

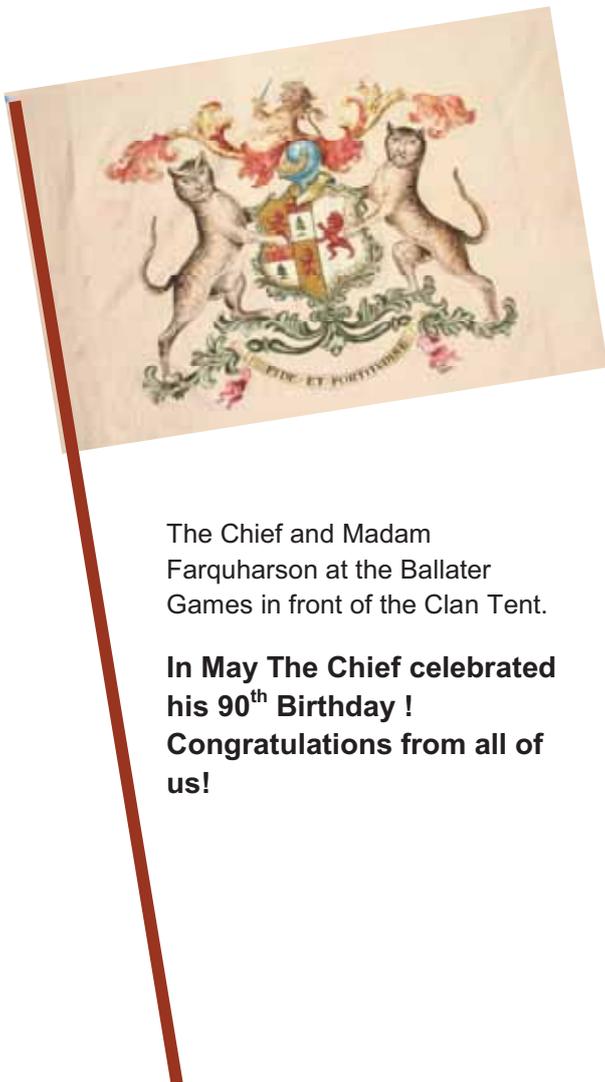


The Lion's Face

Newsletter of the Clan Farquharson UK
www.farquharson-clan.co.uk

Homecoming Edinburgh Gathering Edition

2009



The Chief and Madam Farquharson at the Ballater Games in front of the Clan Tent.

**In May The Chief celebrated his 90th Birthday !
Congratulations from all of us!**



In this edition:

- **Messages from the Chief and President Andrew Farquharson**
- **Braemar Castle News**
- **Clan Farquharson review**
- **Who's who**



The Lion's Face

Clan Farquharson has been busy making arrangements for the very special gathering this year.

Saturday 25th July

International Gathering of the Clans in Edinburgh – Royal Mile Parade, Pageant at the Castle and Games at Holyrood.



SUNDAY 26TH JULY

Dinner in Edinburgh

Tuesday 28th July

Birthday Celebration Dinner Ballater.

Our Chief, Capt. AC Farquharson of Invercauld celebrates his 90th birthday with us in Ballater.

Wednesday 29th July

Coach trip to Balmoral, the Farquharson Cairn, and Braemar Castle.



Concert in Finzean Hall.

Thursday 30th July

Clan Farquharson (members) AGM – Ballater.

Clan Ceilidh in the Victoria Hall, Ballater.

Friday 31st July

Coach Trip to Culloden – see our Clan Culloden Stone set in the Culloden Walk.



Saturday 1st August

Highland Games in Aboyne. Buffet lunch in the Clan Tent.

Informal supper in the Albert Hall, Ballater.

Sunday 2nd August

Morning Prayers at Finzean Church.

Garden Party at Finzean House.

Saturday 13th August

Ballater Highland Games.





The Lion's Face

About Clan Farquharson

The Farquharson Clan UK was reconstituted in early 2001 after many years of dormancy.

The society is open to all Farquharsons, Septs and friends of the Clan.

Clan Farquharson, of Celtic origin, derives from Farquhar, fourth son of Alexander "Ciar" Mackintosh of Rothiemurchus, 5th Chief of Clan Shaw.

A grant of arms made by Lord Lyon in 1697 stated that John Farquharson of Invercauld was lawfully descended of Shaw son of MacDuff, Thane of Fife whose successors had the name Shaw until Farquhar Shaw, son to Shaw of Rothiemurchus, Chief of the whole name came to be called Farquharson.

Thus the Farquharsons branched from Clan Shaw. Farquhar settled in the Braes of Mar and was appointed baillie or chamberlain thereof.



Greetings!

My warmest best wishes to you all at this time of the long awaited Homecoming. It is

most encouraging to hear that so many of you will be meeting in Edinburgh and later at Finzean. I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible in due course and to participating in as many of the events as possible. I am sure that a bright future lies ahead and that as a Clan we may, through a shared experience find its rewards.

I am with you in spirit and wish you the very best of good luck.

My very best wishes to all of you,

Alwyne Farquharson of Invercauld.

President's Message

Welcome to a busy couple of months in Farquharson country.

Numbers are now into the 80s for the combined Edinburgh and Deeside Gatherings....a great show in these challenging times. Clan associations can struggle but we have really bucked the trend and all is looking very healthy.



We are delighted to be able to welcome our friends from overseas in this special and busy year. We have leaders from all the three overseas Clan Farquharson associations in the US, Canada and Australia. If you are keen overseas Clansmen then nothing can quite match coming over to Deeside to see some proper Scotland, hear the pipes and to drink the 'waters'. You are very welcome.



The Lion's Face

Some of you are joining the Chief in Moy for the Clan Chattan celebrations after being on Deeside and then will be back again for the Ballater Games where we will have our own tent as usual. Events finish in September when we will be over the hill for the Braemar Games where you can find us in the overseas tent.

I am coming to the end of my three year term as President and it is important to get some fresh Farquharson blood in for the next three with the enthusiasm and freshness that will keep our Clan strong. It has been a great privilege to be President and I wish my successor luck and I can assure him/her of my full support.

Please carry on clicking onto www.farquharson-clan.co.uk for all the up to date news.

My best wishes to you all.

Andrew Farquharson – President Clan Farquharson

Who's who – Clan Farquharson



Alan Caig is a retired legal executive who was responsible for resurrection of the Clan Farquharson Association in

2001. He chaired the first meeting on 20th January 2001 in Edinburgh and was President until 2003 when his 3 year term came to an end. Since then he has continued his support of the association unwaveringly. He can be contacted at alancaig@googlemail.com

Gordon Farquharson is current Treasurer of the association.



Following Alan Caig's reawakening of the Clan association Gordon joined and became a

committee member. He served as president for two years from 2003 to 2006 before handing over to Andrew Farquharson.

Professionally Gordon is a consulting engineer in the pharmaceutical and life sciences sector. He and his wife Jane are regular attendees at the gatherings in Scotland.



Hannah Farquharson is Editor of the Lion's Face

Hannah, 28, is the youngest

member of the Clan Farquharson committee. She is a journalist by profession and so when her father (Gordon) became involved in re-establishing Clan Farquharson in the UK she was asked to take on the responsibility of a newsletter.

If you have any news or stories that you think might be of interest to other members of Clan Farquharson contact Hannah by emailing hfargy@hotmail.com or writing to Hannah at 6 Stonecrop Road, Merrow, Guildford, Surrey, GU4 7XS.



The Lion's Face

Braemar Castle

Braemar Castle, seat of Clan Farquharson and former home to its chief Captain Alwyne Farquharson opened its doors for free to clan members on Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th July 2008.

Farquharsons, and septs of Clan Farquharson, such as Coutts, MacHardy, Paterson, Kellas, McKinley and Tawse, recognised by the Clan Society, enjoyed a warm welcome and free entry.

Alistair Farquharson, the Clan society's north-east representative, welcomed visitors who enjoyed a tour of the Castle with its fully furnished rooms and Farquharson memorabilia.

For the Homecoming 2009 a dedicated Clan room with documents and artefacts relating to the family has been set up. And the shop is well stocked with Clan Farquharson items.

Braemar Castle has been run by the community of Braemar since February 2007 with an ambitious restoration programme underway. 12 fully furnished rooms are now on show.....an amazing effort from a band of expert volunteers.

Built in 1628 by the Earl of Mar as a Hunting Lodge, the Hanoverian troops garrisoned at the castle after the Battle of Culloden and ensured their place in history by graffiti-ing the wood panelling.

For the past 250 years the Farquharsons of Invercauld, have used the Castle as a family home and it is filled with furnishings and personal memorabilia of the family.

Take a peek at the Victorian Kitchen crammed with original utensils, peer into the 'pit', once prison for 17 Cameron rebels, and visit the elegant Dining Room with its 200 year old grandfather clock.

Climb the stone turnpike stairs to the comfortable Drawing Room and Morning Room and visit the Exhibition space to find out more about the architecture of the Cairngorm National Park.



See the Laird's Bedroom, with its handsome four poster bed and the secret corner that's home to Long John Silver and his creator Robert Louis Stevenson who wrote "Treasure Island" right here in Braemar.

The castle is open Saturdays and Sundays 11am to 4pm and is open on Wednesdays throughout July and August. Entry is £5, children and concessions £4, family ticket

£12. The castle can be found just outside Braemar, AB35 5XR.

Clan Farquharson UK is keen to raise £20,000 which would be the amount of money needed to fit out a permanent Farquharson Clan room. This amount will also allow us to contribute to the building and infrastructure maintenance around the room.

In the coming months the committee will be working on plans to raise the money and would love to hear from any Clan members interested in organising this campaign.

The clan has a history of successful fund raising, having successfully funded our Culloden stone. This stone can be found in the Culloden walk, a memorial on the battle of Culloden field.



The Lion's Face

Clan Matters

Tony Finlay remembered

It is with sadness we report the death of committee member Margaret Finlay's husband Tony.

He suffered a stroke in April.

Margaret has received support from her family and the thoughts of the Clan are with her.

Both Margaret and Tony had attended the Clan lunch at the Beach Hotel in Worthing just a week before Tony's death. They had also enjoyed several gatherings in Scotland together.

Escape to the lakes

Jane Farquharson from Guildford and her sister Sarah spent a wonderful week in the Lake District having booked into Allerdale House in Keswick.

The B&B is run by Helen and Tony Farquharson, originally from Watford, who some members may remember from a couple of the first gatherings in Braemar, during the Alan Caig years.



They have a lovely old six bedroomed house, beautifully fitted out and were the perfect host and hostess will look after you really well. The breakfasts lasted Jane and Sarah through to cream tea time..... even when nine mile walks were involved.

Helen and Tony would love to catch up with any Clan members when they are in the area and hope that when business allows they will be able to re-join us at our gatherings.

For more information visit www.allerdale-house.co.uk or call 017687 73891.

Family history

I recently read my copy of the Lion's Face and in particular noticed the article from David Farquharson in New York. I wonder if he realises how closely related he is to our VC winner.



Like many, I've been researching my family tree for some years and Francis EH Farquharson was my

three times great uncle. He was also David's first cousin once removed. (Obviously David and I would be very distantly related but working that out ties your brain in knots).

I visited the graveyard in Harberton last year; saw Francis' grave and stained glass window (photo attached) and the grave of David's grandparents Robert and Catherine. Here is a photograph of Francis and some information about him sent to me by the Black Watch Museum when I first discovered his existence and made some enquiries.

Gazette: 18 June 1859.

INDIAN MUTINY

Lt Francis Edward Henry Farquharson Lucknow 9 March 1858.

A correspondent writes: "In announcing to the Regiment the death of Brevet Major F E H Farquharson, VC, 42nd Royal Highlanders, which took place at Harberton Vicarage on Sept 12, after a long and painful illness contracted in the Ashantee campaign - Col Sir John McLeod characterised the deceased as an officer of rare merit, of singular straightforwardness and



The Lion's Face

unflagging energy; qualities which he exhibited in a marked degree on the Gold Coast, and which Sir John McLeod had the satisfaction to acknowledge to the Major Gen commanding the Expedition, who had appointed him Staff Officer to the Advanced Guard.

Maj Farquharson was buried in the churchyard at Harberton, New Totnes, Devon. There is a Memorial Window to him in the church.

Best regards,
Janet Farquharson,
Chertsey, Surrey

E-mail addresses

To keep our data-base of email addresses up to date please send an email to our membership secretary Val at farquharson32@btinternet.com

Website

Don't forget to visit the Clan Farquharson website www.farquharson-clan.co.uk

All news for the website should be sent to andrewthefarmer@hotmail.com

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See the website for the Clan Farquharson UK Committee.

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Martin pipes a lament for us at the Cairn



The Lion's Face



Geoffrey Farquharson's history lesson



Vice Presidents Alison & Angus Farquharson at a Clan Farquharson UK AGM in Ballater



Alan Caig leads the Chief, Madame Farquharson & Clansmen at the Ballater Games



Andrew Farquharson (President) checks a Speyside distillery



Highland heather blooms



Farquharson country