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Dr. Lynn McDonald named Scot of the Year 2025

We are delighted to announce that Dr. Lynn McDonald will be receiving the Scottish Studies Society's 2025 Scot of the Year Award in view of her long public career and many contributions to building a better Canada, especially in relation to women's equality and pay equity.

Dr. McDonald has been in the news recently for her work in correcting misunderstandings about key historical figures such as Sir John A Macdonald, Egerton Ryerson and Henry Dundas by placing them in historical context.

Dr. McDonald has made enduring contributions as a scholar and social activist. She is professor emerita of sociology at the University of Guelph and has written extensively on the impact of women thinkers in the 18th and 19th centuries.

McDonald championed women's equality both inside and outside Parliament (she was the first Member of Parliament to be addressed as Ms.). She was a co-founder of the Ontario Committee on the Status of Women in 1971, which lobbied for implementation of the measures of the Report of the Royal Commission on the



Dr. Lynn McDonald

Status of Women in Canada (to which she had given a brief).

In 1980, as president of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women, she gave the organization's brief on equality rights to the Joint Senate-Commons committee on the Charter of Rights.

She also served as a Member of Parliament when her Non-Smokers' Health Act of 1988 led the world in enacting legislation to establish smoke-free work and public spaces.

McDonald has since been active on environmental issues, initially with the Campaign for Nuclear Phaseout, and later as co-founder of *JustEarth*: A Coalition for Environmental Justice, which works on climate change. She was also a member of the Board of Directors of Climate Action Network from 2010–2014.

A co-founder of the Canadian Electoral Alliance, McDonald campaigned for the alliance during the 2015 federal election, advocating the adoption of proportional representation at the federal level.

She is also a co-founder of the Campaign for the Abolition of Solitary Confinement.

In addition, in a labour of love, she published the definitive collection of Florence Nightingale's writings, bringing renewed attention to this important female icon for a new generation.

She was named a Member of the Order of Canada in 2015 and elected a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society in 2019. In 2020,

she joined with Ryerson academics and supporters to form *The Friends of Egerton Ryerson*, whose goal is the restoration of Ryerson's reputation by offering a fact-based assessment of the accusations made about him.

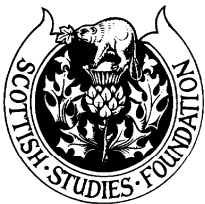
In 2023 she was appointed to the Advisory Board of the Canadian Institute for Historical Education and has been instrumental in correcting erroneous information about Canadian events and individuals.

Our Annual Scot of the Year Award was initiated in 1993 to honour individuals with a Scottish connection who have achieved distinction through their contribution to Canadian society or the international community at large.

The 2025 event will take place at the Arts and Letters Club in Toronto on Saturday, April 5, starting with a reception at 6:30 p.m. with dinner at 7:30 p.m. It will be a magnificent evening of fine food, music and dance, all with a Scots-Canadian flavour in the historic environment of the Arts & Letters Club, designated a National Historic Site of Canada in 2007.

We do hope you will be able to join us for this memorable evening, the proceeds of which will go to support the Scottish Studies Foundation, a registered Canadian charity established to raise awareness of the Scottish heritage in Canada through education at the university level.

Details on how to order tickets for this event have been posted on our website.



THE SCOTTISH STUDIES FOUNDATION

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Student Spotlights

We are pleased to share the following comments from three of the University of Guelph's students who were able to study in Scotland this year—thanks to the generosity of our members and Scottish Studies supporters.

Kristen Becker, PhD Candidate

Kristen's research examines changes to the Scottish treason law between 1567-1660. It will consider how the Reformation, changes to political thought (i.e kingship and state authority), and crown-magnate relations influenced the Scottish treason law between 1567 and 1660. Kristen is a recipient of the Clan Fergusson Graduate Research Travel Grant and the Frank Watson Travel Scholarship.



"This past May I had the opportunity to travel to Edinburgh for 14 days to conduct research at the National Records of Scotland and the National Library of Scotland. While there, I was able to access many governmental and judicial records which will make up a large portion of my dissertation. The most impressive of these documents were the execution notices, royal decrees outlining recent treason trials, and land charters of various families illustrating the transfer of lands to the crown following treason trials. This research trip was one of many for this dissertation but would not have been possible without the support of the Centre for Scottish Studies and the Scottish Studies Foundation who generously support Scottish Studies."

Katherine Foran, PhD Candidate

In recent months, Katherine's research focus has shifted from only examining women in the Scottish Wars of Independence, to exploring the interconnectedness of female power with family power and how these influenced the political environment during the Scottish Wars of Independence. Her research takes a socio-political approach to better understand the networks of power in medieval Scotland, which included noblewomen. Katherine is a recipient of the Clan Fergusson Graduate Research Travel Grant, Frank Watson Travel Scholarship, Ted Cowan Scholarship, and the Duncan Campbell Memorial Travel Grant.



"This summer I had the privilege of traveling to London and Edinburgh for research. I started my trip at the National Archives in Kew where I consulted charters and political documents that involved Scottish noblewomen during the Scottish Wars of Independence (1292-1357). While there I was able to examine seals of Scottish women, some of which, were still attached to their original charters. These seals demonstrate how Scottish women were involved and accepted in medieval political proceedings. Being able to include material evidence like seals adds an exciting element to my dissertation. After a week in Kew, I travelled to Edinburgh where I spent about two and a half weeks at the National Records of Scotland. Like my time in Kew, I consulted charters, seals, and political documents pertaining to Scottish women during the Wars of Independence. Some of these documents were land and marriage agreements between noble families. To gain a better insight of some of the women mentioned and the families they were a part of, I consulted genealogies and documents detailing the lineages of prominent Scottish families between 1286-1360. These

documents highlight the interconnectedness of family, clanship, and politics in medieval Scotland. They also demonstrate how women were present and involved in the socio-political environment. This trip was my first experience abroad and extremely enriching for my own educational development and for the purpose of research for my dissertation. It would not have been possible without the generous support of the Centre for Scottish Studies and contributions from the Scottish Studies Foundation."

MA candidate Julia Di Castri

Julia is researching the portrayal of the female figure commonly referred to as the "Highland Lassie" in Scottish tourism promotional materials, specifically focusing on the Golden Age of the postcard (1890-1914). Julia is a recipient of the St. Andrew's Society of Toronto Research Travel Grant and the St. Andrew's Society of Montreal Research Travel Grant in Scottish Studies.



"I had the unforgettable opportunity to travel to Scotland to engage with my primary sources and support my Masters research. I visited the archive at the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh, the archive at University of St Andrews and the archive at the University of Aberdeen. I was also very fortunate to have the time to peruse many antique shops which also held some interesting primary sources I could view. In viewing such a variety of Scottish postcards I am now well equipped to identify and elaborate on who the Highland Lassie truly is as a Scottish symbol. I also had unique opportunities to make connections with the culture, landmarks, landscapes and even the locals while I did my research. All of this I had studied about Scotland throughout my coursework and primary source engagement at the University of Guelph. I would like to thank everyone who has supported me in this project, especially the generous donors of the awards I received and my professors for this research experience. This travel opportunity and primary source engagement has been the experience of a lifetime."

Haverings

P.B. Grant

Ice hockey is considered Canada's #1 sport, but the past few years have seen football (or "soccer," depending on your origins) make significant inroads. Since my interests lie firmly with the latter, I'm happy to see this happening. This summer saw me sitting in front of the TV with my children, cheering on Canada's national football team as they battled bravely through to fourth place in the Copa América. It's fair to say we got carried away, and I confess I let loose with a few expletives at the treatment Canada's players were subjected to during the games. The team was unlucky not to place higher: it was a great showing and they should be proud of their performance under the wing of their new manager, Jessie Marsch. It augers well for the World Cup which takes place in 2026 in Canada, the USA and Mexico. As one of the host nations, Canada automatically qualifies. Scotland's national team will be hoping to join them. If they manage it, will this create divided loyalties for yours truly? My heart belongs to Scotland, but being a dual citizen, I'll be cheering for both teams and hoping they aren't drawn against each other. Either way, get your flags and beer hats ready: it's going to be a good one.

Scotland's most memorable World Cup campaign took place in 1978, when, fuelled by the corny melody of comedian Andy Cameron's hit single *Ally's Tartan Army*, manager Ally MacLeod and the team headed to Argentina with high hopes. On paper, we had a strong squad, with players such as Kenny Dalglish, Graeme Souness and Archie Gemmill, but the dream didn't last: we were in for a rude awakening. Defeat to Peru and a draw against Iran put us in a precarious position: to make it through to the next round, we had to beat Holland (now the Netherlands) by three goals. It seemed impossible. What a night it was. Gemmill's superb second goal lives forever in the minds of Scots of a certain age: it remains an iconic moment. Alas, the happiness didn't last: Holland soon pulled one back—but for a moment, anything seemed possible. In the end, we won 3-2, but failed to go through on goal difference. For many Scots, this age-old, bittersweet dynamic—courageous fight back, victory in the face of a bigger defeat—seems to sum up the nation's fortunes. But it didn't dim the enthusiasm of the Tartan Army. Almost fifty years on, the travelling fans continue to be a hit wherever they go. We saw it this summer in the Euros, held in Germany. True, we were pummeled by the host nation in the opening match and made

an early exit again, but our fans made lots of friends along the way.

Fifty years. Difficult to believe. I played a lot of football back in those days—even won a cup-winner's medal with my local Scout group, which, despite what that sounds like, seemed a big deal at the time. I must have been confident in my abilities, because I had the audacity to write to Dumbarton FC, asking them to send a scout over to Greenock to check me out. With a remarkable show of clairvoyance, they declined, but it didn't dim my enthusiasm. My pals and I spent all of our free time at the local park, practicing over and over until the ball became a dot in the dusk and the midges came out to feast. It's hard not to feel nostalgic for those long summer nights. Maybe that's why, when my ten-year-old son asked me to join in a parent/kid game with his local football team this summer, I took him up on it. Believe it or not, I scored the first goal—and it was a beauty, if I say so myself. After it hit the net, I heard a kid exclaim: "We're cooked!" Prophetic words. Perhaps I should have stayed home in the kitchen, though, because the joy was short-lived: my skills soon deteriorated to the point where I fell flat on my face in a comic (but pretty painful) fall. In the second half, things descended into chaos: the coach allowed a free-for-all and the pitch flooded with kids. Age won out: the adults held on to victory. As for me: like those fans of '78, I was nursing bruises for a long time afterwards... but it was worth it.



Two new books published by the Foundation

(For ordering information see
www.scottishstudies.com)

Over the years many of our members have contacted us to let us know about their interest in history and genealogy, which we hope in some way has been inspired by the work being carried out by the Foundation and by the Centre for Scottish Studies at the University of Guelph. Nevertheless, we were surprised when early in 2024, Sheila Mary Watt, one of our longtime members, sent us a package containing a large three-ring binder containing her manuscript which turned out to be the result of many years of painstaking research into her Scottish family history — the Weirs from the Estate of Blackwood in

Lanarkshire. Sheila also very kindly donated this work to the Foundation and we are pleased to announce that the resulting book has now been published.

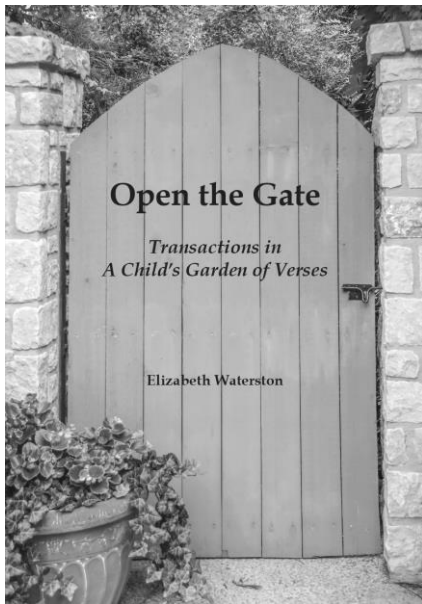
In it, she traces the chronology of the Weirs, from Norman times through to the early 20th century, amidst a backdrop of key events which shaped Scotland's history. Sheila also provides a detailed insight into what life was like over the centuries, and how evolving traditions, laws and customs governed society. Her research into the book also unlocked a long held family secret and helped re-established connections with lost relatives: "Digging through Scottish genealogical and legal records, I believe I now know why my mother conducted her long feud with the Edinburgh lawyers, and why there was that rift with other members of her family... But the genealogical treasure hunt and exploration of the times in which our ancestors lived became my retirement addiction; it led to this book, and valued connections with our Weir, Inglis, Lockhart and other ancestors now scattered throughout the world."



Sheila Mary Watt

Originally from Scotland, Sheila emigrated to Canada following her marriage in 1956 and worked for thirty years as a physiotherapist in Brampton and Orangeville. She is now happily retired and is living independently in Guelph, Ontario, where she enjoys the challenges of genealogy and daily contact with her children and grandchildren. Her book is sure to act as a template for those who have been thinking about tackling the documentation of their own family history.

Shortly after hearing from Sheila, we received an email from former University of Guelph professor, Dr. Elizabeth Waterston, to let us know that she too was working on a manuscript. What was even more surprising was that Elizabeth was now 102 years of age and that she had started working on the book in her 100th year when she was looking for a new project.



Her book which she titled *Open the Gate* is the culmination of her lifelong fascination with Robert Louis Stevenson's *A Child's Garden of Verses*, first as a child-listener, then as a mother-reader, and then as an academic-critic. Elizabeth's scholarly appraisal started with a visit to the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University in the 1960s, where she pored over the handwritten notebooks in which Robert Louis Stevenson first jotted drafts of poems for children. She made meticulous notes of the author's tiny edits and drafted a manuscript of her analysis. However, other endeavours took priority during her busy career as a professor and writer and for years the manuscript languished in the bottom drawer of her filing cabinet. Then in 2022, Elizabeth pulled out her file on *A Child's Garden of Verses* and decided to revise the manuscript to focus on the first twenty poems written by Robert Louis Stevenson in 1881–82.

In her book, Elizabeth's insights into RLS's creative process are enriched by references to the poet's handwritten notebooks and her interpretation of how events in his life influenced his poetry. Her analysis includes responses to these poems by his contemporaries and by readers and illustrators in the decades since they were written.



Dr. Elizabeth Waterston

The Rebellious Women of Coigach

Lynn Fraser, Coigach Heritage

Every community has a story to tell, but not every community decides to build a sculpture to commemorate that story; a landmark monument, Lorg na Còigich (the footprint of Coigach), that will overlook a landscape that was, for a short period, transformed into a theatre of resistance and rebellion, and will pay tribute to those involved. Local artists, musicians, schoolchildren, storytellers and the whole Coigach community have come together to support the campaign for the sculpture, which has inspired so many and brought social history to life.

Throughout history women have generally been silent. However, during the time of clearance in the Highlands, the women were far from silent, often playing a leading role in the resistance to eviction.

Coigach (Scottish Gaelic: A' Chòigeach) is a peninsula north of Ullapool, in Wester Ross in the Northwest Highlands of Scotland. It comprises several small townships and found itself under the national gaze during 1852 and 1853 when five attempts were made to remove sub-tenants from their land within the townships. Through sustained resistance, these attempts were wholly unsuccessful. At the forefront of this resistance stood the formidable women of Coigach who were described by the Inverness Courier as a "band of Amazons" displaying "everything but hospitable intentions in the reception of the unwelcome" sheriff's officer. Each time he landed, the "brawny beauties" seized the writs and burnt them. Completely defying Victorian narratives of femininity, the women of Coigach fought passionately and ferociously for their homes.

The Barony of Coigach in Wester Ross had been the westernmost extremity of the Mackenzie's Cromartie Estate since 1609. In the early 1800s, the Coigach peninsula was heavily populated and poor. The then laird, John Hay-Mackenzie, was benevolent but debt-ridden. In 1849, financial ruin loomed; ruin that was averted by the marriage of his daughter, Anne, to the Marquis of Stafford, followed two weeks later by her father's death. In the years following the Coigach land struggles of the 1850s, the Marquis, heir to the Duke of Sutherland, would become one of the wealthiest men in the country, but until then the Cromartie Estate could not count on the Sutherland fortune to subsidize it.

In 1852, with the estate under financial pressure, Andrew Scott, the estate factor, decided that it was time to "rationalize" the land use at Coigach. Specifically, there was a

large farm at Achiltibuie and Badenscallie that was densely packed with sub-tenants. The tacksmen, or main tenants, of this farm were complaining so vociferously about their sub-tenants that Lady Stafford agreed to terminate their lease. Prospective new tenants would only take on the lease without the sub-tenants.

Scott was able to persuade the majority of the sub-tenants to sign an agreement to relinquish their hillgrazings and resettle at Badentarat. However, eighteen families refused to sign; not only would they lose their hillgrazing but also their landholding. Scott angrily stated that they had "stirred up all the other people in their townships to resist the removing in any way or under any modification whatever." It was a typical standoff: the landlord wanted to make a more profitable return on a portion of land but the sub-tenantry was in possession and, understandably, didn't want to leave their homes.

Service of summonses of removal on the recalcitrant eighteen was the next step. Scott, knowing that this would probably be met with physical resistance, requested police accompaniment for the serving party. On 18 March 1852, they went from Ullapool to Coigach where they were met by a large crowd of people, principally women, who seized and searched each of them for the writs, which were burnt once discovered to prevent service being effected. Defeated, and undoubtedly humiliated, the sheriff's party was forced to withdraw.

A week later, another attempt was made to serve the notices. A larger party again made their way by boat from Ullapool. There must have been a sense of trepidation as they sailed along the coast on seeing several hundred people amassed. They went firstly to Achnahaird and then to Achiltibuie. At both places, they were unable to serve the summonses, being outnumbered by the "mutinous" crowds. At Achiltibuie, a large crowd gathered on the beach below the hotel where the boat landed. A number of women and teenage girls seized the Sheriff's men and stripped them, looking for the summonses. Failing to find them on their bodies, they searched their boat and found them nailed under the sole at the stern. The papers were taken and burnt in a bonfire on the beach.

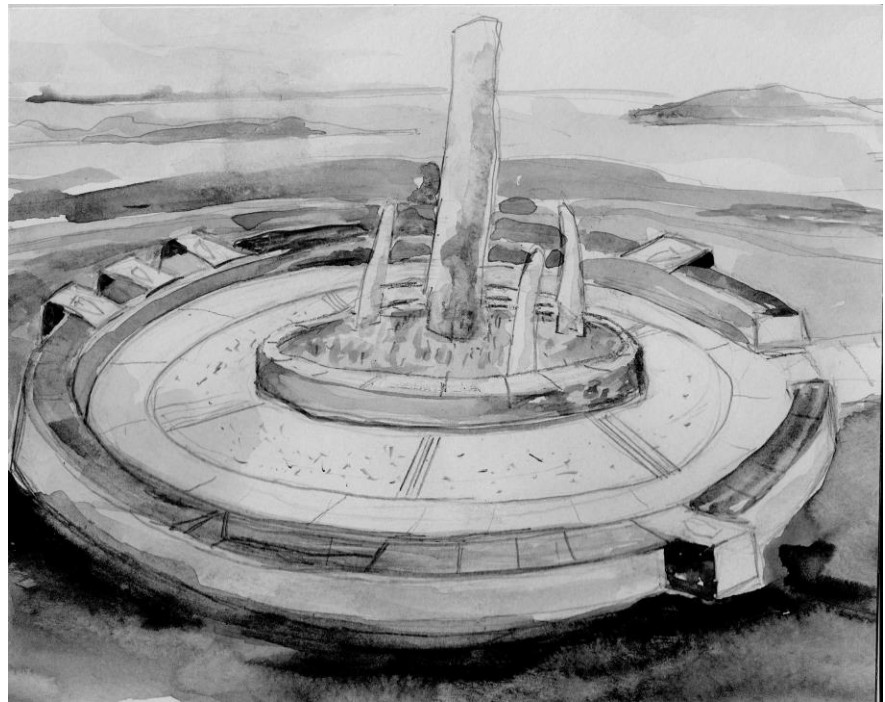
The boat was then carried up the hill, dumped on top of a potato pit just below the hotel and left there. Scott described the events of the day as "a distinguished triumph of brute force over law and order." He was determined that the crofters should be cleared

and was supported in these plans by the Marchioness who told him 'I think the sooner and the more decidedly the Badenscallie people are taught their lesson the better'. With a further attempt at serving the writs impending, scouts were positioned at Ullapool to give warning of a party leaving there. The anticipated confrontation occurred in the second week of February 1853. The sheriff's party landed at Culnacraig whereupon the sheriff's officer was seized by the women; the writs were once again taken from him and burned. The officer was then "entirely stripped of his clothes and put on board the boat, in which he went to Coigach, in a state of almost absolute nudity."

Scott by this time felt that "no force other than a military force [would] be sufficient to bring the people to submit." A request to the Solicitor General in Edinburgh for a party of soldiers or police from Glasgow to support the local officers was refused. Instead, another attempt had to be made by the ordinary law officers reinforced by a police presence. Consequently, on 22 March 1853, it was, yet again, the Sheriff Depute, Procurator Fiscal, and some of the County Police who set off from Ullapool by boat. On landing at Culnacraig, the party "were met by a great body of people consisting of two or three hundred persons (chiefly women, the men being in the background). "The crowd paid little heed to the Sheriff's address to them as, once he had finished, "they rushed upon him and the four policemen by whom he was surrounded and seizing him and then violently deprived him of the writs, which they immediately destroyed." Katie Campbell took the shoes of the leader to ensure that no papers were secreted there and the officer was subsequently thrown in the sea. Yet again the law had been defied and its officers humiliated at the hands of the crofters; humiliation that was compounded by extensive newspaper coverage throughout the resistance, locally and nationally.

As late as December 1853, action against the Coigach crofters was still being demanded. However, the adverse publicity and general unpleasantness surrounding the issue finally persuaded the Marquis and Marchioness to abandon the proposed removals. For the people of Coigach, it was an almost unprecedented victory in Highland history; rarely, if at all, had the authority of a clearing landlord been successfully resisted. A success largely won by the women.

Unlike the male players on both sides of the proposed removals, the women are nameless within the written records. Oral history, however, has ensured that five of the female leaders are known: Mary Macleod, Anna Bhàn Mackenzie, Katie Macleod Campbell, Margaret Macleod (aged about 16 at the time of the rebellions) and Catherine Stewart. Katie was later identified by estate



Marian Leven's vision of the sculpture to be erected on the hillside above Acheninver

officials and officers demanded that the factor make certain that she could never live on the Estate. As a result, when she married, she and her husband were forced to build a house below the highwater mark on the shore, which was frequently flooded.

Such is the story that is held and celebrated within the Coigach community. To recognize the efforts made by these women, efforts that have ensured the continuity of some of those families within today's community, it was proposed that a village plaque or small cairns at the sites of the attempted landings to serve the summonses should be erected. Coigach Heritage took up the challenge to commemorate the events and, as the idea captured the imaginations of local residents, the suggestion of a sculpture was born.

Internationally acclaimed local artists, Will Maclean RSA, who has Coigach roots, and his wife Marian Leven RSA, designed a magnificent 10 m circular structure, Lorg na Còigich (the footprint of Coigach), to be set on the hillside above Acheninver, near Achiltibuie, which is said to be one of the sites where fires of gorse and heather were lit to warn the people of approaching boats carrying the Sheriff's Officers. With every stone symbolizing the women and men who made a stand against injustice, the legend adds to the appeal of the stunning design and choice of site.

With a large monument come monumental costs. To that end, Coigach Heritage launched the Lorg na Còigich project, and a fundraising campaign, in spring 2023. The

story has inspired spin-off projects such as the children at Achiltibuie Primary School exploring the history of the Clearances and creating their own family trees. Acclaimed musicians, Mairead Green and Rachel Newton have composed and recorded an album of music in tribute to their great great grandmother, Anna Bhàn, one of the women involved in the resistance, which was released on 4th October 2024.

Successful fundraising events have been held within the village hall that have been fully supported by the local community. Together with these and the generous support from donors and trust funds locally, nationally and internationally, the campaign has reached 75% of its target. Coigach Heritage is now working to close the funding gap with a view to commencing building works in spring 2025. The memorial will be a visible celebration of a female story that has been silent too long.

For more information about the campaign:
Email: coigach.heritage@gmail.com
Website: <https://www.coigach-heritage.org/>

Further Reading:
Cromartie: Highland Life 1650 - 1914, E.Richards & M.Clough (Aberdeen, 1989)
The Highland Clearances, E.Richards (Edinburgh, 2000)

Peoples & Settlement in North-West Ross, J.R.Baldwin (ed.) (Edinburgh, 1994)

Left at The Wellgate: The Untold Story of Mary Petrie Smith

The Internet has made tracing a family history more accessible and more efficient, and users often end up with surprising results. This certainly was the case with Jamie Lees from Amherstburg, Ontario, who contacted us recently to tell us about her 20-year investigation into the story of her Scottish great grandmother. It was a painful but ultimately rewarding journey that culminated in an exhibition in Dundee, Scotland, last September.

When she was growing up, Jamie was always curious about Grandma Mary, her great grandmother, who remained tight-lipped about her background refusing to answer questions, and was not pleased if anyone pried. Some whispered she was an orphan, a gypsy, or a Home Child sent to Canada from the UK.

But once her son (Jamie's grandfather) died, Jamie and her grandmother started investigating. They knew Mary had sailed to Canada from Scotland, and found her name on the ship's manifest which listed her as being unmarried. They discovered that on arrival, she moved to Perth, Ontario, where she secured a job as a domestic servant. After a short stay there, she moved to Kingston where she met and married Jamie's great grandfather. Although Jamie has no proof, it seems likely that they both knew each other before, possibly in Scotland. Mary's husband's work as a shipbuilder then took them to Collingwood, Ontario, and to various places in the USA before returning to Kingston where they lived for 20 years.

All of this seemed fairly normal but then came the shock: Jamie discovered that Mary has been a bigamist—she had married someone else in Scotland. Even more devastating was that in 1911 she had made the life-altering decision to leave her two baby boys, aged one and two, in their pram outside a pub at the top of the Wellgate Steps in Dundee and boarded a ship to begin a new life in Canada, where her secret remained tightly held for over 100 years.



Jamie Lees with collage by Adam Piggot

This revelation spurred Jamie on to find out more, with a trip of discovery to Dundee in 2005 thinking: "In one way I felt she was brave; on the other hand, I felt that she was selfish. But deep down I knew that there was no way she would have left the children unless she absolutely had to. She was not a horrible person. She went on to have more children in Canada and was a wonderful mother."

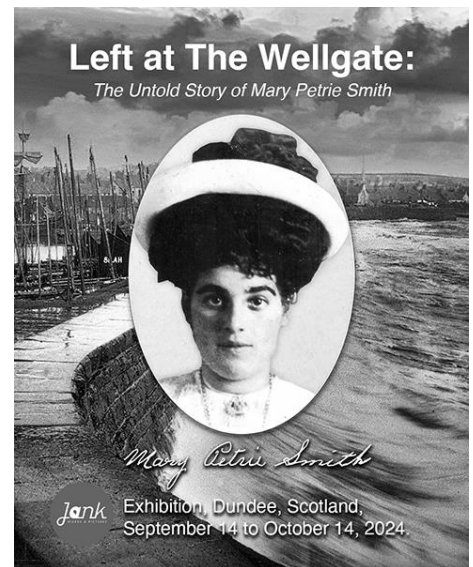
Eventually, Jamie managed to get in touch with the family of William Clark, Mary's first husband, and was able to piece together more of the story. The two babies had been cared for by him and he raised them along with his parents, sister and older brother. "The oldest son had a very good life, but the youngest son had a number of struggles," she said.

Initially she was both excited and apprehensive when she eventually arrived at the actual spot where Mary's babies had been deserted, but ended up in tears, with an overwhelming feeling of sorrow. As a result, when she returned to Canada, she could not face the thought of looking at all her research and put everything away.

However, during lockdown while she was cleaning up, she came across the material again and quickly decided that she needed to do something with it. By coincidence at that time, she found out that the authorities in Dundee were working on a project to tell the story of the Wellgate area, the origins of which can be traced back as far as the early 15th century, and so she wrote to the organizers to let them know about Mary's story and they responded saying that it was exactly the type of thing they were looking for. By then Jamie had accumulated about 250 pieces of information including photos, documents and letters and, as a result, she was offered the opportunity to present a 30-day exhibition in Dundee's Central Library with an opening date of September 14, 2024.

Work on the project between Scotland and Canada then unfolded. Dr. Erin Farley, Project Lead and Library & Information Officer, and designer and artist Adam Piggot managed the efforts on the ground in Scotland, while Jamie and her husband Frank D'Angelo coordinated the project from their media and design company in Canada, ensuring that the logistics and many moving parts came together seamlessly.

In Dundee, Dr. Erin Farley noted: "We've collaborated with Jamie in Canada from Scotland to create an immersive experience that sheds light on the social and cultural context of early 20th century Dundee. This



exhibition not only honours Mary Petrie Smith's legacy but also enriches our understanding of the historical landscape in which she lived. The public are invited to celebrate this remarkable transatlantic connection and discover the compelling story of Mary Petrie Smith, a story that peels back the layers of the life of a complex woman—abandoner, immigrant, bigamist, survivor, enigma. A paradoxical maternal path that shaped a family's history."

Jamie explained that as well as fostering a stronger cultural connection between Canada and Scotland, the exhibition invited visitors to explore various possibilities of what really happened that dark day in 1911 and what drove Mary to make such a drastic decision, encouraging them to form their own opinions based on the artifacts, documents, and personal stories presented. Speaking on CBC radio, Jamie said: "Women all over the world are forced to make hard decisions at times and while it's not unusual for men to leave their children without much in the way of criticism, whenever a woman does it accusations, condemnation and judgments are made. The story of Mary Petrie Smith has been an emotional journey of discovery and connection for me. It is a privilege to share my great grandmother's story with the people of Dundee and to highlight the resilience and strength of women like her."

For Jamie, the next step is to bring the exhibit to Canada. "It would be wonderful to have the project on display in all the places where Mary lived," she said. She is also working on a graphic novel based on Mary's story and this is due to be released in 2025. As well, she is looking to produce a stage play and initial discussions with a production company have already taken place.

The Foundation is hoping to work with Jamie on these projects and we encourage anyone who is interested in assisting to get in touch.

Cliff Hanley: Glasgow's bright wee man

By David Hunter

A few weeks ago I was in an antique shop when an old wind-up gramophone caught my eye. On the turntable was a 78 RPM record of Robert Wilson singing *Scotland the Brave*. It immediately reminded me of the time when Cliff Hanley, the man who wrote the words of that famous song, was living in Toronto.

Cliff was one of Glasgow's best-known characters in the second half of the 20th century. His versatility made a name for him as author, songwriter, raconteur, historian, broadcaster and journalist. If you asked him to produce 500 words on any subject or topic under the sun, you could guarantee that he came up with an informed and witty item, often in less than 60 minutes.

Cliff began his journalistic career as a court and crime reporter with a small news agency in Glasgow's West Nile Street, before joining the Daily Record at Kemsley House in Hope Street. Then in his mid-20s he found himself in his element, writing fast news pieces, theatre reviews, humorous articles, and full-scale features on almost any subject an editor could demand. Even advertisers, mounting special pages, would ask for the editorial to be written by... "your bright wee man Hanley."

His interest in writing for the performing arts moved to the fore some years later, when he was asked by the late Robert Wilson, the then famous Scottish singer, to write the words to accompany an old Highland pipe tune. Cliff came up with *Scotland the Brave* which became an international hit and for

many years was Scotland's de-facto national anthem.

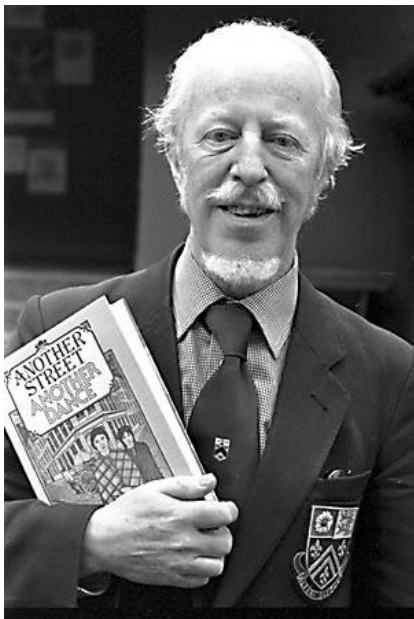
Cliff loved the then hectic world of Glasgow show-business, reporting on the raft of theatres which still survived in the city in the 1960s. His light and humorous touch, and sharp observations on Scottish life, saw him much in demand as a commentator on radio and television, not only in Scotland but UK-wide. Very much a "professional Glaswegian," he was often called upon to comment on issues affecting the city.

With NFB founder John Grierson, he co-wrote the script for *Seawards the Great Ships*, the 1961 Oscar-winning documentary about Clyde shipbuilding and in 1967 wrote the script for *The Bowler and the Bunnet*, a Scottish Television documentary also about Clyde shipbuilding and which was directed and presented by Sean Connery—the only film Connery ever directed

His first book, *Dancing in the Streets*, about growing up in Glasgow between the wars, was followed by several novels which brought him international recognition, and in 1979 he was awarded an £8,500 eight-month fellowship as Writer in Residence at Glendon College, the bilingual campus of Toronto's York University. He told the Glasgow Evening Times: "It should give me a new perspective, and should be a lot of fun. I don't think I'll be too lonely for my ain folk, because all you've got to do in Canada is throw a stick and you'll hit at least three people with Glasgow ancestors!" Cliff was a self-educated working class man and later said that the York University experience and honour was a highlight of his career.

But it was not his first visit to Canada. As a teenager he worked on a ship sailing from Glasgow to Canada and recalls meeting some women in Montreal who were originally from Glasgow. "How is Argyle Street doing, son?" one of them asked. "Fine," he replied, "Still the same, big crowds on a Saturday night and buskers playin' the flute." With tears in her eyes she cried out, "Oh, my God! It's that nice tae hear a good Scotch voice. Could you no' take me hame on your boat, son?" In pity he explained, "I wish I could." The woman warned him, "Don't ever leave your home, son, it's the best place in the world. Ah wish tae God I had never left dear auld Glasgow."

I was fortunate to meet Cliff on several occasions during his time in Toronto. He was a diminutive man and his wife Anna was six feet tall so they made the most of the visually incongruent appearance that they presented together as a couple when Cliff was in demand as an after-dinner speaker. For Cliff



Cliff Hanley with his sequel to "Dancing in the Streets."

Scotland the Brave

Hark when the night is falling
Hear! Hear the pipes are calling,
Loudly and proudly calling,
Down thro' the glen.
There where the hills are sleeping,
Now feel the blood a-leaping,
High as the spirits of the old Highland
men.

Towering in gallant fame,
Scotland my mountain hame,
High may your proud standards
gloriously wave,
Land of my high endeavour,
Land of the shining river,
Land of my heart for ever,
Scotland the brave.

High in the misty Highlands,
Out by the purple islands,
Brave are the hearts that beat
Beneath Scottish skies.
Wild are the winds to meet you,
Staunch are the friends that greet you,
Kind as the love that shines from fair
maiden's eyes.

Towering in gallant fame,
Scotland my mountain hame,
High may your proud standards
gloriously wave,
Land of my high endeavour,
Land of the shining river,
Land of my heart for ever,
Scotland the brave.

Far off in sunlit places,
Sad are the Scottish faces,
Yearning to feel the kiss
Of sweet Scottish rain.
Where tropic skies are beaming,
Love sets the heart a-dreaming,
Longing and dreaming for the homeland
again.

Towering in gallant fame,
Scotland my mountain hame,
High may your proud standards
gloriously wave,
Land of my high endeavour,
Land of the shining river,
Land of my heart for ever,
Scotland the brave.

was essentially a man of words. I remember meeting him at the heavily wooded Glendon campus on a crisp bright October morning shortly after he arrived from Scotland and asked him what he thought of autumn in Canada. I'll always remember his reply. He said: "Magic! You can almost hear the leaves turning colour!"

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