

# THE SCOTS CANADIAN

Issue XLIII

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

Summer 2016

## Foundation's 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Tall Ship Cruise sets sail on September 4

Dear Fellow Members,

On behalf of the Board of the Scottish Studies Foundation, I would like to thank you for all your wonderful encouragement and support and I do hope your summer is going well. This year is the 30th anniversary of the Scottish Studies Foundation and on behalf of all of us on the Board, thank you for your endorsement over all these years.

Since our last newsletter, this year's Spring Colloquium took place on Saturday, April 16th at Knox College, University of Toronto and the presentations given by graduate students showcased current research on Scottish history taking place at the University of Guelph's Centre for Scottish Studies.

On May 13, we celebrated our 30<sup>th</sup> "birthday" at our annual Scot of the Year Award event during which we paid tribute to

this year's recipient: Canadian author and Nobel Prize winner Alice Munro, whose Scots ancestry can be traced back to the Scottish Borders.

Alice was unable to attend the event but her good friend and publisher and former Foundation director, Douglas Gibson accepted the award on her behalf and also told us a bit more about her (see page 4).

During the event we were entertained by Ross Daly, Stephen Todd and Phil Honsinger – all members of the band *Mystic Fyre*. Our piper for the evening was Rory Sinclair who is currently the president of the St. Andrew's Society of Toronto and our Highland dancers: Meghan Bold, Emily Wall, Catherine Carnovale, Sarah Osbourne and Sarah Queen were all from the Bold Steps Dance Studio in Toronto. Scottish Studies Foundation director David Campbell gave a lively and entertaining "Address to the Haggis" and fellow director John McMillan gave the "Selkirk Grace" complete with an explanation as to how it came about. It was a memorable evening thanks in no small way to the efforts of organizers Heather Bridge and Maggie McEwan.

As I have mentioned in previous issues, as part of the University of Guelph's library renovation program, the Foundation has agreed to fund the installation of what we call a Digital Archive Centre. It will be available to the University as a whole, and will allow its books and manuscripts to be digitized and placed online for current and future generations to see and read – no matter where they live.

Our interest in this project was initially triggered by the opportunity to digitize the Scottish Collection but the project now encompasses all major items in the library's Archival and Special Collections Department. One of the most frequently accessed of these is a collection of letters and documents by Lucy Maud Montgomery. As



"Landing of the Hector" from a painting by J. D. Kelly

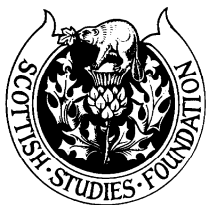
you all know, her 1908 book *Anne of Green Gables* has achieved fame all over the world. So we are all very excited about this. You can help us by spreading the word about this project. Thanks to donations from people like you, a good start has already been made – we are close to raising \$75,000 of the \$150,000 needed to complete the project.

Once again, the crew of the *Empire Sandy*, Canada's tallest sailing ship, will be hoisting the sails to get the Scottish Studies Foundation's annual cruise underway on Sunday September 4. Almost to the day, this will mark the 25th 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 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!

To mark our 30th anniversary, entertainment will include Celtic band *Mystic Fyre*, Highland dancers from the Bold Steps Dance Studio and piper Rory Sinclair. It's a great time to be out on Lake Ontario and I look forward to seeing as many members as possible on board.

Thanks again for all your support and encouragement and have a safe and pleasant summer.

Sincerely,  
David Hunter



### THE SCOTTISH STUDIES FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 45069  
2482 Yonge Street  
Toronto, Ontario  
Canada M4P 3E3

Charitable registration  
No. 119253490 RR0001  
www.scottishstudies.com

Membership Secretary:  
Catherine McKenzie Jansen  
admin@scottishstudies.com

Newsletter Editor:  
David Hunter  
davidhunter@scottishstudies.com

## From the Chair

This spring, we at the Guelph Centre for Scottish Studies were proud and delighted to learn that one of our doctoral students, Marian Toledo Candelaria, had been selected by the Order of Alba as the inaugural recipient of their new King Malcolm III Canmore Scholarship.

Applications to be considered for this scholarship were welcomed from research students anywhere in the world, and it was a singular achievement on Marian's part to have been awarded it. Her well-deserved success followed on from that of another of our doctoral students, Alice Glaze, who won Women's History Scotland's essay prize for 2015.

Throughout 2015 I had the privilege of working closely with both Alice and Marian, who staffed the GCSS office together with diligence and professionalism until Alice demitted office at the end of the year to concentrate on completing her thesis on women and their interpersonal connections in Canongate in the early modern era. I could not be happier that the quality of their research has been recognized in these global competitions. We at the GCSS wish Alice and Marian every success as they take their thesis work and their budding academic

careers forward.

It is immensely gratifying, as Director of the GCSS, to see our students exhibiting their excellence on the world stage like this. As members of the Scottish Studies Foundation, I am sure you will share my pleasure. A serious point needs, however, to be made here. Our ability to develop world-class research students like Alice and Marian depends directly on the support we receive from our benefactors: from the Scottish Studies Foundation, through its remuneration of those students (like Alice and Marian) selected to maintain our office in Guelph; and from other donors who have made the generous decision to invest in our students in the form of scholarships and travel grants.

The annual round of Scottish Studies travel awards takes place in the spring (with some exceptions). This year we were able to make four awards to two doctoral students planning research trips to the United



Marian Toledo Candelaria and Alice Glaze

Kingdom: the Alexander H. Brodie Memorial Award (to Chelsea Hartlen); the St Andrew's Society of Montréal Research Travel Grant (to Chelsea Hartlen); the St Andrew's Society of Toronto Research Travel Grant (to Shayna Devlin); and the Frank Watson Travel Scholarship (to Shayna Devlin).

The recipients of these awards have expressed their profound gratitude for the support they have received and their excitement at the research opportunities these funds open up. Without the ability to offer grants like this to strong research students, which are often of critical importance in enabling them to undertake vital

research trips to Scottish libraries and archives, the challenge of maintaining our world-class standard as a research centre would be very daunting. The Scottish Studies Foundation invests funds in the region of \$10,000 per annum in our graduate students; on behalf of them, and on behalf of the Centre, I thank the Foundation and its members very sincerely for contributing so generously to our graduate studies programme.

A recent approach from a prospective grant donor based in the United States reminds me that there may be individual members of the Foundation interested in setting up a new travel grant like the ones I have mentioned. It will be my pleasure to assist such members in connecting with the relevant officers at the University of Guelph who can help in transforming such an aspiration into a reality.

In closing, can I remind members that the Fall meeting of the Scottish Studies Colloquium is scheduled to take place on Saturday, September 17 here in Guelph (precise venue to be confirmed). At this event we shall mark the 30th anniversary of the Scottish Studies Foundation, and I am delighted that Professor Emeritus Ted Cowan of the University of Glasgow has accepted our invitation to deliver the Jill McKenzie Memorial Lecture at the Colloquium as part of that celebration. Professor Graeme Morton of the University of Dundee has also indicated his eagerness to participate. I hope that a great many members will join us in Guelph in September to commemorate this remarkable anniversary along with these old friends of the Foundation.

Dr. James Fraser  
Chair of Scottish Studies  
University of Guelph

### GALLANT LADDIE

Gallant Laddie so brave and so true  
My Gallant lad, I think yet of you.  
Don't cry for me mother, I'll be back wait and see."  
So brave was my Laddie who said this to me.  
I watched him march off with companions he knew.  
With a wave of his hand he was then out of view  
With courage and strength they fought hand in hand  
For the army had trained them to fight on command.  
They fought on the land, the air, and the sea.  
But my Bonnie Laddie came back not to me.  
It seems like yesterday since I said good-bye.  
Now they have laid you to rest by your comrades side  
We salute you Oh Laddie who with bayonet in hand,  
Fought for his country when you were but a man.  
This tribute we pay you for your glorious deed  
When you gave your life so we may be free.

In Memoriam of  
Pte. Thomas Cunningham  
No. 3066984 - Royal Scots.  
killed in action Sept. 24-1944

Rosemary Madill, a frequent "Oor Club" attendee, sent us this poem, a tribute to her uncle who was killed by Japanese soldiers in WW2. Rosemary's mother, Rita, wrote it for her parents and family.

## Roughing it with the Voyageurs

The Scottish novelist R. M. Ballantyne (1825-1894) joined the Hudson's Bay Company at sixteen, and it was on the experiences of his six years in Canada that he based his first book "Hudson's Bay" or "Everyday Life in the Wilds of North." The following first two excerpts are from that book. The third is from "The Young Fur Traders," one of his many popular stories for young readers.

### Lake Superior 1845

On one occasion, after having been ashore for two days, the wind moderated in the afternoon and we determined to proceed if possible. The sun set gloriously, giving promise of fine weather. The sky was clear and cloudless and the lake calm. For an hour or so the men sang as they paddled, but as the shades of evening fell they ceased; and as it was getting rather chilly I wrapped myself in my green blanket (which served me for a boat-cloak as well as a bed) and soon fell fast asleep. How long I slept I know not, but when I awoke the regular rapid hiss of the paddles struck upon my ear, and upon throwing off the blanket the first thing that met my eye was the dark sky spangled with the most gorgeous and brilliant stars I ever beheld. The whole scene indeed was one of the most magnificent and awesome that can be imagined. On our left hand rose tremendous precipices and cliffs, around the bottom and among the caverns of which the black waters of the lake curled quietly (for a most deathlike unearthly calm prevailed), sending forth a faint hollow murmur as of distant waters which ended at long intervals in a slow melancholy cadence. Before and behind us abrupt craggy islands rose from the water, assuming every imaginable and unimaginable shape in the uncertain light; while on the right the eye ranged over the inky lake till it was lost in thick darkness. A thin transparent night-fog added to the mystical appearance of the scene, upon which I looked with mingled feelings of wonder and awe. The only distinct sound that could be heard was the measured sound of the paddles which the men plied in silence, as if unwilling to break the stillness of the night. Suddenly, the guide uttered in a hoarse whisper, "A terre!" startling the sleepy men and rendering the succeeding silence still more impressive. The canoe glided noiselessly through a maze of narrow passages among the tall cliffs and grounded on a stony beach. Everything was then carried up and the tents pitched in the dark as no wood could be conveniently found for the purpose of making a fire; and without taking



Inside the Hudson's Bay Company trading post at Fort William, Ontario circa 1860-70

any supper or even breaking the solemn silence of the night, we spread our beds as we best could upon the round stones (some of which were larger than a man's foot) and sank into repose.

### In Northern Manitoba

At the first peep of day our ears were assaluted with the usual unpleasant sound of "Lève, lève, lève!" issuing from the leathern throat of the guide. Now this same "Lève" is in my ears a peculiarly harsh and disagreeable word, being associated with frosty mornings, uncomfortable beds, and getting up in the dark before half enough of sleep has been obtained. The way in which it is uttered, too, is particularly exasperating; and often, when partially awakened by a stump boring a hole in my side, have I listened with dread to hear the detested sound and then, fancying it must surely be too early to rise, have fallen gently over on the other side when a low, muffled sound, as if someone were throwing off his blanket, would strike upon my ear, then a cough or grunt, and finally, as if from the bowels of the earth, a low and scarcely audible "Lève, lève!" would break the universal stillness, growing rapidly louder, "Lève, lève, lèves" and louder, "Lève, lève!", till at last a final stentorian "Lève, lève, lève" brought the hateful sound to a close and was succeeded by a confused collection of grunts, groans, coughs, grumbles and sneezes from the unfortunate sleepers thus rudely roused from their slumbers.

### Camp-Fire

Those who have never travelled in the wild parts of this world can form but a faint conception of the extraordinary and sudden change that is produced, not only in the scene but in the mind of the beholder, when a blazing fire is lighted in a dark night. Before the fire is kindled, and you stand, perhaps, shivering in the cold, the heart

sinks, and sad, gloomy thoughts arise, while your eye endeavours to pierce the thick darkness which, if it succeeds in doing so, only adds to the effect by disclosing the pallid snow, the cold, chilling beams of the moon, the wide vistas of savage scenery, the awe-inspiring solitudes that tell of your isolated condition or stir up sad memories of other and far-distant scenes. But the moment the first spark of fire sends a fitful gleam of light upwards, these thoughts and feelings take wing and vanish. The indistinct scenery is rendered utterly invisible by the red light which attracts and rivets the eye as if by a species of fascination. The deep shadows of the woods immediately around you grow deeper and blacker as the flames leap and sparkle upwards, causing the stems of the surrounding trees and the foliage of the overhanging branches to stand out in bold relief, bathed in a ruddy glow which converts the forest into a snug home-like place and fills the mind with agreeable home-like feelings and meditations. ■



R. M. Ballantyne

# A Tribute to Alice Munro

The following is a transcript of the speech given by Douglas Gibson at our Scot of the Year Dinner at the Arts & Letters Club in Toronto on May 13.

It is a great honour for me to accept the Canadian Scot of the Year award on behalf of Alice Munro, who sends her regrets tonight. Alice turns 85 in a few weeks, and now lives quietly in Clinton, near Goderich, and no longer undertakes public appearances, and has stopped writing.

This end of her writing career is a great tragedy for the world, because Alice Munro is such a huge literary figure that she confers a great honour on us by accepting this award, allowing us to boast to the end of time that Alice Munro was once one of our prizewinners.

Let me try tonight to explain just what a huge figure Alice Munro is in the world of literature, and has been for many years, long before she won *The Nobel Prize for Literature* in 2013, the first Canadian winner. In the press, the acclamation in country after country has been so uniquely enthusiastic for so many years that I could spend the rest of this evening, long past midnight, giving you examples. But I won't. Here are just a few: More than twenty years ago *Newsweek* said: "She has quietly emerged as one of our greatest living writers....Alice Munro has an



Alice is pictured here at our Scot of the Year event in 2005, the year Doug Gibson received the award.

unerring talent for uncovering the extraordinary in the ordinary."

On that same theme, the *Montreal Gazette* said: "like an alchemist, she transforms the ordinary into gold."

In *The New York Times*, John Updike said: "her stories are like few others. One must go back to Tolstoy and Chekhov for comparable largeness."

The best tributes come from other fine writers, who know just how hard it is to do what she does with apparent ease. In 2004, for instance, the American author Jonathan Franzen wrote in *The New York Times*: "Alice Munro has a strong claim to being the best fiction writer now working in North America....Read Munro! Read Munro!"

In London, *The Times* said: "Alice Munro has devoted her career to the short story, and when reading her work it is difficult to remember why the novel was ever invented."

Think about that. And think about the fact that in 2005 *The Atlantic* magazine said flatly: "Alice Munro is the living writer most likely to be read in a hundred years."

So we're dealing with a writer who is in the same class as Jane Austen, and Charles Dickens, and Emily Bronte and so on. She has been compared with Chekhov and Flaubert. She will be studied by millions of readers through the years of the future. By 2011, in fact, long before The Nobel Prize, and many other major prizes, there were well over 400 academic studies of her work in existence.

I'm sure there are well over a thousand now. Her impact on the wider world is so huge that ten years ago *Time Magazine* named her as one of the world's one hundred most influential people.

And if the comparison with Jane Austen has you thinking that she must be writing bloodless little stories about her limited social circle, think of what Margaret Atwood (another great admirer) said about how sex has a huge attraction for many Munro women.

Alice wrote about one such character: "A woman who shockingly and incomprehensibly gave everything up. For love, observers would say wryly. Meaning,



Alice Munro is pictured above with the actual award (a large silver quaich) being presented to her by Doug Gibson on Sunday, May 15. The photo was taken at her home in Clinton, near Goderich, Ontario. In the background we can see the famous Raeburn painting of the Edinburgh minister, Reverend Robert Walker, skating on Duddingston Loch in a prim, presbyterian way.

for sex. None of this would happen if it weren't for sex."

So in Alice's stories you'll even find scenes of sex threesomes. And there's the amazing scene in "Differently" where a working mother in Victoria is picked up at work by a motorbike rider who takes her to secluded bushes near the shore. When she returns home with a feeble excuse for the baby-sitter: "Her hair was wild, her cheeks were flushed, her clothes were full of sand." Take that, Jane Austen!

And this is the woman who was born Alice Laidlaw in Huron County, Ontario, in Wingham, just east of Goderich on July 10, 1931. Her father had a failing fox-fur farm, and her mother died young of Parkinson's disease.

Alice went on a scholarship to the University of Western Ontario, selling her blood to make ends meet, but had to leave after two years. But she'd started writing in the literary magazine, and she'd met Jim Munro. They married, moved west, raised three girls, and founded Munro's bookstore in Victoria, which lives on.

When the marriage broke up, Alice came back to Ontario in 1974, and soon met Gerry Fremlin, an old friend from Western. They moved to Clinton, thirty kilometers south of Wingham, where Alice still lives, and where Jane and I will visit her on Sunday, to present her with this award.



Alice and Doug Gibson at our Scot of the Year event in 2005

Here's a roll call of her books, starting with her first, *Dance of the Happy Shades*, which won The Governor-General's award in 1968.

Please note that even one – just one – of these books would have been enough to secure her place in literary history:

~ *Lives of Girls and Women*

~ *Something I've Been Meaning to Tell You*

Then in 1977 I came on the scene, and have published all the books since then, starting with:

~ *Who Do You Think You Are?*

~ *The Moons of Jupiter*

~ *The Progress of Love*

~ *Friend of my Youth*

~ *Open Secrets*

~ *Selected Stories*

~ *The Love of a Good Woman*

~ *Hateship, Friendship, Courtship, Loveship,*

~ *Marriage*

~ *Runaway*

~ *The View From Castle Rock* (a book starting with the Laidlaws in Scotland, which began with the words "Dedicated to Douglas Gibson, who has sustained me through many travails, and whose particular enthusiasm for this book has even sent him prowling through the graveyard of Ettrick Kirk, probably in the rain!")

~ *Too Much Happiness*

~ *Dear Life*

~ *Family Furnishings: Selected Later Stories*

If any of you think you really know Alice Munro's writing, you're probably wrong; because unless you've been reading her in the last thirty years you're in for a big surprise. During that time she's been changing what the short story can do. And any sentence that begins "Every Alice Munro story...." is taking a very big risk.

One example: traditionally, a short story is about a specific event, like a dinner party. In

*Too Much Happiness*, by way of contrast, the story follows the life of its subject who is not a chambermaid in western Ontario, but a 19<sup>th</sup> century Russian mathematician, a woman who teaches in a Swedish University. This short story runs well over 70 pages.

If you think that Alice Munro stories are all set in Huron County, think again. *Bardon Bus* and *The Jack Randa Hotel* are set in the other side of the world, Australia. Lots of her stories are set in British Columbia, a few on the prairies. *Dulse* is set in New Brunswick, on Grand Manan. *The Albanian Virgin* is set, of course, in Albania. And *Hold Me Fast, Don't Let Me Pass* is set in Scotland.

This is a Scottish Canadian event, so let's pursue the theme of Alice Munro and Scotland. She's very proud of her Laidlaw roots, as *The View From Castle Rock* demonstrates. I've written elsewhere about how a tourist can find the old Laidlaw farm in the Scottish Borders, and how to find the original Laidlaw family graves in the Boston Church yard near Milton, Ontario.

But Scotland, and Scottish history, comes up again and again in her stories. For example, the title story in *Friend of my Youth*, ends by telling us about The Cameronians, a very enthusiastic branch of the Covenanters who "went into battle singing the seventy-fourth and seventy eighth psalms. They hacked the haughty Bishop of St. Andrews to death on the highway and rode their horses over his body. One of their ministers, in a mood of firm rejoicing at his hanging, excommunicated all the other preachers in the world."

I once was talking about Alice at an academic conference in Inverness, in Scotland, and I mentioned that her book, *Who Do You Think You Are?* was given a new title in the UK edition, because the

London publisher didn't think that UK readers would get the double meaning. The Scottish audience was outraged. They got it. And Huron County, settled by Scots, certainly got it.

The London-based literary critic Karl Miller, a Scot, wrote ten years ago: "Two of Scotland's most gifted writers, of all time, are born and bred Canadians – Alice Munro and Alistair MacLeod."

We honoured Alistair as our Scot of The Year a few years ago. When I received the Award in 2005 both Alistair and Alice came to the ceremony at Casa Loma and spoke very movingly. They knew how important this award is. Now I'm very glad that we have completed the circle by honouring Alice Munro tonight.

Thank you.

Douglas Gibson

Author of *Stories About Storytellers* and *Across Canada By Story*

## Alice Munro Quotes

"In your life there are a few places, or maybe only the one place, where something happened, and then there are all the other places."

"The complexity of things—the things within the things—just seems to be endless. I mean nothing is easy...nothing is simple."

"A story is not like a road to follow...it's more like a house. You go inside and stay there for a while, wandering back and forth and settling where you like and discovering how the room and corridors relate to each other, how the world outside it altered by being viewed from these windows."

"Sometimes I get the start of a story from a memory, an anecdote, but that gets lost and is usually unrecognizable in the final story."

"There is a limit to the amount of misery and disarray you will put up with, for love, just as there is a limit to the amount of mess you can stand about a house. You can't know the limit beforehand, but you will know when you've reached it. I believe this."

"Why is it a surprise to find that people other than ourselves are able to tell lies?"

"The conversation of kisses. Subtle, engrossing, fearless, transforming."

## Forgotten Emigration: The Little Ice Age in Scotland

by Sam Allison,  
Author of "Driv'n by Fortune: The Scots  
March to Modernity in America 1745-1812"

There is currently a great deal of interest in climate change, but historians seldom explain the impact of the climate change that took place in the past. Yet, the Little Ice Age of the 17th century had enormous consequences for European history, as had the start of global warming in the mid 18th century.

It was caused by a combination of a strong El Nino and massive volcanic activity blotting out heat from the sun. This led to an expansion of the Arctic ice field far to the south with the result that the sea around the Orkneys was 5°C lower in the 1690s than today. An unusual consequence of this occurred when two Inuit caught in their kayak by the ice drifted near the Hebrides and were rescued by puzzled fishermen. In addition, the River Thames in London froze solid during the winters, a highly unusual occurrence today.

Less sunshine and the extreme cold meant a shorter growing season so that harvests frequently failed and in Europe where most people lived hand to mouth, this was a major catastrophe. Finland, for example, lost about one third of its population from 1696 to 97 while Scotland lost approximately one quarter of its people through deaths and emigration.

The 17th century famine in Scotland was probably worse than the Irish Famine of the 19th century. There was great discord and Civil War within Scotland because hunger had made people desperate. While there is very little accurate data on the topic, there were major outbreaks of witch-burning in 1597, 1628-31 and 1661-6. Women were often blamed for the deaths of cattle, sheep, and poultry that were in fact killed by the cold. Scotland is supposedly responsible for

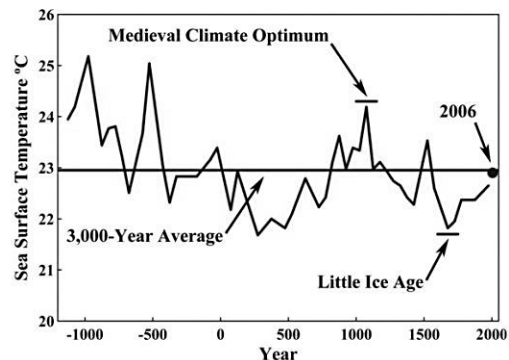
executing more witches per head than anywhere else in Europe, something that is very difficult to prove. A climate of fear existed in Scotland, especially where women were concerned. They had fewer rights than men and were legally less able to defend themselves.

What is also interesting about Scotland is that huge numbers enlisted and soldiered abroad during the 1600s. Some Scots had served in European armies from about the 1300s, the time of Robert the Bruce. France in the Middle Ages employed Scots as part of the Auld Alliance against England, and Joan of Arc had close to 10,000 Scots in her army.

While historians do write about the large numbers of Scots fighting in European wars, they have often ignored that a colder climate increased the numbers enlisting abroad. By the 1600s, Europe was in turmoil because of the weather, and military service became a huge employer of Scots. The unrest created by bad harvests led foreign rulers to recruit even more Scots. In turn, as Scots became established in foreign countries, they would send for their wives and children who created colonies in many countries we no longer associate with Scotland.

In the 1600s, there were approximately 30,000-40,000 Scots in Poland, about 30,000 in Scandinavia, and about the same number in Northern Ireland. While approximately 30,000 Scots seemed to have fought for the Protestant side under Sweden in the Thirty Years' War (1618-48), some in fact served under the Catholic Hapsburg side. Indeed, several ended up fighting for both sides over the time of the conflict.

A famous Scot at this time was Walter Leslie, a Protestant who changed his allegiances several times before enlisting with the Catholic Hapsburgs. Leslie helped free Prince Rupert, a Royalist General of English Civil War who became the first Chairman of the Hudson's Bay Company and after whom much of Canada (Rupert's Land) was named.



Historians have romanticized this 17th century Scots mercenary-migratory tradition, but in fact, hard times produced hard people. Walter Leslie, for example, is often admired because he was given lands, titles, and important diplomatic positions (Ambassador to the Turks) by the Emperor of Austria. It is often overlooked that Leslie was rewarded because he had arranged for the murder of his friend and Commander, Wallenstein on behalf of the Emperor. Leslie was a ruthless self-serving figure who secretly committed the crime for the Emperor using Irish soldiers. Wallenstein had powerful friends who were probably responsible for the deaths of the Irish soldiers while Leslie got off "scot" free. His nephew and heir was also important and played a major role in defending Vienna from the Turks. Parts of Vienna are called Scotten (Scots) in memory of the Leslies.

A major feature about the Scots is that they became linked throughout Europe because of mercenary service. They transferred military ideas throughout the Continent because they kept shifting allegiances to whoever paid them more. A Scottish soldier of the time, Sir Thomas Urquhart (1611-60) claimed that "the Scots are an unconquered people; for whenever, in any great battle, in the Thirty Years' War, they are beaten on one side, they must, for that very reason, have been victorious on the other."

For example, Gustavus Adolphus (1594-1632), the great Swedish warrior King, is



"The curlers" by Sir George Harvey, 1835. Curling on the ice became very popular in Scotland during the Little Ice Age.

credited with many military innovations. However, the Swedes were often adapting ideas that the Scots had brought into their army from other armies. The idea of fixing bayonets on the outside of the gun barrel and using light cannon were started by Scots but were used by Adolphus to great effect in battle. During the British Civil Wars of the mid 17th century when Cromwell had King Charles beheaded, the Scots were an important force because so many had served abroad as mercenaries.

The "little ice age," evidence of which was first recorded around 1300, and which extended through to the mid 1800s, was the coldest interval over the Northern Hemisphere for one thousand or so years. Periodic plagues and famines ravaged Europe and glaciers descended from the Alps to engulf a number of villages.

One influence may have been a drop in solar energy. Isotopes of carbon in tree rings and beryllium in ice cores show a drop-off in solar radiation during much of the period. Moreover, sunspot observations that began around 1610 show a near-absence of reported sunspots between 1645 and 1715. However, recent studies have brought down the relative importance of this solar effect on the little ice age.

Also in the mix are volcanoes, which seem to have erupted more frequently after 1500 than during the so-called medieval warm period that preceded it. The 1815 eruption of Indonesia's Tambora – one of the most violent ever recorded on Earth – led to a disastrously cold summer across much of the globe in 1816. That "year without a summer" brought crop failures to northern Europe as well as snows in Vermont as late as early June.

Like the medieval warm period, the little ice age appears to have been strongest over the Northern Hemisphere's continents, although it's hard to completely eliminate geographic bias from these early records – and there's little evidence from the tropics and southern hemisphere to say what actually happened there. Some researchers argue that both phenomena were primarily regional events, as opposed to the global-scale warming under way now.

From *The Rough Guide to Climate Change* by Robert Henson.

By the end of the 17th century, the Scots mercenaries had served literally all over Europe. In Russia, from the 1570s onwards, we find records of Carmichaels, Carrs, Barclays, Ogilvies, Douglasses, and Gordons. Patrick Gordon became a personal friend of Czar Peter the Great and elbowed his way into the Russian aristocracy. Many Scots mercenaries or their descendants also found themselves in the colonies created by European powers. The Chateau De Ramezay in Montreal was owned by a family who were called Ramsay in Scotland but were part of the Scots Guards around the French King. They francisized their name into the much grander De Ramezay when they became part of the French aristocracy, and some of them came to New France as important officials.

The Little Ice age came to an end because by the middle of the 18th century the climate in Scotland had begun to warm up and the climate of fear probably declined as a result. In fact, the last person executed for witchcraft was in 1727 and a law was passed making witchcraft a minor crime. This warming of the weather also led to better harvests and agricultural improvements such as the introduction of the potato into the Highlands. These changes and the peace established after the failed Jacobite Rebellion of 1745 led to a Scottish population explosion. Not only had the weather improved dramatically, but the intellectual climate in Scotland had also shifted. The Scottish Enlightenment produced figures such as Adam Smith (economics), David Hume (philosophy) and James Watt (steam engine) who went on to lay the foundations for what we call the Agricultural and Industrial Revolutions.

Will future historians have anything to say about the impact of climate change on our 21st century? Will they notice if our climate change reproduces the hardship and discord of the 17th century or the enlightenment and progress of the late 18th century?

### *Winter & Spring*

by Bud Neill

Winter's come, the snow has fell  
Wee Josie's nose has froze as well  
Wee Josie's frozen nose is skintit  
Winter's diabolic intit?

The snowdrop drips,  
The crocus croaks  
And in my little windae box  
A yelley daffy hings its heid -  
It does indeed.

## *Famine in Scotland, 1698*

*Towards the end of the seventeenth century seven years of bad weather and failed crops resulted in a famine so severe that a fifth of the Scots population – about 200,000 people—were reduced to begging. The death toll was staggering. Some believed the country had been cursed because of the persecution of the Covenanters, others that they were being punished because James VII had been ousted from the throne. In the quaint language of his time, writer and devout Presbyterian Patrick Walker recorded the scene, perhaps to warn his compatriots of how God punished grievous sin.*

These not unheard-of manifold Judgements continued seven Years, not always alike, but the Seasons, Summer and Winter, so cold and barren, and the wonted Heat of the Sun so much withholden, that it was discernible upon the Cattle, flying Fowls and insects decaying, that seldom a Fly or Cleg was to be seen: Our Harvests not in the ordinary Months; many shearing in November and December, yea, some in January and February; The Names of the Places I can instruct: Many contracting their Deaths, and losing the use of their Feet and Hands sharing and working amongst it in Frost and Snow; and after all some of it standing still, and rotting upon the Ground, and much of it for little Use either to Man or Beast, and which had no Taste or Colour of Meal. Meal became so scarce, that it was at Two Shillings a Peck, and many could not get it. It was not then with many, Where will we get Silver? But, Where will we get Meal for Silver? I have seen, when Meal was all sold in Markets, Women clapping their Hands, and tearing the Clothes off their Heads, crying, How shall we go home and see our Children die in Hunger? They have got no Meat these two Days, and we have nothing to give them.

Through the long Continuance of these manifold Judgements, Deaths and Burials were so many and common, that the Living were wearied in the Burying of the Dead. I have seen Corpses drawn in Sleds, many got neither Coffin or Winding-sheet. I have seen some walking about the Sun-setting, and tomorrow about Six-a-clock in the Summer morning found dead in their Houses, without making any stir at their Death, their Head lying upon their hand, with as great a smell as if they had been four days dead, the mice or rats having eaten a great part of their Hands and Arms.

From *Scotland: The Autobiography, 2000 years of Scottish history by those who saw it happen*, Edited by Rosemary Goring

**Directors of the Scottish Studies Foundation:**

**President:** David M. Hunter

**Vice President:** Maggie McEwan

**Treasurer:** David H. Thompson

**Secretary:** John B. McMillan

David Campbell

Dr. James Fraser

J Douglas Ross FSA Scot

**Honorary Directors:** Harry S.

Ferguson, William Somerville

**Honorary Patrons:**

Robert Buchan

John E. Cleghorn. O.C.

Professor E.J. Cowan

Harry Ferguson

John Anderson Fraser

Douglas Gibson

Alastair W. Gillespie, P.C., O.C.

Col. the Hon. Henry N.R. Jackman,

C.M., O.Ont., KSt.J.

The Hon. Donald S. Macdonald,

P.C., C.C.

Lewis W. MacKenzie

Lewis MacKinnon

The Hon. Roy MacLaren

Dr. Alistair MacLeod

Kathie Macmillan

Michael I. M. MacMillan

Robert McEwen, C.M.

Alan McKenzie, FSAScot

Bill R. McNeil

Alice Munro

Lloyd Robertson, O.C.

T. Iain Ronald

Bill Somerville

Donald Stewart

Jean Watson

Richard Wernham

Lynton "Red" Wilson, O.C.

**Corporate Sponsors**

The Harold E. Ballard Foundation

Wm. Glen & Sons

Citibank Canada

The Willie and Mildred Fleischer

Charitable Foundation

GE Canada

HBOS Canada

Korn/Ferry Canada Inc.

Walter Stewart and Associates

**Benefactors:**

Walter M. and Lisa Balfour Bowen

Dr. Colin R. Blyth and Valerie Blyth

David Campbell

John and Pattie Cleghorn

Richard Currie

William H. Davidson

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Stewart Ferguson

Thomas L. Foulds

Constance C. Gibson

Alastair W. Gillespie, P.C., O.C.

Alan Gordon

Gordon and Shirley Grant

Helen Grant

Jon K. Grant O.C.

Ian Craig

Marie Gregor

Jane Grier

Nona Heaslip

James N. Hepburn

Hon. Henry N.R. Jackman

Roger Alexander Lindsay of Craighall

FSA Scot

James M. Main

Dr. William Ross McEachern

Joan and Don McGeachy

Alan McKenzie

Mary MacKay MacMillan, FSA Scot

Margaret Nightingale

C. Douglas Reekie

T. Iain Ronald

Sir Neil Shaw

Bruce Simpson

Robert Smart

Donald A. Stewart

John Mac Stewart

Dr. Roselynn M. W. Stevenson

Alexander K. Stuart C.M.

The Toronto Gaelic Society

Dr. Cicely Watson

Richard Wernham

Lynton "Red" Wilson, O.C.

**Patrons:**

Margaret S. Adat

Olwen Anderson

Robert Anderson

Dr. Gary Ashby

Louis and Donalda Baldone

Mary G. Barnett

Peter Hugh Baxter

William David Beaton

Stephen Bennett

Jetta Bickford

Ann Boden

John and Ruth Borthwick

Ian Buchanan

G. Laurence Buchanan

Robert Burns

John Buttars

Cairngorm Scottish Imports

Drifffield M. Cameron

Donna Carmichael

Isabella Carnegie

John H. C. Clarry

Nola Crewe

Mrs. Elma Connor

Dr. John H. Cooper

Phyllis M. Corbett

Kenneth L. Coupland

Nola Crewe

Donald A. Crosbie

Antony A. Cunningham

James Cuthill

Custom Scottish Imports

Dr. Kirsty Duncan

Dorothy Dunlop

Heather J. Elliot

Margaret Eastham

Gina Erichsen

Prof. Elizabeth Ewan

Dr. & Mrs. G.T. Ewan

Fergus Highland Games

Alice Ferguson

Georgina Finlay

Dr. Harry K. Fisher

Ian Fisher

Allan C. Fleming

W. Neil & Marie Fraser

Dr. William & Mrs. Margaret Fraser

John Peter Fyvie

John MacKenzie Gammell

Gendis Inc. & Associates

Douglas M. Gibson

John D. Gilchriese

Mr. & Mrs. Ian Gillespie

Stan Glass

Catherine Goldie

Malcolm M. Gollert

Helen Grant

Jon K. Grant

Hon. Edwin A. Goodman Q.C., P.C., O.C.

William A. Goodfellow

Alan P. Gordon

James M. Grant, Clan Grant Society

of Canada

Mary Gregor

Jane Grier

James Haliburton

M. Gen. (Ret) James E. Hanna

Kathryn Harvey

Mrs. Jean Hedges

Alex B. Henderson

Iain Hendry

Gordon Hepburn

David Hobbs

Ms. Geraldine Howitt

Maureen Hunt

David Hunter

James Lamont Hunter

Margaret Anne Hunter

John & Lorna Hutchinson

Andrew MacAoidh Jergens

Dr. & Mrs. Ted Kinnin

Dr. Alison Kirk-Montgomery

Barbara Klich

Captain Olof & Mrs. Sheila Kuipers

Douglas Lackie

Susan E. Lahey

Ruth and James Lillico

Loch Ness Celtic Jewellery

Elizabeth & Leonard

MacLachlan Lain

Marion F. Livingston

Ruth S. MacBeth

John H. Macdonald, FSAScot

The Hon. Donald S. Macdonald, P.C.,

C.C.

Miss Duncan MacDonald

The MacFie Clan Society

R. C. (Bob) MacFarlane (in

memoriam)

Hugh K. N. Mackenzie

Jim and Ann Mackenzie

Margaret MacLeod

Dr. Alexander Macpherson

Dr. Kenneth and Mrs. Rhoda

MacRitchie

Gordon Main

Wilson Markle

Jack K. R. Martin

Richard C. Meech Q.C.

Gordon Menzies

William Irvine McArthur

D.D.C. McGeachy

Ian A. McKay

M.R. MacLennan

Margaret MacLeod

Charles and Elizabeth MacRae

Robert W. McAllister

Ms. Doris McArthur

Dr. K. J. McBey

Valerie McElroy

Murray McEwen C.M.

Ian McFeters

Derek McGillivray

Alistair McIntyre FSAScot

Gail McIntyre

Margaret McGovern

Donald McKenzie

Capt. Duncan D. McMillan

John B. McMillan

Mrs. Lois McRae

Douglas and Ilse McTaggart

Mr. Don McVicar

Douglas A. McWhirter

Mary Elizabeth Mick

Peter Montgomery

William & Audrey Montgomery

Allan D. Morrison

Madelein Muntz

David and Una Murray

Catherine O'May

Ann Nicol

Marguerite Noble

Orangeville Scottish Dancers

Mr. Gordon Paterson

Ed & Anne Patrick

Lloyd Preston

Darren B. Purse

Ms. Patricia Rae

Alastair G. Ramsay

Sheldon Rankin

Hazel Rayner

Mary Arvilla Read

Sadie Reynolds

Rodger E.T. Ritchie

Kim Ritchie

Michael Paul Roberts

Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rooney

Royal Scottish Geographical Society

J. Douglas Ross FSA Scot

Dr. Robert and Laura Saunders

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Seagrave

Skara Brae Collections

Marie Scheffel

Dr. David J. Scott

Hudoneil Scott

Graham W. S. Scott Q.C.

Helen B. Smith

Stanley & Margory Smith

Bill & April Somerville

Capt. Stephen Spence

Jim & Kathy Spence

St. Andrew's Society of Toronto

Helen C. Stevens

Allan E. Stewart C.D

David R. Stewart

Helen Matthew Stewart

Ian G. Stewart

Donald Campbell Sutherland

Mr. & Mrs. J.G.C. Templeton

Dr. Paul Thomson/Michelle Perrone

David H. Thompson

Janis Todd

J. James Wardlaw

Prof. David B. Waterhouse

Dr. Cicely Watson

Joanne Watson

Mitchell Watt

Robert Watt

Ian White

Douglas Whitelaw

**Studies Society Directors:**

**President:** Heather Bridge

**Vice President:** Maggie McEwan

**Treasurer:** David H. Thompson

**Secretary:** John B. McMillan

David Campbell

Duncan Campbell

David M. Hunter

Edward Patrick

J. Douglas Ross FSA Scot