journey to reach the seat of that bomber had been fun, with one criterion holding firm all the way. I kept bumping into Canada and Canadians. True, there would be one minor hiccup before I could place my destiny on track.

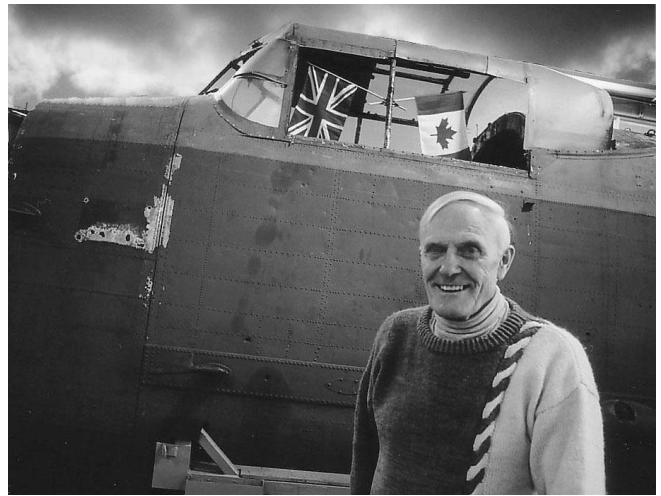
I was one of 1,000 aircrew cadets, all sure they were potential Billy Bishops, set to leave Manchester, England on a Canadian draft. Canada had scores of airfields spread across its land, turning out 85% of Britain's wartime pilots. Rhodesia and the U.S.A. accounted for the other 15%. A bubble-like blister on my waistline, already sheltering under a piece of Elastoplast, saw me removed from the draft. I had shingles.

One month later I joined the next draft bound for the U.S.A. Our group of hopefuls crossed the Atlantic in the fastest liner afloat at the time - the Queen Mary. For fellow passengers we had large numbers of German and Italian prisoners-of-war, plus Winston Churchill no less. Docking in New York we were hustled to Moncton, New Brunswick.

There we became virtual Americans, being kitted out totally in G.I. uniforms, right down

to socks, shoes, and underwear. The one piece of Britain retained was our wedge cap, complete with its famous white flash.

Our U.S. destination was Number 4 British Flying Training School, Falcon Field, Mesa, Arizona. As we were numbered Course 16 our arithmetic told us that the six British flying schools in the U.S. had been churning



*Philip Gray at the British Isles Show at Exhibition Place in Toronto last March. Behind him is the hulk of one of the 430 Lancasters built in the Victory Aircraft factory in Toronto. Two out of every three of the 21-year-old young men who wheeled these Lancasters into the sky never reached age 22.*

out pilots for the Royal Air Force long before the United States had entered the fray. Ah well!

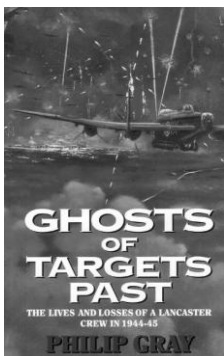
From and to the snows of Moncton and from and to the searing heat of Arizona required a six-day train ride either way. Back in the U.K. I converted onto the light twin Airspeed Oxford, followed soon by the much heavier Wellington bomber.

My fly-for-yourself days were over. From then on I would have the added responsibility of a crew. Along with the Wellington came a crew of five with the sixth member, the Engineer, joining us as I moved over to the four-engine Avro Lancaster at Heavy Conversion Unit (HCU). Ten crews arrived at HCU but ours was the only one to move to an operational squadron. The reason for such elite selection may be found in the chapter of my book entitled *If We Can Get Away With This*.

Moving to a front line squadron of Bomber Command's 3 Group was like following Alice down that rabbit hole to Wonderland. Our leader, Sir Arthur Harris, ensured that his crews received the best. They in turn would have flown through the gates of hell for this commander. All he had to do was ask. Our squadron boss was Canadian Wing Commander Giles, a much-respected pilot who placed himself on the Battle Order regularly.

In case you wondered, oh yes, all members of our Fearless Five grubby little boys answered the call to arms, and I can see them any time I want. Their names are right there on the War Memorial in the Station Square at Ladybank in Fife. I was the only one of the five to physically return home.

We meet many people as we journey through life, but only true friends leave their footprints on our hearts. ■



Philip Gray's book is an invitation, encouraging you to have a closer look at the brutal world of Bomber Command during World War Two. In an engaging yet brutally frank style, Gray reveals the true relationships between himself and his team, and his team members. It is as much a book about the interaction of people in terrifying situations as about bombing and war itself.

## Fall Colloquium set for Saturday September 28

The Fall Colloquium of the Scottish Studies Program explores the theme of *Re-Inventing the Scottish Tradition*, and has issued a "Call for Papers" exploring symbols of Scottish nationhood, from William Wallace to the kilt, the role of the Scottish Diaspora in developing Scottish ideas of nationhood, and related topics.

Dr. Graeme Morton of the Department of Economic and Social History will deliver the keynote address at the University of Edinburgh. His recent book *William Wallace: Man and Myth* (Sutton Publishing, 2001), explores the making of the mythology of William Wallace.

Recent scholarly attention has focussed on the evolution of national cultural symbols, "founding mythologies" and cultural emblems. This year's semi-annual colloquium will explore representations of Scottish history and tradition and will feature papers which critically examine:

- \* The development and adoption of emblems of Scottish nationhood, such as the bagpipes and the kilt;

- \* The role of the Diaspora in nurturing symbols of Scottish identity;

- \* The role of language(s), religion, education and individuals (such as Robert the Bruce, William Wallace, Robert Burns and Walter Scott) as well as other institutions and figures central to Scottish cultural self-definition.

The Colloquium will be held on Saturday 28 September at the University of Guelph. Registration will be available later in the summer and all are invited and encouraged to attend!

Details are available through the Scottish Studies Office at [scottish@uoguelph.ca](mailto:scottish@uoguelph.ca) and at the website:  
<http://www.uoguelph.ca/history/scotstudy/>

### *William Wallace: Man and Myth* by Graeme Morton

Reviewed by Andrew Fisher

William Wallace emerged from obscurity with his brutal murder of the English sheriff of Lanark in May 1297. That September, he and Andrew Murray defeated an English army at Stirling Bridge, an astonishing achievement.

In response to a demand for surrender at Stirling, Wallace said: 'Tell your people that we are not here to make peace but to do battle to defend ourselves and liberate our kingdom. Let them come on, and we shall prove this in their very beards'.

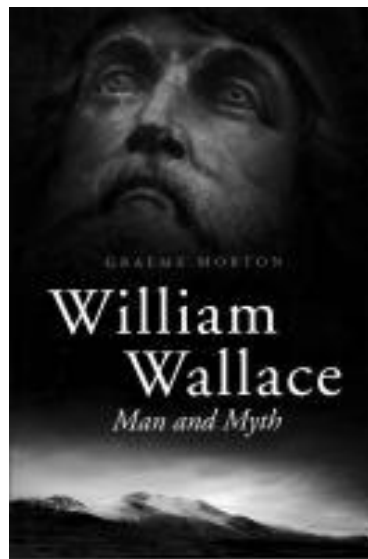
For the rest of his life, that is what Wallace did. As Guardian of Scotland, he led the resistance to Edward I, invaded and devastated the north of England, and came close to defeating the 'Hammer of the Scots' himself.

But victory at Falkirk in 1298 went to Edward after a long and bloody battle. Resigning the Guardianship, Wallace went abroad in a diplomatic role, arguing Scotland's case for freedom in Paris and Rome.

In his absence, John Comyn led a determined resistance to Edward but submitted in February 1304. By then, Wallace had returned and resumed the struggle, albeit as a hunted man after sentence of outlawry was pronounced on him by Scottish as well as English supporters of Edward. He was finally captured and carried to London, where he was barbarously executed for treason.

Our knowledge of Wallace is scant, almost all of it from hostile English sources. The few facts we have demonstrate that he was a military genius; committed, courageous, inspirational, a giant who rose above his humble origins in a rigid social system.

For some, however, the true story of Wallace's achievements has not been enough. Over the centuries, Wallace has changed; from Blind Harry to 'Braveheart'. With Wallace there are more questions than answers. We do now have one answer



Graeme Morton the author of *William Wallace: Man and Myth* will be the keynote speaker at this year's Fall Colloquium

previously overlooked. Wallace's father was not, as Blind Harry, writing more than a century and a half after the patriot's death, tells us, Sir Malcolm Wallace of Elderslie but Alan Wallace, a crown tenant in Ayrshire. But who was Alan Wallace? If he was the same man who submitted to Edward I in 1296, what did the son make of his father's collaboration with the enemy? Wallace had two brothers, Malcolm and John. Nine months before Wallace's execution, a John Wallace was in the service of Edward I. Could this be Wallace's brother, working for the man who was hunting William Wallace to the death?

It is the search for answers to such questions which has produced such a remarkable number of glosses on the historical Wallace. Graeme Morton's absorbing and well-researched book leads us through Wallace's various 'lives'.

Morton reminds us, in considerable detail, how over the years the facts about Wallace have not got in the way of a good story. In the last few years alone, the writer of *Braveheart* claimed to see Wallace 'through the eyes of a poet', and a proposal was made that Wallace be canonised.

All this, and much more, Morton gives us. But for this reader at least, the 'real William Wallace' - another phrase frequently heard - will always be the Wallace of history.

### *Good News from Guelph* by Elizabeth Ewan

Scott Moir, past coordinator of the Scottish Studies Office, successfully defended his Ph.D. thesis two weeks ago and will be graduating in the summer. He will be taking up a Post-Doctoral Scholarship in Ulster-Scots history, funded by the Ulster-Scots Foundation and the University of Guelph, and working with Dr. Kevin James.

Rob Falconer, one of the present coordinators of the Scottish Studies Office, has been awarded a prestigious SSRHCC Doctoral Scholarship (he is the third of our Scottish Studies Office Coordinators to win this highly competitive award, which says something about the quality of students Scottish Studies attracts).

James Fraser, MA Scottish Studies 1999, has been appointed as a lecturer in Scottish History/Celtic at the University of Edinburgh, the first Canadian to be appointed to a position in Scottish History at Edinburgh.

So as you can see, we are doing pretty well!

# Angus Morrison

*Tradition-bearer and last Gaelic speaker in the Scottish highlands of Quebec*

"Another page in our history is closed," concludes my francophone correspondent, Jacques Cloutier, in an e-mail intimating the death in Marsboro, Quebec, of the last Gaelic speaker in that area.

Angus Morrison, who died on April 3, 2002 was born on June 4, 1911, in Cruveg, a small Gaelic settlement just three miles from the village where he and his wife, Mary (Marie-Claire Martin), retired in the 1970s.

Angus's parents, Maryann and Roderick Morrison, emigrated with their families from the Isle of Harris in 1888 and settled in the eastern townships of Quebec, home to several thousand Gaels since the 1830s.

Today, only road-signs such as Stornoway, Tolsta, Dell, Gisla, Back, Ballallan testify to the origin of the people, who established the townships, the several thousand Gaels (many monoglot) from the Outer Hebrides.

The only one of the Morrisons' 13 children to remain in their home area,

Angus once told me that there were more than 50 Gaelic-speaking families in Cruveg when he was growing up, and twice every Sunday they would walk the three miles to the church in Marsboro.

Photographs of the time show massive throngs of people, the majority clad in black, standing outside the church after communion. In 1975, a Canadian newspaper reporting on "The Scottish Highlands of Quebec: Gaidhealatachd Chuibeic", noted: "At the time of the first Great War there were about 2500 Gaels in Marsboro alone. We



*Angus Morrison; born June 4, 1911, died April 3, 2002.*

were talking with a man who told us that he did not know that there was any other language in the world but Gaelic until he was seven years old."

Angus's mother, Maryann, who died in her 108th year, recalled (among many memories I tape-recorded when she was 100) that she was sent to a hideout in the woods carrying food for Donald Morrison, - the legendary Megantic Outlaw. "I knew him when I was a little girl, 12 years old:" she said, "Poor Donald - we'd give him whatever we had - oatmeal bread, barley bread, buckwheat bread, beans, potatoes - everybody was feeding him like that from house to house. But he was a good boy. He wasn't a bad man. I knew his father and mother well, and his brothers."

Just as Maryann was the last person alive to have known the Megantic Outlaw, so Angus was the last person in the Megantic area to speak Gaelic.

Angus was an extremely popular and active member of his community who succeeded in bridging two cultures in many of his pursuits. He was known throughout the eastern townships and far beyond for his commitment to the Gaelic language and culture, supporting and attending every event he could until relatively

*This article by Margaret Bennett appeared in the Glasgow Herald on June 1, 2002*

recently.

Equally beloved of his French family and neighbours, Angus also joined in with the celebrations of Quebec festivals such as *Homage aux Premiers Arrivants Ecossais* and *Festival de Gould*. He was not just respected but treasured in his role of tradition-bearer and source of information.

He is survived by his wife, Mary (born in Stornoway, Angus's childhood sweetheart since her family moved to Marsboro), their seven children, many grandchildren, and four of his sisters (three living in other parts of Canada, one in the United States).

During my childhood in Skye and adolescence in Lewis, Highland and Island newspapers frequently ended death notices with the phrase "Canadian news papers please copy". It seems appropriate to conclude this tribute with a similar petition: "Gaelic newspapers please copy" as this obituary not only intimates the passing of a much-loved man, but also of a much-loved language - "deeply mourned and sadly missed". ■

## *From the Mailbox*

Scottish Studies Society  
P.O. Box 45069  
2482 Yonge Street,  
Toronto, ON M4P 3E3  
info@scottishstudies.ca

### **Spelling Woes**

*Dear Sir:*

Thank you most kindly for mentioning me at Gord's & Duncan's great Burns Night spree. But the name is Daisy, spelt the Rabbie Burns way. Though not "wee" nor "crimson" I'm happy to say. Then, you mentioned my cousin Tom Fleming's name, Not Ian of Bond and 001 fame. Well, just thought I'd set the record right. Yours most sincerely,  
Daisy White.  
Toronto, Ontario

Ed:

O Daisy dear, I humbly fear My spelling was a mess! Others would have checked it out. But me - I took a guess!

### **Windsor Native**

After receiving the last issue of the newsletter I felt I had to write to say how much I enjoyed the article(s) about and interview with Alistair MacLeod.

I am a Windsor native myself, of Scottish heritage as well, but that wasn't the only reason for enjoying them! It is always a pleasure to read about the various events, particularly Burns nights (Dr. Ed Stewart was a guest speaker at one of our own, quite a number of years ago).

I sometimes wish that these didn't always take place in Toronto, although I have attended other functions over the years held at the University of Guelph.

Having just attended a music "seminar" hosted by another Scot, John Bell, an Iona and Kilmarnock bard, I also appreciated Ron Ferguson's story of George MacLeod. I have been to Iona and that made it even more meaningful. Thanks again.

*Jean Hedges  
St. George, Ontario*

Ed:

Thanks for this. Your comments are appreciated.



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