



Welcome to our tent at GMHG!

Scottish Heritage USA

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2017

2017 GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN GUEST SPEAKER JOHN McKENDRICK

SPONSORED BY SCOTTISH HERITAGE

A British lawyer and the Attorney General of the British Overseas Territory of Anguilla, John McKendrick, has written an exciting novel about the unsuccessful 17th century Scottish venture to begin a colony in Panama: *Darien: A Journey In Search of Empire* which was published by **Birlinn** in February 2016.

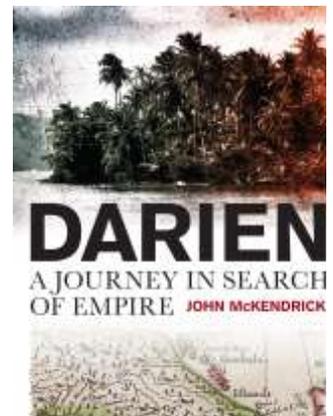
John grew up in the village of Strathblane, Scotland and was schooled at Kelvinside Academy in Glasgow. He received his further education at the London School of Economics, the University of Leuven, and University of Oxford. He was called to the English Bar in 1999, the Scottish Bar in 2008, and the Bar of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court in 2013. In 2016 Her Majesty the Queen appointed him Queen's Counsel, and later that year the Foreign and Commonwealth Office appointed him for a two-year term as the Honourable Attorney General of the beautiful Caribbean Island of Anguilla. He was the *London Times* Lawyer of the Week in September 2013, and nominated for *The Lawyer* magazine's Barrister of the Year award for 2016. John has also had experience in Scottish politics running as the Labour candidate for Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross in 2007 Scottish Parliament elections. In the 2010 General Election, he stood as the Labour candidate for Ross, Skye and Lochaber. As a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, John travels a lot and during a visit to Panama City and meeting with members of the St Andrews Society, he was inspired to learn about the Darien venture undertaken by Scotland in the late 17th C. This led him to write: *Darien: A Journey in Search of Empire*. Though previous accounts have been written on the subject of Darien, John's historical account of Scotland's unsuccessful attempt to establish a colony on the isthmus of Panama, is combined with his fascinating travelogue to Darien in Panama as well as Darien, Georgia. The impact of the Darien venture had a far-reaching impact on Scottish, British and American history.

John was a guest of Scottish Heritage USA and gave presentations on the Darien venture at the Scottish Cultural Village (which is also generously supported by Scottish Heritage USA) at Grandfather Mountain in July.

Copies of his book are available (\$30.00) at Scottish Heritage USA offices. Call us for a copy (910-295-4448) or email us at shusa@embarqmail.com.

Right Top: Cover of Darien book

Bottom: John lecturing at the Cultural Village at Grandfather



CONGRATULATIONS 2017 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS!

This year saw a record number of scholarship applicants for The Scottish School of the Arts and The National Academy of Piping & Drumming. Unfortunately we were only able to provide 3 scholarships to each school due to funding constraints and increased tuition costs. Scottish Heritage is looking at ways to increase the amount of support we will be able to give next year so keep those applications coming!

Look for next year's announcement in January-February 2018 – if you are not on our mailing list, please call or email the office with your contact information so you will not miss the opportunity to apply next year.

DANCE

Alexandra Altman – High Point, North Carolina

Audrey Altman – High Point, North Carolina

Marta Torveig Striplin – Apex, North Carolina

PIPING

Hunter Powell – North Charleston, South Carolina

James Laberee – Medford, New Jersey

Chloe Lawson – Sparks, Maryland

Scottish Heritage USA Funds the Visiting Lectureship in Scottish Gaelic Studies at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill!

The first ever university-level lectureship in Scottish Gaelic Studies in America! At their annual board meeting at the Grandfather Mountain Games in July 2017, **Scottish Heritage USA** agreed to fund the entire amount necessary to support the 2018-19 Visiting Lectureship in Scottish Gaelic Studies at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

GaelicUSA, headed by Dr. Michael Newton, will be the organization to implement the creation of the first position of its kind in an American university. Rev. Dr. Douglas Kelly, President of Scottish Heritage USA stated, “The Carolinas were home to the largest Gaelic-speaking communities outside of Scotland for generations and people of Highland ancestry still make up a large segment of the region’s population. Although Gaelic Studies have had some limited recognition at UNC in the past – such as under Professor Urban T. Holmes in the 1960s – this is an ideal time to foster scholarship about the Gaelic legacy of the Carolinas and North America as a whole in the academy. This donation from Scottish Heritage USA fulfills its commitment to serving the Scottish-American community by ensuring the recognition of this important cultural legacy.” He added, on a personal note: “I was keenly aware of my Scottish Highland heritage when I was a student at UNC and had always wanted to see Gaelic taught there. Now, I may live to see that happen.”

Dr. Charles MacQuarrie, President of Urras Gàidhlig nan Stàitean Aonaichte / GaelicUSA, remarked, “We thank Scottish Heritage USA and their redoubtable president Rev. Dr. Douglas Kelly for their commitment to enabling the study of Scottish Gaelic language and culture in the United States. We agree with Rev. Dr. Kelly that UNC Chapel Hill is the ideal place to house such a lectureship, and hope now to be successful in justifying and funding an endowed Chair of Scottish Gaelic at UNC.” Dr. Mary Floyd-Wilson, the new head of the Department of English and Comparative Literature, has welcomed this development, saying, “We are enthusiastic about bringing a scholar and teacher to the department who can expand our knowledge of Scottish Gaelic Studies and who inspires students to pursue their own connections with this literary history.” The funding of the Visiting Lectureship is a major step towards our goal of endowing a full Chair in Scottish Gaelic Studies. It will enable us to build confidence in our initiative with the broader community, bridging faculty and administration at the university level with the public. In recognition of the vital support given by Scottish Heritage USA, the Visiting Lectureship will have the official title, “The Scottish Heritage USA Visiting Lectureship in Scottish Gaelic Studies at UNC.”

Responses from Academic Colleagues in US and Scotland Professor Robert Dunbar, Chair of Celtic at the University of Edinburgh, has greeted the announcement with this response: “We are greatly encouraged to see that students at North Carolina will be able to connect with an important and sadly neglected part of the heritage of the state and, indeed, of North America in general, and that desperately-needed research on the very rich legacy of new world Gaels will be facilitated.”

Continued on page 3

LECTURESHIP *(Continued from page 2)*

Professor Thomas Owen Clancy, Chair of Celtic at the University of Glasgow, added to this sentiment: “This is fantastic and unlooked-for news, a real ray of hope. At a time when academic posts are shrinking in Celtic Studies generally on both sides of the Atlantic, this investment in Gaelic in UNC will make a real difference, and Chapel Hill is most certainly the right place to host this.” Dr. Natasha Sumner, Assistant Professor of Celtic Languages & Literatures at Harvard University, has expanded on the significance of this position in the history of the field in the United States: “Scottish Gaelic, a modern Celtic language closely related to Irish and Manx, has a nearly three century-long history on this continent. The field of North American Gaelic Studies has been strengthening since the late Harvard professor, Charles Dunn’s pioneering work with the Canadian Gaelic-speaking community in the twentieth century. However, Gaels’ cultural heritage continues to be understudied, particularly in the United States. That a Visiting Lectureship is to be established at the University of North Carolina—the state in which the first American Gaelic book was published in the eighteenth century—is welcome news indeed.”

Key Facts about the Scottish Heritage USA Visiting Lectureship in Scottish Gaelic Studies • The Lectureship position will be advertised in August 2017. The candidate will be chosen in early 2018. (Visiting Lecturers are usually “on loan” from another university.) • The lectureship will be hosted by the department of English and Comparative Literature. • It will consist of five courses exploring literature, identity, and folklore using Gaelic texts (in English translation), explored from a Scottish Highland perspective. • The courses will incorporate material inclusive of history and culture, ancient and modern, and will relate to both Scotland and the North American diaspora. GaelicUSA plans to have social events to commemorate our achievement and reach out to the wider community, in collaboration with a new Celtic-oriented student society on campus, including a public lecture (co-sponsored by UNC, Scottish Heritage USA and GaelicUSA). We are also attempting to arrange an exhibit of materials related to the Scottish Gaelic immigrant settlements of the Carolinas in conjunction with UNC.



Dr. Kelly, President of Scottish Heritage USA, with Dr. Mary Floyd-Wilson the new head of the Department of English and Comparative Literature at UNC-Chapel Hill

Scottish Heritage USA will also assist GaelicUSA in seeking contributions of approximately \$2.5 million toward endowing a Chair in Scottish Gaelic Studies at UNC.

DONATE TO SCOTTISH HERITAGE USA

Birthdays, holidays, special events ---a membership to Scottish Heritage USA is a perfect gift for anyone of Scottish descent or who is a “*Scottofile*” – It’s a great value and it’s thrifty! Scottish Heritage USA is a non-profit corporation and your gift is fully Tax Deductible (*since the giver does not receive any goods in exchange for the donation, the total amount of the membership is tax deductible*).

I wish to make an unrestricted donation to Scottish Heritage USA, Inc. in the amount of

\$ _____

I wish to make a donation to Scottish Heritage’s Scholarship Fund in the amount of

\$ _____

Scottish Heritage will send verification of all donations upon request. Any donations of \$200 or more receive automatic confirmations.



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SCOTTISH KNOWLEDGE QUIZ

1. In which year did the first Stone Mountain Highland Games take place?
2. Stones from the old Stone Mt. quarry were used in the construction of two famous sites, what are they?
3. Approximately how many Clans & Societies sponsor the Stone Mt. Games?
4. What is the casual name of the unique chapel at Stone Mt. ?
5. Who edited the maps of Scottish Districts in the 1st Great World Atlas published in Amsterdam in 1654?
6. What is unusual about the Soay sheep which lives on the Hebridean Island of Hirta?
7. What famous engineering project was completed in 1890?
8. Which loch lies nearest the site of the Glencoe massacre?
9. What is Scotland's easternmost point?
10. Which Scottish King married Sibylla, daughter of Henry I of England?

Bonus: In which year was St. Andrew's University founded?

*1. 1973 2. US Capitol & Panama Canal 3. around 100
4. Wee Kirk in the Woods 5. Robert Gordon of Straloch
6. Only true wild sheep in Britain 7. The Forth Bridge 8. Loch
Leven 9. Buchan Ness 10. Alexander I BONUS: 1411*

WELCOME NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS

Simon Adams	Mary Armstrong	William Atherton	C. Baker
Mary Basnight	Anita Booth	Mary Britt	Douglas Brown
Aaron Burnitt	Colin Caddell	Donald Campbell	Clan Skene
Bert Corbin	Susie Crocco	Ann Drummond	Jim Dunbar
Tom & Stacy Georges	Connie Gordon	John Grogan	William Groves Family
Myra Hamilton	Brian Hamilton	Jennifer Heath	Heather Herron
The Hoogenbooms	Michael Jennings	Larry Johnson	Caroline Klapper
Kimberly Lackey	Patricia Lantzy	The Lawries	Alanna Light
Jon MacLucas	Joseph & Mary Marcoux	Ellen Marsh	Claire Martin
Cynthia McAlister	Robert McAllister	Robert McComas	Larry McRae
Edward Morgan	Charles Nesbitt	Jeff Prichard	Dan Robinson
Kerry & Brenda Rose	Larry Shand	Danny Skinner	James Taylor & Margaret Lange
Chip Terrell	Jason Wilson	Kenneth Woody	

WELCOME ALL !