



The Coat of Arms of  
Catherine Farquharson  
11<sup>th</sup> Clan Chief

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#### Officers:

**President**  
vacant

**Vice President**  
vacant

**Website Manager**  
Robert Farquhar

**Treasurer**  
Harold Farquharson

**Membership Secretary  
& Facebook Manager**  
Randy Finlay

**Archivist & Secretary**  
Philip Farquharson of Invercauld

**Editor of "The Lion's Face"**  
vacant

**International Members**  
Jim Payne  
Gary Humphries

**Committee Member**  
Gillian McKeracher

**Immediate Past President**  
Margaret Finlay

**Honorary Vice Presidents**  
Alan Caig  
Catriona Farquharson  
Donald Farquharson

# The Lion's Face

Newsletter of Clan Farquharson UK

## Fàilte!

**Clan Chief**

Philip Farquharson of Invercauld

## BALLATER HIGHLAND GAMES

THURSDAY 14TH AUGUST 2025  
MONALTRIE PARK, AB35 5NN

TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED HERE:

[WWW.TICKETEBO.CO.UK/  
BALLATER-HIGHLAND-GAMES-2025](http://WWW.TICKETEBO.CO.UK/BALLATER-HIGHLAND-GAMES-2025)

N.B. PLEASE DOWNLOAD OR PRINT OFF A COPY OF YOUR TICKET SO AS  
NOT TO RELY ON NETWORK COVERAGE ON THE DAY

## Looking forward to our Clan Gathering 2025:

<https://clanfarquharsonuk.com/the-gathering/>

## To everything there is a season

*Alan Caig*

President Clan Farquharson UK  
October 14th 2024  
to the committee of Clan Farquharson UK



Good morning all,

For purely personal reasons, at 11.40am today I stepped down as President of Clan Farquharson UK. This is precisely 24 years since I walked out of Invercauld House having secured permission from Captain Farquharson to start a new clan society.

I should like to thank each of you for your service to the society in maintaining an active UK clan society, and helping to strengthen our associations around the world. I urge you to continue that support.

I will remain Honorary Vice President for as long as appropriate and will be in the background in case I can help occasionally.

With my best wishes,

Alan Caig  
Honorary Vice President

## Thank you, Alan

*Margaret Finlay*

Immediate Past President Clan Farquharson UK

October 14th 2024

to Alan and the committee of Clan Farquharson UK



Good morning all,

Thank you so much Alan for this e mail.

I cannot think of anything more intelligent to say other than thank goodness you are not disappearing completely.

Your wealth of experience with our clan society is immeasurable and we cannot thank you enough for the inspiring leadership you have given us over the years.

With warmest wishes,

Margaret

## Published on Facebook:

**Clan Farquharson UK**

3 Tage · 🌐



To all members of Clan Farquharson UK

We regret to inform you that Alan Caig, the President of Clan Farquharson UK, has resigned from his position due to personal reasons. We appreciate Alan's contributions and leadership during his tenure and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

With Alan's resignation, the Clan Farquharson UK Executive Committee now has two vacancies that need to be filled immediately. If you would like to serve your Clan, please contact us via email (ClanfarquharsonUK@gmail.com). If appointed by the Committee, you will serve until the Annual General Meeting in August, where you can be placed on the ballot and, if voted in by the membership, become a permanent member of the Committee. Serving on the Committee is an excellent way to support our Clan and make a difference. While it doesn't take a lot of time, there is a lot going on and you can make a big contribution to Clan events, such as the Clan Gathering and the Clan Farquharson representation at the Ballater Highland Games in August. We hope you will step up and join us.

How are things going with the membership? I noticed on the website that we have some new members. Did you get the notices? Would you like to get together sometime and cross-check what you have for members and what the website has, just in case anyone has fallen through the cracks?

Thank you for all that you do for the Clan. I know we all really appreciate all the time you put in.

Best wishes

Robert

**Scott Fraser**

A great loss to the UK Clan Society, Alan has been a stalwart of Clan Farquharson both behind the scenes and at the helm for decades. Hope it is nothing serious, always at the end of the phone if required. Takcare!  
FetF, JSP

## **Clan Gathering 2025 - Program**

by Robert Farquhar

### **Monday 11 August 2025.**

- No event. Arrive in Ballater/Braemar.

### **Tues 12 August 2025.**

- 10:30 presentation of new colours to the Clan Chief.
- 7:00pm Clan Dinner at the Ballater Golf Club.

### **Wed 13 August 2025.**

- 2:00pm Visit to Cairn.
- 3:00pm tea at the Pavilion in Braemar.
- 4:30pm AGM meeting at the Pavilion.

### **Thurs 14 August 2025.**

- 12:00 Ballater Highland Games.

### **Friday 15 August 2025.**

- Depart for home.

*Changes are possible  
Please check the website  
for most up to date details and booking  
<https://clanfarquharsonuk.com/gathering-2025>*

## Membership Secretary & Facebook Manager

Hello to all members of  
Clan Farquharson UK

My name is Randy and I am running the membership department here at Clan Farquharson UK. I took over the position approximately 3 years ago, and we now have 165 members which is a rise in Membership from when I took over by approximately 30



The Clan has now redone the webpage and memberships can be purchased online by using PayPal. I have just been informed that we will be adding electronic deposit as well.... please state that you wish to use EFT Electronic Funds Transfer and we can send you the information. Hopefully everybody is happy with the way the membership is working, and if anybody has any suggestions or questions, please feel free to send emails to my attention and I will do my best to help you,

Thanks, cheers!

*Randy Finlay*

Membership Secretary  
Clan Farquharson UK

## Time to say "Thank You"



Dear members of Clan Farquharson UK,

It has been known for some time that I would like to hand over the role as Editor of The Lion's Face to a successor.

Although no one has yet expressed a desire to take on this role, this issue is the last newsletter that I have designed.

It has been a great pleasure for me to have been Editor of The Lion's Face since September 2017 and, in this role, also to be a member of the Committee of Clan Farquharson UK. However, my work was only successful because many clan members wrote interesting, informative and important contributions and added photos. I would like to thank them very much for that. Many special moments of clan life and traditions were documented. Looking back, for me reading the previous newsletter issues from March 2001 (No. 1) was like looking into a small history book of our clan society.

As Editor of The Lion's Face, accompanying the society is a great pleasure and very exciting. I say this in the hope that it will encourage readers to take on the role of Editor of The Lion's Face.

I am therefore saying goodbye to this role and would like to thank everyone who has worked on the newsletter.

I will of course continue to be available to the Society in the future as far as I can.

Wishing the Clan Society Committee continued success in its work.

Fide Et Fortitudine

*Horst Kraus*

in April 2025

## Happy Birthday John Farquharson

**100<sup>th</sup>**

We had a great afternoon celebrating dad's 100th birthday with him at his house in Ferring. All the family were there including 6 grandchildren 7 great grandchildren and 3 dogs. Fortunately we were able to spill out into the garden. He was thrilled that we were all able to join him on the big day and he was able to proudly show us his card from the King and Queen. Although no longer active in Clan Farquharson he is always very interested to hear any news and was very touched by all the good wishes he received. Thank you.

*David Farquharson*







## Return to Auchtavan

by Rick Bowman, Invercauld Highlander



*Rick Bowman*

While attending the Ballater Highland Games in August, 2024, myself and family members (Kristen Decker, my daughter, plus Jance Hawkins and his two sons, Soren and Bowman) were able to visit our ancestral homes in Auchtavan. This is a remote and abandoned farm hamlet (ferm town) 6 miles northeast of Braemar. The name "Auchtavan" was derived from a gaelic term for "field of 2 goats" which was the price of rent the families paid to the Laird of Invercauld. There were eight tenant families living there and farming the land. The nearest church was the Crathie Kirk a couple of miles distant, and for these families attendance was both a weekly religious and social event.

Six generations of my relatives lived in Auchtovan from the mid 1700's until 1902. Only three of the existing buildings in the small farming community remain intact: the "Hingin' Lum Cottage," the "Queen Mother's Picnic Cottage," and the "Horse Mill." The other buildings are in ruin with a few walls remaining. Many of the stones were removed from these walls to build up stone fences in the area.



William Bowman and his wife, Margaret MacHardy, took up residence as the first Bowman generation in the mid 1700's.

Their home was named the "Hingin' Lum Cottage" because of the hanging wooden chimney inside the walls of the house. The single fireplace consisted of a wooden hood and chimney built about 4 feet above the floor along the inside surface of the outer wall; thus, the name "hingin' lum" (hanging chimney). The "Queen Mother's Picnic Cottage" was also a residence of the Bowman Family for many years. Elizabeth The Queen Mother leased it for "the remainder of her life" as a favorite picnic venue due to the panoramic view of the valley and Lochnagar. Upon her death the picnic cottage was returned by Queen Elizabeth II to the Invercauld Estate.



John Bowman (1767-1866) was born at the Hingin' Lum Cottage and served as the gamekeeper of the Ballochbuie Forest of Invercauld. He was a highly respected employee of the Farquharson Family as was his son, James Bowman (1813-1885). James took his father's position as gamekeeper and forest manager when his father's health began to decline. James was loyal to his clan chief and served as an Invercauld Highlander. In 1848 he guided Queen Victoria and Prince Albert as they

climbed Lochnagar and he quickly gained their respect and confidence having brought them safely through an impenetrably dense fog and a torrential storm on the mountain top.

James became the Head Gillie for Balmoral and the Chief Guide for Queen Victoria and the Prince Consort in 1868. He was very athletic and a well-acknowledged competitor at the Braemar Games. Queen Victoria and Prince Albert were notably impressed with his many abilities, as well as his confident, candid, yet pleasant personality, marking him as one of their favorite Balmoral servants. When he died the Queen and the Royal Family visited his grieving family, provided wreaths for the funeral, and rode in his funeral procession. The Queen commissioned two memorial plaques to commemorate his life and death.

While I am not a direct descendant of James Bowman (he never married and had no children) he remains a family legend. He was an Invercauld Highlander who gave a lifetime of service to his clan chief as well as his sovereign. Returning to Auchtavan and "my roots" has been a soul-felt experience.

FIDE ET FORTITUDINE!!!

\*\*Click [here](#) to watch a short video of 2013 Jacobite walk to Auchtavan





## CFUSA - April 2025 NewsBlast

Jim Payne sent the latest monthly newsletter from Clan Farquharson USA to include as information in The Lion's Face.

See this informative extract (<https://clanfarquharson.us/newsletters/>):

# CLAN FARQUHARSON, USA

## THE FIGHTING FARQUHARSONS

A Clan Like No Other - Embrace Your Heritage



ClanFarquharson.us/join

## CFUSA MONTHLY NEWSBLAST

APRIL 2025



*Games Season is Underway*

Hello! Welcome to our CFUSA NewsBlast!

We can hardly believe this is our 12th issue, and we hope you have enjoyed each one. If you have, please tell a friend and encourage them to subscribe to our mailing list. If you haven't enjoyed it, we'd love to hear your suggestions for improvement—there's no such thing as bad feedback.

Joining the USA Clan Society is the best way to support our organization and ensure its continued growth. For just \$30 per year, you will receive access to the latest news, exclusive content, and invitations to special events.

Additionally, your membership helps us preserve and promote our rich Scottish heritage.

## **Highland Games & Festival Tents**

**April 3 - 6, 2025:** South Carolina

Commissioner: Philip Yarchuk

**Tartan Day South**

2001 Charleston Highway

Cayce, SC 29033

**April 6, 2025:** President: Colin Bowman

**Dunedin Highland Games & Festival**

Dunedin Community Center

1920 Pinehurst Rd Dunedin, FL

**April 5 - 6, 2025:** Texas Commissioner:

Jerry Findley

**San Antonio Highland Games**

Helotes Festival Grounds

12210 Leslie Rd Helotes, TX 78023

**April 12, 2025:** Regional Commissioner:

CA Wortley

**New Hampshire Indoor Scottish Festival**

Manchester Memorial High School

1 Crusader Way Manchester, NH 03103

## Remembering The Battle of Culloden



April marks the anniversary of one of the darkest days in Highland clan history.



**Our Late-Chief Captain Alwyne Arthur  
Compton Farquharson of Invercauld  
MC at the Farquharson Culloden  
Memorial.**

**"Our blood is still our fathers, And ours  
the valour of their hearts"**

**"S i'n fhuil bha 'n cuisl' ar sinnsreadh,  
S an innsgin a bha 'nan aigne"**

**(Gaelic)**

## 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:

For general queries or questions

about the Gathering or other Clan events

[clanfarquharsonuk@gmail.com](mailto:clanfarquharsonuk@gmail.com)

For membership questions/issues

[memberclanfarquharsonuk@gmail.com](mailto:memberclanfarquharsonuk@gmail.com)

For questions/issues with the website

[webmgrclanfarquharsonuk@gmail.com](mailto:webmgrclanfarquharsonuk@gmail.com)

We have a dedicated email for Paypal and this is

[admin@clanfarquharson.com](mailto:admin@clanfarquharson.com)

## Overseas Associations:

Clan Farquharson

USA – Colin Bowman – [secretary@clan-farquharson-usa.com](mailto:secretary@clan-farquharson-usa.com)

Australia – Grant Hilton – [grantahilton@gmail.com](mailto:grantahilton@gmail.com)

(Website Under Construction)

New Zealand – Murray Cleverley – [murray@uhs.nz](mailto:murray@uhs.nz)

Canada – Randy Finlay – [clanfarquharsoncanada@gmail.com](mailto:clanfarquharsoncanada@gmail.com)

Argentina – Carlos Farquharson – [carlosfarquharson@hotmail.com](mailto:carlosfarquharson@hotmail.com)

Overseas Contacts: – Norway – Roger Lovall – [roger.p.lovall@gmail.com](mailto:roger.p.lovall@gmail.com)

