



# The Clansmen Rugby Club

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

## August 4-7, 2017

Issue #11 - All previous editions appear on the  
Clan Website at [Clanrugby.com](http://Clanrugby.com)

### Start of the Clan - Chapter 2

...and thus, having been turned down by the Husky Organization, I decided to form an independent new club. I was determined to play a last season with the Leprechauns. Meanwhile not wanting to rush in to it, gave a great deal of thought to a name for the new club.

The pressure was on to call it the Edmonton Scottish, following the custom in a number of cities around the world, but I preferred the example set by the Druids, and subsequently the Leprechauns, of just having a flavour of a nationality. I also knew that in no time the club would be known by the abbreviation, the Clan (though in St. Albert they use an epithet, as a hyphenation, along with that title).

The Scottish uniform was my original choice for the kit, but as there were too many other clubs with white shorts, I selected black for the shorts, the Tigers being the only other club wearing that colour at that time.

The Edmonton Rugby Union had to approve club colours to prevent colour conflict, and we could have had a conflict with the Pirates, who normally played in solid black jerseys (one of their founding members had played for the Penzance Pirates in England and had adopted their colours here). Unfortunately or fortunately, a new set of Pirate kit had just arrived from UK, and it was blue & white hoops! A mistake had been made. I jumped in and got the ERU approval for the solid navy jersey. I had already designed the badge and copied the Clan Graham slogan and Tartan\*

Going into the last months of the 1967 season I started recruiting, refusing to accept many of the existing players who applied, as there was no point in weakening the existing Clubs. I had Vince Moroney from the Leprechauns, who just happened to be the Canadian Scrum Half. Vince explained that his eyesight was getting worse and he would like to play out the few seasons left to him by helping with the Clan. These were before the advent of "contact lenses". The other main recruit was a long haired Englishman, also with glasses, who had wandered into town and enquired as to who was the worst Club. We were suggested as we were new, and that is how we got Sean O'Connor Parsons.

A Scotsman, an Englishman, and an Irishman...sounds like the start of a joke...so we started a Club.

*\*My response over the years to those who suggest changing the Clan colours is to "Bugger off and try starting your own Club, then you can have anything you want"*

The population of Edmonton was 394,000 in 1967, now it is 900,000. When I came in 1960 it was 270,000.

...more to come in the next issue



# Edmonton's Avenue Magazine 2016 Top 40 Under 40



BY CAITLIN CRAWSHAW

Tamara Kulyk holds degrees from Carleton University and the London School of Economics, but, before that, she was placed in special ed. It wasn't until high school that she learned she had severe dyslexia.

She muscled her way through with extra credit assignments and tutoring, but it was rugby that helped Kulyk manage her resulting anger: "Rugby was the only setting in which aggression was acceptable," she says. "It was also the only place that helped me harness my frustration and turn it into a positive."

She went on to study public administration and now works as a manager for the provincial government, but her love of the sport hasn't waned. After high school, Kulyk played varsity rugby in Ottawa and London. In 2011, she arrived in Edmonton to take a job in health-policy research and began playing for the Edmonton Clansmen Rugby Club. A year later, she was sidelined by injuries: "It was a life changer for me," she says.

To stay in the game, she began coaching youth and soon realized that girls needed a champion: Too often they were forced to practice in parking lots or play without referees because the boys' teams were more likely to get field time or refs. To address entrenched sexism in rugby, Kulyk and a colleague successfully campaigned to have the Edmonton Rugby Union legitimize a girls' league, replacing the haphazard structure used previously.

Recently, she received funding from the union to start a marketing campaign to educate young women, and their parents, about the benefits of the challenging contact sport: "The change in girls from the beginning of the season to the end is amazing."

PHOTOGRAPHY BY CURTIS COMEAU

Age: 31

*Why She's Top 40: She champions girls' rugby in Edmonton.*

*Guilty Pleasure: "I love cheese and Harry Potter, and I like them together and separately. They're both so good."*

[www.avenueedmonton.com](http://www.avenueedmonton.com)

## The Famous Flying Clandini



Above: Davie Graham leads the chorus while Jaime Clandini (Jim Ward) works the trapeze.

Right: Jim Ward and Dick Koch appearing at a past Rugbyfest. They are being approached, somewhat cautiously, by a dog...I don't blame it.



# The Planning

Much of last Thursday's planning meeting was spent back filling detail and checking that what was proposed was likely to materialize. The most news worthy item was almost certainly the decision to resurrect Rocking, or was it Rucking, Ron Horton's band for the dance to be held at Airways on the Sunday.

Expect us to start asking for confirmation of attendance, sportswear orders and money for the same in a few months. By then we will also have hotel accommodation details and contact information for booking. Currently it looks as though we will be using one of the hotels close to the old municipal airport terminal which are within walking distance of Airways and the LRT.

## Schedule

*Friday evening:* Registration, touch rugby and barbecue at Ellerslie, from 6:00 pm.

*Saturday afternoon:* Women's and men's junior rugby games will be featured plus activities for the kids at Airways.

*Saturday evening:* Banquet 6:00pm at Fort Edmonton Park, including group photo to be taken by Ian Biggar, and some speeches, presentations and such.

*Sunday:* Peter Laird is still looking for a suitable golf course. We are not sure what the criteria for suitability are. More straight forward are the alternative fun and games - kids and otherwise, at Airways followed by a catered meal and dance featuring Rocking Ron Horton's band.

*Monday:* a holiday, open for recovery.

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# Donations

A big thank you to those who have already made contributions in response to the pitch in the last newsletter.

If you want to be a Clan patron keep in mind a cheque made out to the Alberta Sport Connection will result in an official tax rebate receipt. Cheques should be sent through the Clan for funds to be directed correctly. Contact David Walker, [sbeet@telus.net](mailto:sbeet@telus.net) for more information.

There are numerous other ways of being a Clan patron. You haven't really contributed to the Club until you have done something over and above just playing for it. Think about it.

*November/December 2016*



*Trevor Leota carresses the ball over the bar.*



**PLAY FOR FUN**

*There will be golf at the Reunion...*

## Young Major Marsh

It was in 1982 and Maggie Thatcher was seriously contemplating folding The Parachute Regiment. When, lo and behold, the idiots in Argentina attacked The Falkland Islands. So the lads gleefully embarked, and sailed South to put the boots to The Argies. Meanwhile in Edmonton, Roger Marsh, who was working downtown, set off at lunchtime to visit the public library. Having obtained what he required there, he then crossed the road to CN-CP Communications, the Telegram Office.

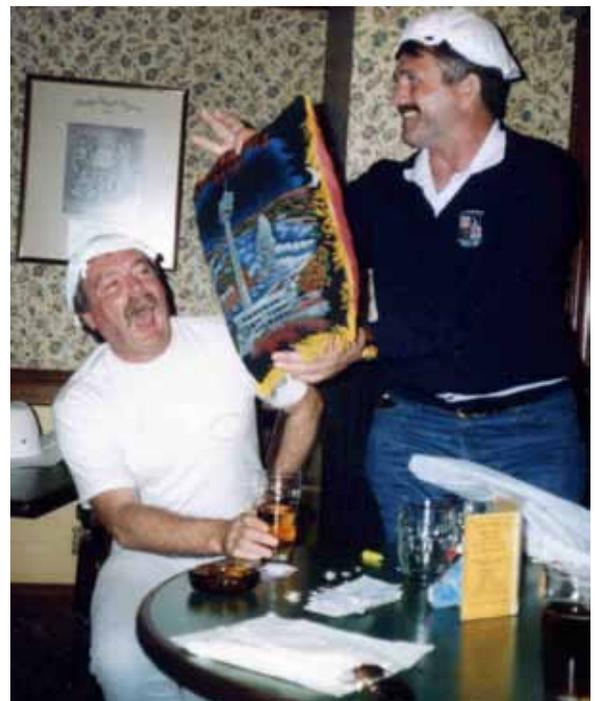
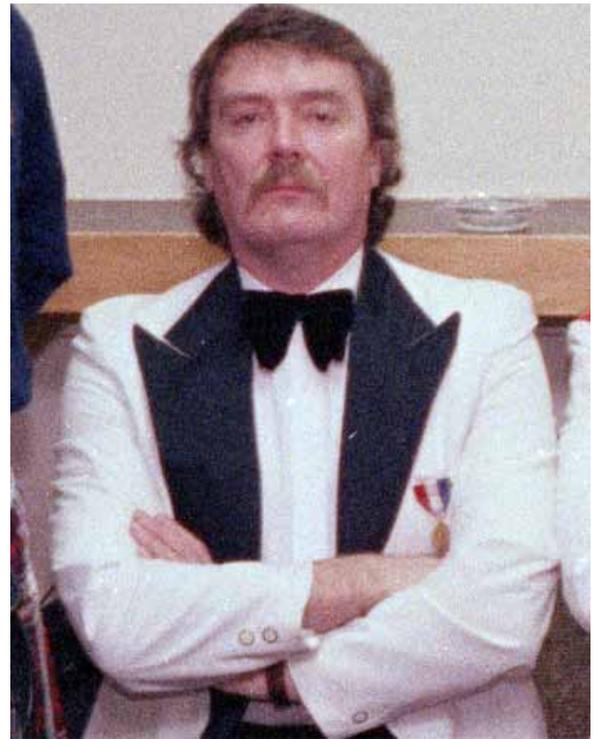
Sending a telegram was still the main method of quick communication in those days, so our boy strides in and declares "I wish to send a telegram". A portly clerk mans the counter and flips open the book. "To whom are you sending the telegram" he asks, removing the pencil stub from behind his ear. "To The Argentine Charge D'Affaires, Senor Juan Rodrigo". The clerk scribbles, then asks "Address?". "81 Metcalfe, Ottawa, Ontario" says our lad, and the man continues his scribble, and then asks "Message?". There is a pause, then "Consider yourselves at War"

Without any reaction the clerk continues "Signed?" Roger drawls "Young Major Marsh, The Long Range Drinking Group". The clerk enquires "Is that it?", "That's it" states our hero. The clerk says "Allow me to read this back to you Sir" and starts off with The Argentine Charge D'Affaires, Senor Juan Rodrigo etc. etc. finishing he raises an eyebrow at Marsh. Marsh, nods impatiently, "Yes, yes, that's it"

The clerk starts counting the total of the words under his breath and arrives at a cost "That will be thirteen dollars and fifty cents". Roger meanwhile is reaching into his hip for cash, asks "Tell me, my good man, do you get many people coming in to this establishment and declaring war on a sovereign state? The clerk, looking over the top of his glasses, shrugs, and sighs resignedly, "We get a wide variety of flakes coming in here Sir"

PS. On my return to the country I demoted him to 2nd Lt. For life.

PPS. We are technically still at war with Argentina!



*Seated is Young Major Marsh, one of the presiding judges (note the Judicial Cap) at a Kangaroo Court Martial in Toronto, during the 1989 Rugby Golden Oldies Festival. The other presiding Judge is DQ (Don Quinn), who has just been unmasked at the Court Martial, having been found in possession of a tassled, velvet tourist cushion of Toronto. DQ is seen blabbing some weak excuse and is about to throw himself on the mercy of the Court. ...I could have been a judge, but I didn't have The Latin.*



If everyone of you got a recruit this year  
there would be more of this



## And the List Keeps Growing

*Are you on it yet?*

\*New additions since the last newsletter are in red.

Garry Achtemichuk	Travis Bilou	Peter Dawson	John Gillie
David Adamson	Steve Blink	Glen DeLancey	Taffy Gittings (UK)
Ward Affleck (Clgy)	Peter Blood	Jayne Dewar (UK)	Brian Glenn
Drew Allan (BC)	Billy Bowd (Red Deer)	Stan Dilworth	Davie Graham
Ron Allen	<b>Ray Brewer (NZ)</b>	John Dippie (NZ)	Katie Grudzi (BC)
Gray Amphlett	Bennett Brown (BC)	Rory Dixon	Jimmy Hamilton (US)
Ian Andexser (BC)	Russ Brown (ON)	<b>Kevin Dowling</b>	Kevin Hancock
Deb Ashmore	Shaun Brzezicki	Dave Doyle	Chico Harris (NS)
Blair Assaly	David Burke (ON)	Ted Dyck	Lee Heighway
Russ Avery	Suzanne Byron (BC)	Rick Eaton	Jim Hilsenteger (Clgy)
Ross Avery	Shawn Caithness	Peter Eligh (BC)	Ken Hilsenteger
Bill Aylesworth (BC)	John Calder	David Evans (US)	Ray Hilsenteger
Ralph Backer	John Calderwood (BC)	Ieuan Evans	Brian Hodgson
Mike Baker	Dale Carton	Wayne Evans (US)	Kevin Holt
Clint Bannert	Simon Cheng	Merle Famineau (Uruguay)	Ron Horton
Ian Yarpie Barron (Clgy)	Gunnar Christensen (Red Deer)	Darlene Filis	Gerry Hunt
Danny Baugh (UK)	D'Arcy Claypool	Peter Filis (down east)	Michael Ingoldsby (US)
Danny Belair	PJ Clooney	Ted Fitch (Clgy)	Peter Jamieson
Zenon Belak (SK)	Greg Conroy	Mike Fleming (BC)	Andy Johnston (BC)
Tricia Benne (ON)	Curtis Coon	Grant Frame	<b>Keith Jolly (BC)</b>
Craig Bentham (UK)	Dale Cooper	Doug Francis (BC)	Mike Kaine
<b>Jarrett Berezan (UK)</b>	Daryl Cooper	Wayne Gallop	Rob Kallir
Vince Bergin	Mike Cooper	Keith Garrard	Ross Kenny
Ian Biggar (UK)	Carey Craig	Pat Gibons (BC)	

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*continued on next page*

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Peter Kerswell  
 Rob Kessler  
 Tim Kirby  
 Des Kissane (AUS)  
 Jay Kmech  
 Dick Koch (BC)  
 Rod Kurylo  
 Peter Laird  
 Paddy Lamb  
**Jeff Langer-McIntosh (Banff)**  
 Kevin Lavelle (BC)  
 Archie Lees  
**Sandy Lenz (QC)**  
 Ken Livingstone (Red Deer)  
 Barry Loewen  
 Chris Longmore  
 Dale Lowrie  
 Dana Lowrie  
 Kim Lucas  
 Mike Lynagh  
 Mike Lynch  
 Rob Lynch  
 Sean Mager  
 Leon Marciak  
 Ken Mark  
 Jim Martin (Clgy)  
 Rob Marshall  
 Allan McAuley  
 John McClelland  
 Heather McDonald  
 Kym McDonald  
 Jenn McDonald  
 Rob McDonald  
**Bruce McDowell**  
 Bruce McFarlane  
 Rolly McGinn (UK)  
 Tim McGrath (Ireland)  
 Trent McHardy  
 Jon McKenzie (Clgy)  
 Mike McLetchie (Clgy)

Bob McMillan (ON)  
 Jim McPartlan  
 Rob McTavish  
 Brent Melnychuk  
 Blaine Mitchell  
 John Morgan  
 Phil Morgan (Calgary)  
 Vince Moroney  
 Tom Morton (UK)  
 John Nelson (NZ)  
 Andrew Ness (US)  
 Santiago Olmos  
 Drew Pennycook (NZ)  
 Donna Pennycook (NZ)  
**Randy Peterson**  
 John Phelan (ON)  
 Craig Pinnegar (US)  
 Pierre Pomerleau  
 Steve Pomeroy (NZ)  
 Todd Portlock  
 Richard Powell (Clgy)  
 Tina Prescott (Carstairs)  
 April Prescott  
 Jared Probe  
 Llewellyn Purnell (Red Deer)  
 Don Quinn  
 Bert Radford

Craig Radford  
**Ryan Rayburn**  
 Jo Reinbold  
 Joe Rekab  
 Gary Richards (AU)  
 Steve Rivers (ON)  
 Barry Robson  
 John Robson (Philippines)  
 Nate Ross  
 Paul Ross  
 Richard Ross  
 John Rowe  
 Peter Rowe (Clgy)  
**Matt Rowlands**  
 Matthew Saban  
 Will Saban  
 Duane Schlereth (US)  
 Gareth Scott  
 Phil Scott  
 Judy Seddon  
 Greg Shanks (NT)  
 Kenny Smale  
 Shaun Smale  
 Bonz Smith  
 Frank Smith  
 Kevin Smith  
 Ron Stengler (BC)

Duane Stephenson (BC)  
 Greg Strong (Calgary)  
 Jeremy Sturgess  
 Rick Suggitt (Lethbridge)  
 Dave Sutherland (ON)  
 Shawn Talbot (Clgy)  
 Stan Tripp  
 Colin Twanow  
**David Unsworth**  
 Todd Van Vliet  
 Tim Van Vliet (Calgary)  
 Gary Wald  
 Larry Wall  
 Herb Waller  
 David Walker  
 Sam Walsh (AUS)  
 Mick Walton  
**Jimmie Ward**  
 Nanette Warman (BC)  
 Gordon Watson  
 Neil Waugh  
**Steve Webb (ON)**  
 Mike Wheeler  
 Kirby White  
 John Williams (BC)  
 Bob Wills  
 Charlie Zapisocky

Don't see yourself or your cohorts? See someone on the list you would like to get in touch with before the celebrations? Please contact:

**Dave Walker - [sbeet@telus.net](mailto:sbeet@telus.net)**



1982 the official opening of The Calgary Hornets Clubhouse  
 An honour guard of "Gibson's Own" (GOBS Gibson's Own Borderline Scotsmen) and The LRDG (The Long Range Drinking Group) being inspected by Brigadiers Nolan and Graham.

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