



The Clansmen Rugby Club

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

August 4-7, 2017

"Let the festivities begin"

Roll Call

TELL ALL YER CLAN FRIENDS TO CHECK IN WITH DAVE WALKER TO BE ON THE LIST! ESPECIALLY THOSE OVERSEAS (a couple of nicknames come to mind, *The Wanker Banker*, *The Big Dipper*, *Zoom Lenz*, etc). **Intended (or at least interested in what's happening) attendees so far...**

Garry Achtemichuk
Ron Allen
Ian Andexser (BC)
Bill Aylesworth (BC)
Ian Yarpie Barron (Clgy)
Craig Bentham (UK)
Ian Biggar (UK)
Steve Blink
Peter Blood
Russ Brown (ON)
David Burke (ON)
Sean Caithness
Dale Carton
PJ Clooney
Mike Cooper
Carey Craig
Peter Eligh (BC)
Merle Faminow
Ted Fitch (Clgy)
Mike Fleming (BC)
Doug Francis (BC)
Wayne Gallop
Keith Garrard
Davie Graham
Gunnar Christensen (Clgy)
Jimmy Hamilton (US)
Jim Hilsenteger (Clgy)
Ron Horton
Andy Johnston (BC)

Peter Kerswell
Dick Koch (BC)
Peter Laird
Paddy Lamb
Kevin Lavelle
Archie Lees
Dana Lowrie
Dale Lowrie
Kim Lucas
Mike Lynagh
Mike Lynch
Ken Mark
Jim Martin
Rob Marshall
Allan McAuley
John McClelland
Kym McDonald
Bruce McFarlane
Rolly McGinn (UK)
Trent McHardy
Mike McLetchie (Clgy)
Bob McMillan (ON)
Phil Morgan (Clgy)
Vince Moroney
Tom Morton (UK)
John Nelson (NZ)
Theresa Patenaude
John Phelan (ON)
Steve Pomeroy (NZ)

Richard Powell (Clgy)
April Prescott
Don Quinn
Jo Reinbold
Gary Richards (AU)
Steve Rivers (ON)
Barry Robson
Nate Ross
Richard Ross
Judy Seddon
Greg Shanks (NT)
Frank Smith
Ron Stengler (BC)
Duane Stephenson (BC)
Greg Strong (Clgy)
Stan Tripp
Todd Van Vliet
Tim Van Vliet (Clgy)
Larry Wall

David Walker
Mick Walton
Nanette Warman (BC)
Neil Waugh
Kirby White



Do You Know...

Which old Clansman is the Sergeant at Arms down at the Alberta Legislature?

Which member of The Clan has recently been appointed to the Canadian Supreme Court ?

"I could have been a Judge, but I didn't have the Latin"
(Google - Peter Cook, Experiences down the mine)

Who was the first Clanswoman to play for Canada?

Keep reading for the answers...

Please send contact information for Clansmen and Clanswomen to:

Dave Walker
sbeet@telus.net



Founding Members (L to R): Shaun O'Connor Parsons, Vince Moroney and Davie Graham

In Memorium

The Clan lost one of its founding members and Legends last month, as most of you know. *Shaun O'Connor Parsons*, who always added a bit of class to what was, let's face it, a rabble. Shaun came to town and enquired as to who was the weakest Club on the local Rugby scene, intending to offer his services to them. Someone gave him *Davie Graham's* name, as he was starting a new Club, and assuming that that would be the weakest Club in town.

Shaun joined us and we held the first, and several subsequent meetings in "The White House", which he shared with a few guys, down at the bottom of 112th Street. Our empties used to roll down the hill and trundle into The Royal Glenora Country Club!

Shaun had attended Ampleworth College in England, as did Lord Lovat who led Commando raids during WW2, and Lovat's cousin, David Stirling who founded the SAS. Shaun was yet another leader that the school produced, and he needed to be, running the Clan with a guy from the Gorbals in Glasgow and a reprobate Irishman from Dublin.

He became our first secretary, and had our famous newsletters run off at his office. They had a real photocopier not a "Gestetner", which most other offices had. We will miss that man, and his insidious offers of "A small one for the road."

Pax Vobiscum Shaun.

HELP!

We need volunteers to head some of the suggested 50th events. Potentially, "The Golf Tournament", "The Dinner", "Day at the Races", "Trip to WEM", "Games Day BBQs", "Juniors and Minis Events", "Giant Group Photo", or whatever else tickles yer fancy. Led by the dreaded "Organizing Committee". All tentative at this stage but nevertheless preparedness is next to something or other. Get yer name in! A volunteer is worth four pressed men!

To sign-up please contact:

Davie Graham
mccrum@telus.net

Photo Right: Clansman Danny Baugh, after playing for Canada in Calgary. He is being manhandled, assailed, fondled, and otherwise importuned by Clanswomen Amber Ross and Jenny Choi.



**Blast from
the Past!**
Recently released under the
freedom of information act

The Bessborough Incident

We were in Saskatoon for one of several Louis Reil Days Rugby Tournaments we attended, staying at the Bessborough Hotel (very upscale). Roger Marsh, also known as 'Number One' (per the CEO in the Royal Navy), had slid into one of his personas. We had a room which featured a decorative metal balcony outside the window.

So Marsh moves some of the room's furniture out onto this narrow feature: a soft chair, a small table and a standard lamp. He then locked and chained the room door, and jammed a chair under the handle. Anticipating a reaction for hotel management, obviously.

He then moved out onto the newly furnished ledge and made himself comfortable, dressing gown, magazine, cigarette and a large drink.

The reaction wasn't long in coming. First the phone rang, and was ignored. Then someone tried to open the door. Pounding, shouting and ringing ensued for a considerable time.

Eventually, a window of an adjoining room scraped open, and a very pissed-off CN policeman (the Bessborough was a railway hotel) crawled out with a pistol in his hand. Carefully keeping his balance, he pointed the gun at the reclining Roger and shouted...read the end of this newsletter for the dramatic denouement!



Donations

The Scottish Police have recently donated several millions of pounds to their local rugby clubs to improve clubhouses and playing facilities. The monies came from the seized assets of criminals. JK Rowling has also been noticed contributing generously to one of the rugby charities. They'll try anything to get on our right side!

We don't charge for social membership in the Clan because we have found that the walking wounded and retired Clan have always kicked in, helping with donations, trade skills, etc, which in the end has always been far more valuable than collecting some small token amount of cash. When they throw money into the "Honesty Cash Box" upstairs in the Bear's Den bar, they keep in mind the costs of running the building, overheads, utilities, Dana's makeup, etc., and have always been generous. Keep up the good work lads. You will be smiled upon.

A reminder...As always, any donations to the Clan (\$250+) will be rewarded by a tax receipt...we have already received some, including from **Bob McMillan** in Ontario. We even had one from **Nick Palethorpe** in Sydney, Australia, who played for the Clan in 1969/70 seasons. Fat lot of good a tax receipt did him! Interesting tidbit...Nick along with **Vince Moroney**, were the Clan's first players to be selected for Alberta.

World Series Sevens Rugby Comes to Canada!

On March 12-13, 2016, Vancouver hosts a leg of the HSBC Sevens! BC rugby aficionados are raising money to be split between Special Needs Children/School Breakfast Program/Local & BCRU Youth Rugby Programs, have organized an opportunity to purchase a great ticket package. Contact Steve Barron at sjbaron@telus.net for more information.

It's a Wee World!

My brother Benny and his wife, Kathy, were having a couple of days away from the grandkinder, in Inveraray, Argyleshire, home of the Graham's traditional foes, the Campbells, and were having lunch in the George, a classy place on the loch front. They were trying to determine whether the girl serving them was Aussie or Kiwi. No, she came from eastern Canada. Eventually western Canada was mentioned, names were mentioned, rugby was mentioned, and it transpired that she knew us all, having played for Clan! It was **Anna Barthaume**! It's a wee world is it no'?



A surprise celebration was held in honour of Davie Graham's 80th Birthday last November. A rather large, varied and far-flung contingent partook. Still Standing from left to right: Mike McLetchie, Ieuan Evans, Bob Parent, Dana Lowrie, Barry Robson, Neil Waugh, Archie Lees, Kenny Mark, Wayne Gallop, Vince Moroney, Peter Eligh, Duane Stephenson, Paul Cassidy, Andy Johnston, Steve Pomeroy, Hugh Gardyne, Ev Hewett, Steve Blink, Peter Jameson, Dickie Koch, Shaun O'Connor Parsons, Garry Achtemichuk, John Phelan, John Nelson, Pat Kyle, Phil Morgan, John Williams, Len Schroeder, Dale Carton, Ron Stengler, Gary Wald, Peter Doyle, Rod Kurylo, John Rowe, Harold Burden. Otherwise, from left to right: Mike Cooper, Ron Allen, Mike Fleming, Phil Scott, Ron Horton, Rolly McGinn, Davie Graham Jr, David Walker, Gunnar Christianson, Davie Graham Sr, Jimmy Ward, Larry Wall, Rob Kessler, Don Quinn, Jeremy Sturgess, Peter Blood. Missing from Picture: PJ Clooney, Rick Eaton.

Note that several good bottles of Scotch were presented as unsolicited gifts and are now available for sipping at The Bear's Den in The Clansmen Clubhouse.

Bessborough Conclusion

OK Spiderman...
...OPEN THE F*CKING DOOR!

In Other News

The Antedeluvians, Edmonton's old boys Club, is planning their trip to Cardiff, for the International Golden Oldies Rugby Festival, August 21-28 2016. Check their web site www.antedeluvians.com for the skinny

...Were You Right?

Which old Clansman is the Sergeant at Arms down at the Alberta Legislature?

Brian Hodgson

Which member of The Clan has recently been appointed to the Canadian Supreme Court ?

The Honourable Mr. Russell Brown

Incidentally, we will be announcing a new program whereby all Club members will have those pesky parking and jaywalking tickets looked after...know what ah mean? nudge, nudge, wink, wink.

Who was the first Clanswoman to play for Canada?

Heather McDonald

Heather is the daughter of **Rob McDonald**, and niece to the late **Dave (Wolfman) McDonald**. We held a women's game in honour of The Wolfman, who had been killed on the job. All of the McDonald Clan womenfolk played, along with wives, girlfriends and daughters of the Club members. There was such enthusiasm it was decided to officially enter a women's team into the league.

It was obvious from the start that Heather had great potential, but we could not supply the coaching, etc. at that time, to exploit it. She transferred to the Rockers, who had half the Canadian team playing for them, where she quickly achieved her ambition.