



# Newsletter



NUMBER TWO

AUTUMN 2001



Clan members with Invercauld House as the backdrop at the gathering, August 2001

On 17<sup>th</sup> August 2001 Clan Members met in the Invercauld Arms Hotel, Braemar for an informal start to a very enjoyable weekend.

Some members came from as far away as America, Sharon Farley, President, Larry Waitt, Membership Secretary and his wife Bev from the Clan Farquharson, USA. Others had travelled several hundred miles to attend.

On Saturday it was a lovely sunny, warm day and we all gathered in front of Invercauld House, the Chief's residence; the view from the grounds was beautiful. You could see Lochnagar in the distance.

To set the scene, two pipers, John and Martin were playing outside the front doors of the house whilst everyone was talking and introducing themselves to each other. Everyone seemed to have a camera and lots of photographs were being taken. One member even had a video camera.

At last everyone was invited into the ballroom annexed to the House where tea, coffee and a light buffet was set out.

Alan Caig, President called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone, especially the Chief and Madame Farquharson and all those who had travelled far and wide in order to be part of the weekend.

The Chief welcomed everyone to the meeting and expressed his great pleasure at the launch of a new Clan Farquharson after a gap of about 30 years.

Larry Waitt expressed his thanks to the Chief and President for the invitation and presented a book "Records of Invercauld" to Alan Caig, President, so that it may be loaned out to members. Alan thanked Larry for his generosity.

Officers and Committee Members were proposed and elected. Minutes of both the AGM and the Committee meeting that followed are available upon request to Sue Gask, Treasurer.

Following the AGM everyone retired once again to the grounds in front of the house for the group photo above. The Chief very kindly opened his house to Clan members and gave them a guided tour.

In the evening John and Martin piped the Chief and Madame Farquharson into a reception and dinner held in the Invercauld Arms Hotel where quite a few people were wearing the clan tartan.

After a lovely dinner we were entertained in the lounge by a local traditional Scottish singer. Some of us even joined in.

On Sunday afternoon although it was raining members visited Braemar Castle for a personal guided tour by the Chief who gave a few anecdotes on the life and times of the Castle's history.

After this most people said their goodbyes and departed in high spirits promising to keep in touch and to meet up again next year if not before.

Andrew Farquharson of Worthing flew the Farquharson flag at the Fife Arms Karaoke on Sunday evening and perhaps next year he might lead the "Farquharson Clan Singers".

Lots of telephone numbers and email addresses were swapped during the weekend and many friendships were made.

Contact details for Committee Officers and Members elected at the Gathering are published below:-

**Clan Chief**

Capt A C Farquharson

<b>President:</b> Alan Caig	38 Hillside Road Norton Stockton-on-Tees TS20 1JG	H 01642 558336 W 01642 555763	<a href="mailto:alan@clarkwillis.freemove.co.uk">alan@clarkwillis.freemove.co.uk</a>
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<b>Membership Secretary:</b> Valerie Farquharson	6 Chalet Road Feering West Sussex BN12 5NY	01903 502822	
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<b>Member:</b> Gordon Farquharson	4 Greencroft Merrow Guildford, Surrey GU1 2SY	01483 579926	<a href="mailto:GFARQUHARSON@compuserve.com">GFARQUHARSON@compuserve.com</a>
<b>Member:</b> Andrew Farquharson	608 Websterland West Port Edinburgh EH1 2RX	0131 6220007	<a href="mailto:andrew@webstone.co.uk">andrew@webstone.co.uk</a>

## Newsletter

The Newsletter has been called just that, but what the editor would like is a name that identifies itself with the society, so put on your thinking caps and come up with something unique. Send your entry to Alan Caig. We will ask the Chief to judge the entries. The winner will receive a Clan kilt pin as a prize.

## Clan Gathering 2002

The date has been set for the next gathering which will be 16-18<sup>th</sup> August 2002 and again to be held in the Invercauld Arms Hotel. The hotel wish to support the Clan as it is local to Braemar and again have agreed a special rate for all members wishing to attend the weekend. Bed and breakfast will be £40pp per night (really good value). Please phone and make your reservations as soon as possible as it will be first come first served. Alan and Sue have already booked theirs, so don't delay and miss out.

A list of local BBs can be obtained from Alan Caig.



Alan Caig, Capt. Farquharson and Tony Farquharson

## Recruiting

Keep your eyes and ears peeled for any potential members, take a look in the telephone directory, especially when you go on holiday or stay away on a short break. Make contact yourself or pass the information to the Membership Secretary.

Do you know anybody with any of the following names? If you do they could become a member of our society.

Barrie Barry Bowman Brebner Caig Carracher Christie Christison Christy Coate Coates Coats Coatse Coutts Cromar Debarre Fairhair Farahar Farchair Fargason Farker Farley Farquhar Farquharson Fenlason Fergie Fergus Fergushill Ferguson Fergusson Ferquhar Ferrar Ferret Ferrie Ferris Ferriss Ferry Findlay Findlayson Findley Findlie Finlaison Finlay Finlayson Finley Forgie Forker Gracie Grassich Grassick Grassy Greusach Greussach Hardie Hardy Keddie Keddy Kellas Kellis Kerbacher Kerracher Kiddie Leys Lion Lyon Macadie Macartney Maccage Maccaig Maccardney Maccartney Maccag Macraig Maccuag Maceacher Macearachar Macerchar Maccaracher Macfarquharson Macfarquhar Macfergus Macferquhar

Macfurguson Macgardie Machiardie Machardy Maciag Mackague Mackeddie Mackeg Mackerchar Mackerrachar Mackerras Mackersey Mackersie Mackindlay Mackindley Mackinlay Mackjnley Mackuag Mackuid Mackuide Macpadden Macpadline Macquaig Macswayed Macwade Macweed Macwood Mcadie Mckerras Paterson Patterson Quaid Quaide Quate Reiach Reoch Riach Tause Tawse Waid Waide Wait Waite Wayt Wayte.

## Gathering Photographs 2001

The group photograph as depicted on the front of the newsletter is available priced £10 for a 10 x 8. Please send your order to Broombank Productions, 7 Broombank Terrace, Braemar, Aberdeenshire AB35 5YX.

The album of photograph proofs taken by the official photographer is available to all members **on request**. Please, when you receive it send your order off but don't delay sending the file onto the next person on the list or return it to Alan Caig as there are quite a few of you who haven't seen it yet. Apologies for the delay in getting the photos out to all those who ordered them at the gathering.

## Gathering Video 2001

John Hardie has taken a video of the gathering and will be pleased to supply you with a copy at a cost of £5. He can be contacted at 38 Bede Crescent, Boston Lincs PE22 0DZ.

## Articles for the Newsletter

Articles do not have to be about the society or directly linked to Clan Farquharson, but may be about things Scottish or just general interest items regarding holidays or events that you have been involved with. Let us know about any family happenings, weddings, anniversaries, births, Scottish recipes, etc. Send your contribution by any means available to you, snail mail or e-mail, photographs if posted will be returned.

## Making a Rosette

During the weekend a group of the ladies got together and Sharon Farley demonstrated how to turn part of a sash into a rosette. Training sessions will be available at the next gathering followed by a race to see who can make a rosette the quickest (only joking).

**The Whisky Story** (excerpt kindly republished with permission from the Whisky Society News and provided by Connie Cleps)

## The History

Fifteen years ago a group of friends who shared a love of whisky decided to join together to pay for a cask of fine malt – and the Scotch Malt Whisky Society was born. Today, the club has attracted many more members yet its companionable spirit remains unchanged. The Society is still based in Edinburgh but now has rooms in London and associated memberships in America, France, Italy, Switzerland, the Netherlands and Japan.

## The Whisky

The Society bottles its whiskies direct from the cask, at full strength (55%-60% alcohol) and in peak condition. We only bottle single cask malts, never mixing from one cask with that on another. We take pride in the diversity of each cask as the type used for maturing malt whisky profoundly effects both its flavour and character. Once a cask has finished it is gone forever – a case of catching the joy as it flies.

Our expert tasting panel selects only the very best from casks produced by over 100 Scottish distilleries. These exclusive whiskies are not on sale through shops but are bottled and sold to members only by mail order, via our bi-monthly bottling lists, from the bars and listings.

## The Vaults

These are situated in an imposing listed building in Edinburgh's port of Leith – one of the oldest commercial premises in Scotland. They comprise:

**The Members' Room** has the warm, welcoming ambience of a traditional club with none of the stuffiness. Members tend to make straight for the bar, where our staff are pleased to make recommendations from the malts currently available. Not everyone visits The Vaults simply to drink whisky and talk about it – others prefer to take a newspaper from the selection delivered daily and relax in a leather armchair by the fire. And we do serve other drinks, light lunches (between 12 and 2pm) and coffee, which is freely available.

**The Tasting Room** is both attractive and atmospheric. It seats up to 18 people and is where our panel meets to make their final whisky selections. It can also be booked by members for private dinners or business meetings, with catering provided by our award winning chef, Angela Jacques.

**The Society Flats** are available to members at modest nightly rates. You will find the fridge filled with fresh breakfast ingredients and the key is provided to allow you to come and go as you please. After a mellow night in the Members Room the flats provide the perfect home-from-home.

## The London Rooms

Members miles from The Vaults can now enjoy a piece of Scotland in the heart of the City. Although the setting is contemporary and elegant. The companionable atmosphere is unmistakable. The London Rooms can also be booked by members for private functions with buffet menus supplied by the renowned Bleeding Heart Tavern located downstairs.

## The Things We Do

Tastings take place all over the country and offer members and their guests the opportunity to sample our latest bottling. Our Events Calendar details over 60 planned Tastings, although suggestions made by members for other events are also considered. At

each, our whisky expert guides members through the selection in a lively and sociable atmosphere.

The Society Newsletter is a good way to keep in touch with The Society – particularly if you are unable to drop in on a daily basis! Sent to members three times a year, its style is friendly, entertaining and informative. It carries insights into whiskey, industry news and members' interests.

Our Bottling Lists including tasting notes, are produced six times a year to ensure members are kept up to date with new whiskies as soon as they become available.

The Whisky School, which takes place annually in Edinburgh and London, enables members to spend a day immersed in malt whisky. The focus of the course is on flavour – where it comes from and how it can be evaluated through nosing and tasting.

If anyone is interested in joining The Scotch Malt Whisky Society please contact:

## The Scotch Malt Whisky Society

The Vaults, 87 Giles Street, Leith  
Edinburgh EH6 6BZ  
Tel: 0131 555226 or Fax: 0131 5531003

## Young Piper's Success

At the Braemar Highland Games held at the beginning of September, Martin Johnson the young piper who played for us picked up a prize for his playing.

## Aberdeen Sausage (from Connie Cleps)

This recipe comes from Aberdeen, The Granite City.

1lb sausage meat	1 tbs Worcester sauce
1lb minced steak	salt and pepper
4oz minced bacon	1 egg beaten
8oz fresh white	breadcrumbs for coating
breadcrumbs	

Mix all the ingredients except the last two. Bind with beaten egg. Make into a roll. Boil in a floured cloth for one and a half hours. Roll in breadcrumbs, toasted in oven. Serve cold with salad. Serves 6.

## Subscriptions

Anyone wishing to pay their subscriptions for the year kindly send £10.00 per person or £15.00 per family to the Membership Secretary, Valerie Farquharson or the Treasurer Sue Gask.

**The Committee hope to see you all again next year and look forward to meeting any new members.**

Please send all items for publication to:

Alan Cleps, 51 Cresswell Street  
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[acleps@compuserve.com](mailto:acleps@compuserve.com)