



The Coat of Arms of
Catherine Farquharson
11th Clan Chief

The Lion's Face

Newsletter of Clan Farquharson UK

Fàilte!

Clan Chief

Philip Farquharson of Invercauld

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& Facebook Manager:

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Horst Kraus

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Editor of this issue of

"The Lion's Face"

Horst Kraus



Alistair Farquharson †



Barb Hilton as Banner Bearer



James Shirreff and David Shirreff, Photo: Federica Bertolini

2023

Grief, Meeting, Pleasure, Clan Tradition

President's Update

After the turbulence of 2022 the 2023 Gathering was back on track and with the hard work of the dedicated committee members everything went well.

We were contacted by several overseas groups during the past year and we are forging strong links to them. The Forker Association in Germany has a name derived from Farquhar, so they are a sept of the clan. We welcomed Wigand and Monika Forker to our Gathering and they joined in all of our events. Wigand completed the hill race at the Ballater Highland Games, so congratulations to him for such an achievement. We had four brothers of the Wedl family from Austria, Ulrich, Lorenz, Valentin and Dominik and we hope to keep in touch with their family so that we will see more of them in the following years. We were also contacted by the Royal Highland Club in Vienna. This is a club which has a Scottish highland games each year and they wish to have a relationship with us to help strengthen their Scottish culture, and hopefully they will join us next year.



Robert Farquhar has been busy building our new web site. This is our main marketing and communication tool and we will keep it updated with all of our news. We welcome photographs that you have taken at our gathering and also of events within your own family that we can publish on our web site. We have dedicated pages for obituaries and celebrations. The new web site can be found at www.clanfarquharsonuk.com

Our email has been updated and is now clanfarquharsonuk@gmail.com

Memberships can be purchased through the web site and you can pay by Paypal. We have a dedicated email for Paypal and this is admin@clanfarquharsonuk.com. We hope to have the web shop open again quite soon so that you purchase polo shirts.

Our new treasurer, Harold Farquharson, is getting our financial arrangements into order so that our money is managed correctly and efficiently.

Randy Finlay now has our membership details held digitally so that we know who is a current member.

Gillian McKeracher did a fine job of providing us with lunch on games day and liaising with the Ballater Golf Club on our arrangements for the clan dinner. All of which went without a hitch.

With our new overseas contacts, as well as our existing clan associations our international committee members Jim Payne and Gary Humphries will be kept busy during the year.

Horst Kraus has for some years now edited the Lion's Face, a newsletter of the highest quality. However, he feels that it is time for another person to take on this important role for us, so if you or somebody you know, is able to join the committee in this role please let us know.

Lastly, and most important of all, our Clan Chief, Philip Farquharson, has given us his full support in all that we do, and has taken an active part in our decision-making. He has made a full contribution at committee meetings and gives advice on all matters that affect our operations.

The Invercauld Highlanders continue to flourish with two new highlanders being sworn in this year. Having them join us at the Ballater Highland Games and in particular forming part of the Clan Chief's Colour Party improves and strengthens our participation in the games event, making the Clan Chief's formal entrance to the games a spectacular event.

We are in discussions with the Clan Farquharson Band of Canada and hope to be able to raise the funding to bring them to our Gathering in the next year or two.

So we are now in a strong position to take the clan society forward with our (relatively) new Clan Chief, new web site and a strong committee.

Fide et Fortitudine.

Alan Caig

President, Clan Farquharson UK

Our new website:



Membership Secretary & Facebook Manager

by Randy Finlay



Hello to all members of Clan Farquharson UK,

I just wanted to introduce myself. My name is Randy Finlay and I am the Clan Farquharson UK Membership Secretary and the Manager of the Clan Farquharson UK Facebook page.

I would like to say thank you for your patience as I have stepped into the position of Membership Secretary. It is not a position I have ever done before however, a job needed doing. As with most any new position, there is a learning curve so if you have noticed anything that needs addressing, please feel free to contact me.

We have over 150 members as I speak...however some of those are actually family memberships so it's many more than that number...and I hope it continues to grow!

And I am the manager of the Clan Farquharson UK Facebook page.

I am doing my best to put as much content on the page as possible so you are informed of whatever Clan Farquharson UK is accomplishing, and also to let you know about happenings and things that are going on around the Clan Farquharson.

If you have any suggestions about things you'd like to see on the Facebook page if it is possible, please send me a line at clanfarquharson@gmail.com

Randy Finlay
*(International Commander of the
Invercauld Highlanders)*

Visit us on Facebook



Clan Farquharson UK

Great pictures from Scott Fraser of the Castle thru the gun ports






Clan Farquharson UK




Braemar Castle

Lights now sorted [#braemar](#)
[#cairngormsnationalpark](#)





Clan Farquharson UK



**Ballater Highland Games:
Monaltrie Park.**

Ballater Highland Games Chieftain, Philip Farquharson of Invercauld and Monaltrie.


Kintore Drum Major, Ronnie Rennie.

Kintore Pipe Major, Claire Napier.

Ballater Highland Games Chairman, John Sinclair.

Ballater Highland Games Pipe Bands Convener, Scott Fraser - Honorary Vice president.

Games Chairman John Sinclair wears Sinclair tartan, Kintore Pipe Band wear Gordon Highlander and the Chieftain and Pipe Bands Convener are in the uniform of the Invercauld Highlanders. [Monaltrie Park.](#)





Royal Message

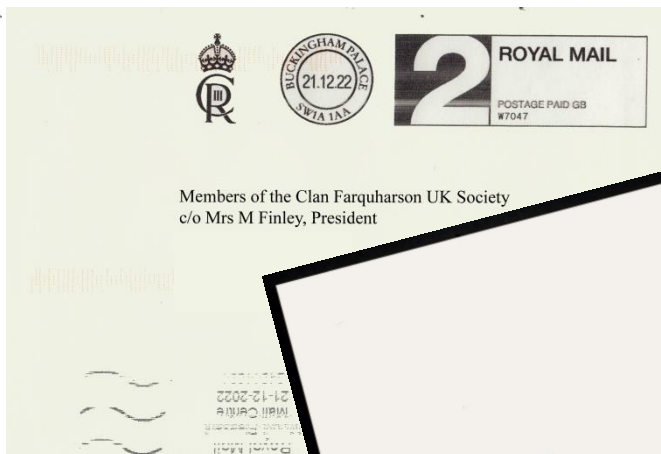


Image by: Lisa Sheridan/Getty

It was so very kind of you to send me such a wonderfully generous message following the death of my beloved mother. Your most thoughtful words are enormously comforting, and I cannot tell you how deeply they are appreciated at this time of immense sorrow.

Chantal

My Friend Alistair

by Margaret Finlay

I first met Joan and Alistair in 2004, when they joined the clan society and we were seated with them at the dinner and with Jane and Michael Hill, who joined around the same time. We had such a jolly evening together and the friendships are still strong, though sadly Jane died a few years ago.

Since then, we soon found out that when help was needed at the gathering, they were there. They lent their tent for games day and collected loaned tables and chairs from the Glen Aden Hotel, loading them into their estate car.

It wasn't long before they were committee members and Alistair was voted as President more than once.

They are incredibly generous and hospitable, often collecting members from the station and offering hospitality for the night, before driving to the gathering.

In more recent years, they have met Horst and I at the airport and taken us back to their home before the gathering and again afterwards, often wining and dining us at their local Italian restaurant.

Alistair's surprise party for his 80th birthday was amazing. So many people wanted to recognise his absolute love for Scotland, his kindness, generosity and love of his friends

and of course his family. When Paul Anderson played his fiddle and his wife sang popular Scottish music, the tears were literally running down his face, he was so moved by his heritage and familiar tunes. He was one of life's givers, never a taker. He always thought of others first.

He was such an integral part of our society and his support was always there, through good and occasionally bad times.

He is so much missed by all of us, by his Ballater friends and the Ballater Highland Games Committee and we know what a huge gap his death leaves in the lives of Joan and all their families. It is so true to say that having known him has enriched our lives.



Vive La Belle Rebelle

by David Shirreff

THREE HUNDRED YEARS after her birth in 1723, Anne Farquharson, known as “Colonel Anne”, is beginning to get some of the recognition she deserves.

On September 10th the Borders drama group Duns Players performed their play *Colonel Anne: Jacobite Heroine* in Braemar Village Hall, about as near to her birthplace as they could get. On the same day they visited Braemar Castle, a Farquharson stronghold since 1731, which has been undergoing radical refurbishment.



Duns Players celebrate Colonel Anne's tricentenary at Braemar Castle, Photo: Kevin Purvis

An audience of locals and clan members from far and wide saw a play fresh from its success at the Edinburgh Fringe.

The story centres on Colonel Anne, who defied her husband the Laird of Mackintosh to raise troops for Bonnie Prince Charlie in the 1745 Jacobite Rising. She saved the Prince's life during a night raid on her house at Moy, with a handful of her household scaring off 1,500 Hanoverian soldiers. It was an action that became known as the Rout of Moy.

Was she in love with her warrior chief Alasdair Macgillivray? He died a hero's death at Culloden. Did she have a dalliance with the wayward Bonnie Prince Charlie? He called her "La Belle Rebelle". How did her marriage with Angus, Laird of Mackintosh and Chief of Clan Chattan, survive their conflicting loyalties? For a short while, each became the other's prisoner-of-war. Somehow they settled their differences. All that and more is explored in a fast-moving play that lasts just over an hour.

Anne's courage in raising her clansmen, in protecting the Prince at Moy, and as a spirited prisoner of the British in Inverness, is the stuff of legend. Moreover, a few years after the Jacobite defeat at Culloden she found herself dancing with the victorious "Butcher" Duke of Cumberland at a ball in London and gave him as good as she got. She forced him to dance to a tune called "The Auld Stuarts Back Again". Colonel Anne, one of Clan Farquharson's most admired figures, deserves wider recognition today.

That was the reaction some years ago of James Shirreff, my cousin, when he found Colonel Anne mentioned on our family tree and decided to dig deeper. He unearthed a gripping story and co-opted me into writing the script. It was a drama crying out to be put onstage.

The play has been four years in the making. It was first performed script-in-hand at the DunsPlayFest in May 2019, then again that August during Ballater Victoria Week, with the late, great Farquharson chief Captain Alwyne, at the age of 101, in the front row.

Then Covid struck, preventing further performances until this year's Fringe. Duns Players did eight performances in Edinburgh to mostly full houses:



Colonel Anne at Edinburgh Fringe

There was lively interest in this hero of the 1745 Jacobite Rising who until now has been less celebrated than Flora Macdonald (who assisted the Prince's escape to France), Clementina Walkinshaw (the Prince's mistress) and Jenny Cameron (who led 300 of her father's clansmen to Glenfinnan to meet the Prince).



Portraits of those three women are displayed in the Jacobite Room at the National Portrait Gallery in Edinburgh, but not one of Colonel Anne. That oversight is all the more puzzling because the gallery owns a fine mezzotint of Colonel Anne by James Macardell after a painting by Allan Ramsay.

Duns Players hope that members of Clan Farquharson will add their weight to a campaign for better recognition of their forebear, both at the National Portrait Gallery and at Colonel Anne's final resting place in North Leith Churchyard.

Just before the play hit Edinburgh, five Duns Players in 18th century costume visited the churchyard and caused quite a stir.



Duns Players at North Leith Churchyard, Photo: Kevin Purvis

Colonel Anne moved to Leith after her husband died in 1770 and lived there until her death in 1784. Little is known of that part of her life, but the archive at her birthplace, Invercauld House, may still harbour some secrets. There is no gravestone at the Leith churchyard, only a metal plaque commemorating her among other incumbents. We would like to see something more fitting.

What next for the play? Duns Players are planning a celebratory performance soon on their home turf. There are also discussions about a production near to Moy Hall, seat of the Mackintoshes, on or around February 16th 2024, to commemorate the Rout of Moy. A production overseas has been suggested, perhaps in North America to entertain far-flung Farquharsons and other members of Clan Chattan. Vive La Belle Rebelle!



Photo: Federica Bertolini

My first visit to Scotland and the Scottish Spirit

by Monika and Wigand Forker

Robert Farquhar, Lord of Gilmilnescroft in the Skyle Stewart region was first recorded around 1350, the first head of the family and probably a direct descendant of Ferchart, father of Fergus. One of the chiefs who defined the boundaries of New Battle Abbey around 1178.

About this time, after their decline, a branch of the family began to move to the north of Scotland to establish the ancestral seat of the Farquhar at Braemar Castle, at Caithness near Ederlarg, or later south of it.

FORKER hail from Gilmilnescroft in Kyle Stewart, in the Stratclyde region on the South Border of Scotland. Today 2023, we know, Forker are descended from the Farquhar. We are all the more pleased that we have always belonged to the Farquharson Clan UK as Sept.

My wife Monika has been to Scotland on the hybrids before and I have not once. A reason for both of us to say we have to go to Scotland to get to the bottom of the story. We couldn't believe that we drove the 2983 mi of which 1119 mi in Scotland by car.

But from the beginning. After planning and a lot of nice correspondence with Alan Caig, Stuart Fraser (RSHGA) and Ian Watts (RSHGA), we finally started with the car on August 5th 2023. We had a long way to Banchory ahead of us via



Dunquerke/Dover and finally arrived exhausted on Monday night. Already on Tuesday evening the cozy meeting with other Farquharson's took place in the Farquharson Bar & Kitchen in Braemar. We were very surprised from which countries we all came and for what reasons. There were natives, Austrians, Americans, Australians, French and we from Germany. The evening passed quickly and could have been longer.

The next morning we met at Bernould Farm. Now we have also been able to get to know the very nice people from Ireland. From here we all went together, led by the two pipers, to the Farquharson's cairn. My wife Monika and I had previously announced to Robert Farquhar that we would each lay down a stone. After a few short and nice words from the Clan Chief Philip Farquharson, we started laying the stone in the rows mentioned by Robert.



As I laid my stone at the cairn, I got the feeling that we are not alone here, I felt a strong surge of energy around the cairn, as if many more people were present. A great and beautiful experience. My wife Monika also felt strong energy currents around the pile of cairn. The others seemed to have noticed that too and Robert even asked specifically about it afterwards.



After this we met ceremonially and then in the cafe at the Duke of Rothesay Highland Games Center in Braemar. There we got to know Magali and Michel Brat better. Through the two and the museum alone, we learned a lot about the Culture, the Kilt and the Scottish landscape. At the end we were allowed to try a new creation of a focaccia from the chef.

Now the time had come, Thursday, the 10th of August came, the day of the Highland Games in Ballater. After very detailed information about the kilt with Michel, I quickly realized that you cannot take part in the Highland Games without a Kilt. Well, I decided to do the Hill Race at 3pm. This allowed with sports pants.

The moment of the start came, the stadium had to be circumnavigated twice, then out to the bridge up to the summit, everything back and I at the back.



We were delighted that an athlete could win this race with a new Scottish record by 11 seconds. In just over 16 minutes, 3.6K, this athlete set a new Scottish record. But where was I, I was fighting my way up the mountain and struggling. Finally, over the no allotted time, I finished last and that really touched me. I ran last in the group, starting with our Austrian friends, all the Scots stood up one by one and clapped, the Piper Band beat the drums so that I could reach the finish and achieve it. That kind gesture, the clapping along, the friendliness set against the beautiful scenery make up that Scottish spirit. Many Scots later congratulated me that I made it. Towards the end of the Games, we met someone who was willing to offer us a small whisky. We couldn't refuse and my wife Monika tried it, I just took a small sip. In a very nice and friendly conversation, it then turns out that it was the Queen's (now retired) doctor.

On Friday morning AGM was at the Victoria & Albert Halls, Mike Sheridan Room in Station Square, Ballater. To strengthen the connection between the Farquharson UK clan and Forker, we presented a small souvenir on behalf of the Forker Association. Content of the AGM was the coordination of the new statutes and the roles to be filled. Many thanks also to the Irish people who provided the coffee and cake. It's a shame that we could not talk to each other very much. But hopefully next time.



Another highlight came in the evening, the clan dinner at the Ballater Golf Club, Victoria Road. With the musically accompanying the Pipers, the clan chief and his family, the dinner was opened with the "Royal Toast": Cheers to the English King. The time went by very quickly, we would have liked to talk to everyone longer. It would be nice to be able to turn back time.



We had now been to Banchory, Ballater and Braemar from Sunday to this day. This time remains unforgettable. We would also like to thank Michel and Magali Brat. Who accompanied us almost every day and also invited us to a French lunch on Friday. If you really want to know something about the history of the Scots, Michel is the right address and if you want to see impressive landscapes in pictures, Magali is the right place for you. Thank you that you exist both and that Scotland will be preserved you for a long time.

Now we had over a week left and the opportunity to see even more of Scotland. Well, we traveled to

Inverness via Aberdeen/Footdee (Fittie, old town), Fraserburgh, Banff, Cullen, Elgin. From Inverness we went to Drumnadrochit and looked at the Falls of Divach there. We drove to Culloden on the historical traces of the Jacobite Rising. Searching for Nessi in Loch Ness was unsuccessful. But there were enough duplicates in front of the hotels. Via Fort Augustus (4 locks in a row) we drove via Invergarry, Glen Moriston, Dornie, Kyle of Lochalsh to Talisker (Whisky Distillery) and Uig on the island of Ilse of Skye. If you still want to really experience sheep on the road, you should choose the route from Talisker to Uig through the terrain. Our Google Maps Navi was always of the opinion that to guide us past all the sights. We can only say fantastic. The next day we drove back to Drumnadrochit via Fort Williams, Onich, Glencoe (tip from Magali, we saw the three islands, a dream) to Perth. Unfortunately, we didn't have enough time to see the old Scottish capital. We then drove straight on to Edinburgh. We've been warned that the International Festival Fringe is taking place in Edinburgh by the end of August. With exception of Edinburgh Castle (no tickets were

given) we could find and visit most of the sights in 2 days. We found the Holyrood Palace, the Royal Palace, impressive.



After driving over 1119 mi through Scotland we have ended on 19th of August our journey because work is calling. We have experienced a lot of the Scottish spirit and take it to our hearts and take it home with us. I would like to end the trip with one last picture / Portree (King's Harbor, is the main town and only town on the Isle of Skye). Scotland's countryside is simply beautiful, although the weather varies greatly between the western and eastern parts of the country, we had mostly warm temperatures and sunshine.

Tìoraidh an-dràsta

Wigand Forker
(President of the Forker Association)

Photo taken by Alan Caig and Web image:



Wigand Forker
after the hill race

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Ballater Games Hill Race

There have been Games held in Ballater since 1864 and, apart from the war years, the Games have continued uninterrupted until the present day (let's not mention 2020!)

Date	Thursday 10th August, 2023
Distance	3.5K
Location	Monaltrie Park
Town/City	Ballater
Area	North East
Start postcode	AB35 5RG
Organiser	Chris Tomlinson
Website	Visit website

A letter from France

Toursac, le 2 octobre 2023,

Dear Magaret,

Following our request, I try to write some words about our family and our connections with Scotland and the Clan Farquharson.

We have the honour to be members since February 2021. Since a long time, Scotland has an important part in the family culture and history.

Originally, an ancestor of mine was a French officer, who joined the Jacobite rebellion in 1744, in the same time with the French invasion try.

Later, he joined the "Royal Irlandais" regiment, which fought at Culloden. Himself has been wounded some weeks before Culloden and was obliged to return to France.

He came back to the King's service in 1756, during the 7 years war, with Marquis de Montcalm, in Canada. He was "Chevalier de Saint Louis" for these engagements, and we still keep this medal at home.

The family come from Dauphiné, and, for the little history, the grand ancestor died in front of the Antioch walls in 1098, during the first crusade, another died at the battle of Azincourt in 1415... We are not very lucky with our English relationship ...

Later, we became a colonial family, established in North Africa and Indochina. They all came back to France in 1962.

The family castle was lost a long time ago, when the Forquet de Dorne changed to be Protestants. We are established in the current castle, le Château de Toursac, located in the south west, since a few years.

The castle is a XIXth century construction, built in, what we call, the Neo-gothic style, very up to date in this time. It has been built on the basements of an older castle, probably a templar one, regarding the village little church which is also a templar one, dating XIIth century.



At last, being myself a piper, I wished to be in contact with a Scottish Highland Clan...so .. which one ?? Forquet ... Farquhart.. it was so close than I wrote to the official contact.

The answer has been very charming and welcoming. He proposed us to join the Clan... we did it... and we had the honour to be received last year for the annual gathering during the Ballater Highland Games.

That's all.. Scotland is so popular in France that it's easy to be (a part) Scottish... however, more and more Frenchmen wear the kilt !!

Very friendly,

Comte Marc de DORNE



Grants and Barbs latest most awesome adventures to Melbourne Highland Games and Celtic Festival 2023 in Australia.

by Grant Hilton

Ok it's time to write this little story, pen check, glasses check, phone check, computer check and paper check. Oh, and Coffee, I must have coffee. It's early morning when I load up, Ruby, Barbs Car to set off to the Melbourne Highland Games and Celtic Festival. Barb sets up Jennifer our GPS seat belts click in Unison, and I turn the Key and Ruby comes to life. This is the second year that we have attended this Gathering. It's the only gathering held in the City of Melbourne area, Yes there are others scattered across the state of Victoria and other events held during the year in the city. It's an easy two-hour drive Barb puts on the music to break the silence as we in a respectable fashion zoom down the Highway to Melbourne.



Two hours later we arrive and are greeted by masses of cars, people walking, kid's, dogs and distance sounds of bagpipes and drums, when I opened the car door, I was met with this barrage of living music it was like an orchestra. Doesn't it stir your inner being? I could see food trucks, dancers and lots and lots of tents and stalls all selling their wares from meat pies to chips to baby clothing and it all hit my senses at once. We locked the car and set off for a day's exploration and learning about our Scottish and Celtic cultures and meeting interesting people. I have to say it was much bigger than last year and more exciting. It took only five minutes before we were asked "can I take your picture please" and asked what Clan we were from I proudly said Clan Farquharson. "Oh, most interesting came the reply." We stood out because I was in a traditional day garb and Barb had a t shirt that read Clan Farquharson. So, with the Name and the tartan and the traditional dress we stood out a bit we were walking advertisements...! Barb also wore a Farquharson Kilt that was mine, but has shrunk during Covid, she looked awesome well we looked awesome I must say. Our Clan was recognized time and time again and I asked what their clan was there were so many colors so many different tartans and so many similar our own.

We walked and we talked, and we looked, and we ate. A BBQ and a menu of Scottish food I ordered square sausage on a roll of bread and Barb had Tatty Scones and it was yum I'd never tried square sausage before. I could have had haggis but decided I just wanted to try something different!

I saw a bloke in a tent I recognized from Facebook and yelled out hay mate I know you, your on Face book, we spent a long time chatting he was from Clan MacEwen and lives in Queensland a very nice chap and interesting he ran the MacEwen tent. We are now friends on Face book.

In my past life I worked in the Power industry and the Coal mining industries here in Victoria. Much of my work was Networking, so I felt comfortable talking to people and asking questions one of my goals was to just look and see how different clans did things. Some were more relaxed while others were more up front. I noticed some had no membership forms, others had them with people asking the visitors if they wanted to join. I would call that marketing. To observe the different approaches was most interesting and gave me much to think about in relation to our Clans growth here in Australia and Victoria in particular.



One group that stood out and I enjoyed talking to them, was Scots of Victoria, their purpose being to support the Scottish Community in Victoria, they do a lot of excellent work too! I met the Secretary a nice friendly man I asked many questions and was given some very good advice and information about the Scottish community and its actives in our State, and this has turned out to be of great value.

We poked our heads in most tents and met the Hendersons, Frazers, Thomas, Camerons, and many other clans all great people and very happy to spend time chatting. From the corner of my eye, I was scanning for Clan Chattan there was no Clan Tent as such. We wished to march in the Clan March at the end of the day. Then I noticed a sign well more a poster that read Touch Not the Cat Bot a Glove next to Clan MacGillivray tent. I introduced ourselves and to our delight were welcomed into their tent and we chatted for a very long time. We asked each other many questions and I learnt more than I thought at that time. I inquired if we could march with them during the Clan March and they were delighted. This was a highlight of the day for me as it showed me that we are a part of something much bigger than ourselves. So often in Australia I feel isolated in many ways. Scotland

the USA, Canada and other countries that have connections with our Clan family are long way away and takes hours of traveling by air to be with you. Distance and isolation is a fact of Life for us Aussies we live with it. How awesome it is to realize we are part of a much bigger family.

As time went on during the day even more people asked about our Clan from who is the present Chief where was our Clan found in Scotland and our Sept families. I even meet a young Farquharson couple from Aberdeen Scotland and encouraged them to contact me if they wanted to. Many were most interested when we told them we were going to Scotland and the Clan Gathering at Ballater in August and loved the idea that Braemar castle is being restored.

Then I saw it and it was like a fountain of light shining calling me begging me to take notice...I've no idea what the rest of the sign said all I saw was Whisky and Tent. I yelled to Barb I gotta go I have too. I was like a gray hound out of its starting box I don't think you would have seen me because of the trail of dust rising from my heels and all I could see on my arrival was bottles and bottles and bottles of what the ancients called, the elixir of life all waiting for me to shake hands with them. Which I did!

After much umming and arring and will I? and can I? it was with permission for our trip to and puppy dog eyes Barb said yes,(we are saving for Scotland) I ended up coming home with a new friend a lovely bottle of Malt I'm glad Barb said yes it was probably out of pity though.

As the afternoon wore on, we saw the heavy games and looked at the different stalls I bought Barb a bag she liked, and she brought me a book. We saw arts and crafts and Highland Coos. I love those beasties I cannot think and never heard of anyone not loving Highland Coos they remind me of great big hairy vacuum cleaners. After having one inhaled an apple from me during our last trip to Scotland.

We made our way back to the McGillivray Tent to get ready for the Clan March. That was a wonderful experience. And to march with newfound friends was a great experience. What was pleasing was that there were so many people from all walks of life. Young weans, kids playing the drums and bagpipes, which in some cases were bigger than the musicians. There were older folk and people my age all there for one purpose, to make music and



they did too! After the march we stopped to watch the Combined Pipes and Drums they were coming directly toward us I've no idea how many there were but it was the biggest band I've ever seen and the vibrations flooded me from head to foot it stirred this old fella's heart and I could feel tears welling for a brief moment I was thinking of my Great Great Grand Parents who came from Scotland to Australia on one of the Tall ships a 3 month voyage and very dangerous too !



I have come to see that our Scottish and Celtic cultures with all its ebbs and flows is well and healthy in the State of Victoria. Just as it is elsewhere in many countries. To be honest I am excited about our future. We need to hang on to the things near and dear to us and keep the things that work, for us but perhaps in some areas reinvent ourselves. How can we make what we do well even better not just for ourselves but for the future generations to build upon I personally want to see Clan Farquharson grow and be strong again in Victoria and Australia wide for that matter.

We left for home happy, what a great day we both had. I think Barb said thank you about 5 times on the way home for taking her today. It was an enjoyable day.

I hope to see and meet many of you at Ballater in August.

Fide et Fortitudine.



6 Special Years

by Horst Kraus



In September 2017 I edited my first "The Lion's Face" newsletter for Clan Farquharson UK. It was a special honour for me to have been given this task by the

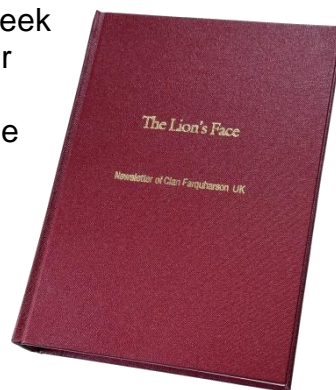
Society's Committee and it was a great vote of confidence from the committee.

I had the opportunity to accompany many important events of the clan as editor and to be the mouthpiece for officials and members. And they have been exciting years with many changes behind us.

"Panta rhei" was already said by the ancient Greek philosophers, and this also means that the older ones will one day make way for the younger ones. Therefore, I have decided to retire from the official role of Editor of "The Lion's Face" and hand over this task to a successor. I can promise that he or she will have a lot of fun, because in this role you dive very deeply into the history and traditions of the clan and the society. So it was a very special experience for me to compile all previous issues of the newsletter from #01 to #38 in one book, which was printed in a few copies - a small history book of the society. The memory of loved ones who had to leave us is also an important part of the work for the newsletter.

I would be happy if someone is willing to take on the role of Editor of "The Lion's Face". Of course, the successor will receive my full support and I will also provide all the digital background - data, images, texts, formats ... - available.

I will also continue to be a member of the committee and support the clan and society as far as I can.



Last but not least, I would like to thank everyone who has supported my work with contributions, words and pictures. An editor compiles and presents content, but does not write it himself. Member contributions are his bread and butter. And without your great support the newsletter would have remained empty. THANKS!

On the occasion of this year's AGM, which I was unfortunately unable to attend, our Chief found kind words about my departure as editor and presented me (via Gillian) with an engraved quaich. Thank you very much for that too.

I would love for our newsletter to continue the tradition as "The Lion's Face", the voice of the society and Clan Farquharson, thereby also helping to keep the clan history and tradition alive. The name of the newsletter "The Lion's Face" also has a very special regional and culturally traditional appeal.

"Panta rhei" always reminds me of one of my favourite Robert Burns poems: John Anderson, my Jo. And that's why I'm attaching this poem to my words today.

I look forward to seeing you again next year.

Stay healthy!

Horst

John Anderson My Jo *by Robert Burns*

John Anderson, my jo, John,
When we were first acquent;
Your locks were like the raven,
Your bonie brow was brent;
But now your brow is beld, John,
Your locks are like the snaw;
But blessings on your frosty pow,
John Anderson, my Jo.

John Anderson, my jo, John,
We clamb the hill the gither;
And mony a canty day, John,
We've had wi' ane anither:
Now we maun totter down, John,
And hand in hand we'll go,
And sleep the gither at the foot,
John Anderson, my Jo.

Looking back to our Clan Gathering 2023

Photos published on our website <https://www.clanfarquharsonuk.com>





Thank You!

To all who contributed with reports and photos to this issue I would like to thank you most sincerely.

Horst Kraus, Editor of this issue of "The Lion's Face"

Websites

For Event Information, Memberships and Merchandise, please consult:

<https://www.clanfarquharsonuk.com/>

Social Media

Our official Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/clanfarquharsonUK>

Our official Instagram page: <https://www.instagram.com/clanfarquharson>

#clanfarquharson

#clantalent



Key contact information:

Our email has been updated and is now clanfarquharsonuk@gmail.com

We have a dedicated email for Paypal and this is admin@clanfarquharson.com.

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