

# THE SCOTS CANADIAN

Issue XXXVIII

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Spring 2014

## Canadian politician, diplomat, historian and author Roy MacLaren named Scot of the Year 2014

We are delighted to announce that Roy MacLaren will be presented with the Scottish Studies Society's Scot of the Year Award at its Annual Tartan Day Celebration on Saturday April 5, 2014 and invite you and your friends and family to attend the event in Massey College's Ondaatje Hall at the University of Toronto. You will be sure to enjoy a magnificent evening of fine food and entertainment with a Scots-Canadian flavour.

The dress code for the evening will be formal (black tie or Highland dress) so this is your chance to dress up for one of the most

sophisticated events in the Scots-Canadian calendar, taking place this year in the unique environment of Ondaatje Hall, the Canadian architectural masterpiece designed by Ronald Thom. It's a wonderful venue in which one can detect the influence of Scottish Art Nouveau artist and architect Charles Rennie Mackintosh. More information can be found on our website [www.scottishstudies.com](http://www.scottishstudies.com) which will be updated as the project develops. Also please feel free to contact David Hunter by telephone at 416-699-9942 or by e-mail at:

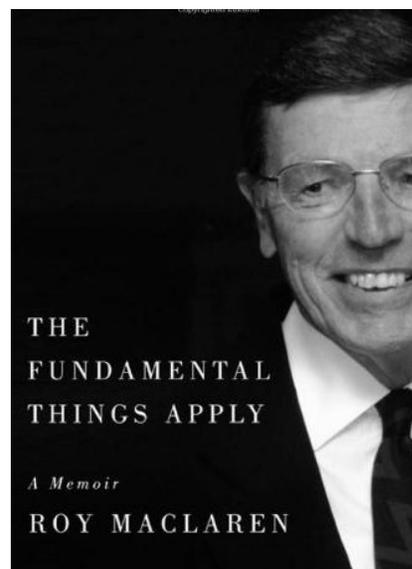
[davidhunter@scottishstudies.com](mailto:davidhunter@scottishstudies.com).

We look forward to seeing you at the event. It should be a great evening supporting the Scottish Studies Foundation's objective of raising awareness of the Scottish heritage in Canada through education at the university level.

Born in Vancouver in 1934, Roy is proud of his Scots ancestry. His forebears came to Canada in 1803 from Perthshire, settling in PEI. He has also experienced Scotland at close range, having hiked all the way from Land's End to John o' Groats with his son Malcolm in 1986.

Roy received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of British Columbia with a major in History, a Master's degree from St Catharine's College, Cambridge, a Master of Divinity degree from the University of Trinity College and an honorary Doctor of Sacred Letters degree from the University of Toronto, another honorary degree from the University of Alabama, and in 1973 attended Harvard University's Advanced Management Program. In 2002, he received the Alumni Award of Distinction from the University of British Columbia.

During twelve years with the Canadian Foreign Service, Roy's postings included Hanoi, Saigon, Prague and the United Nations in New York and Geneva. He served as the Canadian Chair of the Canada-Europe Round Table and the Canadian Institute for International Affairs. He has also served on the Canadian and British board of directors of Deutsche Bank plus a number of other multi-national corporations.



He is also the Honorary Colonel of the 7th Toronto Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery. MacLaren is currently the Honorary Chairman of the Canada-India Business Council.

His historical book, *Canadians on the Nile, 1882-1898* was published in 1978 and the following year he was elected to the Canadian House of Commons as the Liberal MP for Etobicoke North. In June 1983, MacLaren was appointed by Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau as Minister of State [Finance].

In June 1984, he was appointed to John Turner's short-lived cabinet as Minister of National Revenue and in 1988 he was again elected MP for Etobicoke North.

After the Liberals won the 1993 election, he was appointed Minister of International Trade, but resigned that position and his seat in 1996, when he was appointed High Commissioner for Canada in the United Kingdom serving until 2000.

Roy currently co-chairs the Canada-Europe Roundtable for Business, sits on the Council of the Champlain Society, the Executive Committee of the Trilateral Commission, the board of directors of the Royal Ontario Museum Foundation, is President of St Catharine's College Society, and a director of The Council for Business and the Arts in Canada. His published writings reflect his personal and professional experience, much of it concentrating on Canada's international history.

### Scottish Studies Spring Colloquium

The 2014 Scottish Studies Spring Colloquium will be held on Saturday April 5, 2014 at Knox College, University of Toronto, from 10:00 am to 3:30 pm (registration opens at 9:30 am).

Presenters include:

Roger Mason (University of St Andrews)  
Stuart Macdonald (Knox College, University of Toronto)  
Mairi Cowan (University of Toronto,)  
Melissa McAfee (University of Guelph)  
Daniel MacLeod (University of Guelph)  
Sierra Dye (University of Guelph)

**The Annual General Meeting of The Scottish Studies Foundation** will be held from 12:15 to 1:45 pm.

Registration is \$25 for Scottish Studies Foundation members and for early-bird registrants on or before March 28, 2014; the price increases to \$30 for registrants on March 29, 2014. A student rate of \$10 is available. As always, lunch and coffee breaks are included. To register or for more information, please contact:

Centre for Scottish Studies  
1008 MacKinnon Extension  
University of Guelph  
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# Roy MacLaren: *Memoir of a formidable man*

By George Fetherling

This review of Roy MacLaren's book *The Fundamental Things Apply* was first published in *Diplomat Magazine*, June 26, 2011

There are times in *The Fundamental Things Apply* (McGill-Queen's University Press, \$39.95), Roy MacLaren's memoir of his life in diplomacy, business and politics, when one is reminded of the Lanny Budd cycle by Upton Sinclair. This is a sequence of 11 novels in which the character Budd, an American diplomat, seems to bump into all the personages who dominated world events between 1913 and 1953. Mr. MacLaren, who served in the Trudeau, Turner and Chrétien governments, has a similar knack in real life rather than fiction. Some of his meetings were diplomatic occasions and some purely political; still others were social. A very short sampling of the people whose paths he crossed would include Ho Chi Minh, Henry Kissinger, Patrice Lumumba, Harold Macmillan, André Malraux, Nguyen Vo Giap, often called the world's greatest living general, who drove the French and then the Americans out of Vietnam, and Zhou Enlai.

Mr. MacLaren didn't come from an elite background. His father, a native of PEI, was wounded at Passchendaele in 1917, and after the war worked in Vancouver. The future memoirist was born there in 1934 and graduated from the University of British Columbia. He was audacious and academically gifted. In 1953, he was accepted by both Oxford and Cambridge. He chose the latter, where he attended lectures by F.R. Leavis and C.S. Lewis, met the novelist E.M. Forster (whose tea parties "were not to me especially amusing") and dated the suicidal American poet Sylvia Plath. He wanted to come home and earn a doctorate in history at the University of Toronto. But in 1957, acting on a whim, a dare or an impulse, he wrote the foreign service examination at Canada House in Trafalgar Square. As a result, he was offered a position in External Affairs at a probationary salary of \$2,200 per annum. He remained with External for a dozen years. "To me," he writes, "it appeared that joining the Department of External Affairs somewhat resembled what I imagined joining a religious order must be like." Indeed, there was something almost Jesuitical about the

intellectuals to be found there during the so-called golden age of Canadian diplomacy. The book is richly sprinkled with names such as Norman Robertson, George Ignatieff and John Holmes.

Mr. MacLaren's first foreign posting, in 1958, was to Vietnam, to be a part of the International Control and Supervision Commission, which was set up following France's forced departure from Indochina and was "neither controlling nor supervising nor a commission." It was a tripartite affair that required some people from India, some from Poland and some from Canada. Mr. MacLaren seems not to have cared much for Vietnam, whether North or South. While there, however, he began seeing an American Foreign Service officer, Alethea Mitchell. (Today, as Lee MacLaren, she knows everyone and everyone knows her and has been a high-powered diplomatic and political hostess for more than 50 years.) Next, he was second secretary at the Canadian embassy in Prague. Two years later, however, he was kicked out of the country in reprisal for the expulsion from Canada of a Czech diplomat who tried to recruit a Czech-Canadian to spy on the Royal Canadian Air Force. In 1964, Mr. MacLaren began four and a half years as Canada's second secretary to the Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York. He resigned from the service in 1969 for a very sound reason. I should point out that I've been slightly acquainted with Roy MacLaren for about 35 years and have considerable admiration for him. He is a cultured individual who has written many books, most of them scholarly works of Canadian military history, and is interested in painting and literature. (It's a telling fact that he once had a dog called Bardolph, after the minor character in *The Merry Wives of Windsor* who recurs in Henry IV and Henry V.) Another matter for which he can be admired (the "sound reason" mentioned above) is that on leaving External Affairs he resolved to make some serious money so that he could devote himself to public life. Easier said than done, of course, unless one has a sponsor or a benefactor.

He found the former in Marietta Tree (1917-91), the American socialite and Democratic Party mover and shaker (and lover of Adlai Stevenson and the film director John Huston, and mother of Penelope Tree, the famous fashion model of Swinging London). Through Mrs. Tree he was connected to his benefactor, David Ogilvy (1911-99), "the father of modern advertising," and became Massey Ferguson's vice-president of public relations. That the company was faltering through poor management seemed to be common knowledge. So after four years, Mr. MacLaren became the president and CEO of Ogilvy & Mather (Canada), where there was

real money to be had. All this while he had been "warily circling the idea of standing for Parliament in a Toronto constituency," but realized he wasn't quite ready, not yet. So he had a turn as an entrepreneur.

In 1977, still only 44 years old, he had the idea (brilliant, as it turned out) of buying the dreadfully dreary magazine of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Montreal. It was called *Canadian Business* and had long been known as the resting place of unrewritten press releases. Odd as this may sound today, in 1977, Canadian financial journalism, other than *The Globe* and *Mail's Report on Business* section, was considered a backwater. Smart young people looking to get ahead didn't yearn for careers in the field. Mr. MacLaren turned the magazine into a glossy monthly full of business features, profiles and columns. At the time, when I was a young fellow in a rush to rid himself of the second of two mortgages, I worked there for a year on a consulting contract. Mr. MacLaren had a gifted art director, but his editor, although not without some talent and a little brains, never went out of his way to overwork them. Several editors later, once he quit politics in 1993, Mr. MacLaren sold the publication to Maclean-Hunter, which was later acquired by Rogers Communications.

In addition to working on the magazine, I was a volunteer worker bee in two of Mr. MacLaren's successful campaigns to sit in the House of Commons as the Liberal member for the riding of Etobicoke North, a Toronto suburb with large Italian-Canadian and Sikh populations. By then, he was already a fairly well known figure in international economic circles, with much of his attention given over to such matters as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. He proceeded from parliamentary secretary to the minister of energy, mines and resources, to minister of state for finance (both under Marc Lalonde). When the Turner government failed, he became the opposition finance critic. When the Liberals resumed power, he finally joined the cabinet, first as minister of national revenue (where he sorted out certain systemic difficulties, thus avoiding a possible scandal or at least a widespread public protest). Lastly, he was minister of international trade.

Through it all, he was an attentive constituency politician. In one of the numerous diary entries quoted in the book, he writes of canvassing in 1980 at a house where "a woman at the door was so busy hiding her face from us that I was barely able to speak with her. Noting my puzzlement, [a woman on his campaign staff] explained, as we descended the steps, that the woman was clearly ashamed of having been beaten by her husband. As a result of that revelation and several subsequent confirmations from

the police about the incidence of wife-battering, I took the first occasion to channel some federal financing toward a transient home for battered wives and frequently for the children as well - at least for those wives who have the formidable courage to run away from their loutish husbands. If I do nothing more as an MP, I shall always be pleased that I did that."

The style of such diary entries is almost indistinguishable from that of his diplomatic memos, on which he also draws at times. In both cases, the word choices and the word order are slightly formal in a particularly anglophilic manner, yet the tone of voice is pleasantly relaxed and even conversational. The book is, of course, notable for what it has to say as well as how it chooses to say it. The author tells us little of his children, for example, "believing that one's family life has no place in a book about the public sphere." Fair enough. But like so many other books in this genre, the gaps are quite informative. While giving a few words to a brief encounter with young Senator John F. Kennedy (and Mrs. MacLaren's acquaintance with Jacqueline Kennedy) he doesn't mention the one-hour conference he had with President Kennedy in the Oval Office. In running through his life in business, he omits the fact that he was once the president of the publishing house McClelland & Stewart - possibly because he turned out to be something of a caretaker owner. The reader finds no reference to his former campaign manager who resigned as a top executive of the Toronto Stock Exchange after being discovered to have exaggerated his résumé. He scolds John Turner but holds back the criticism of Mr. Chrétien that was a recurring topic in private conversation. In the end, Mr. Chrétien appointed Mr. MacLaren to what must have been the latter's dream job: High Commissioner to Great Britain (1996-2000) - back to Canada House where his life as a diplomat had begun. Being the natural writer that he is, Mr. McLaren later published *Commissioners High*, a history of the office and its occupants. But the congeniality evaporates when he tells us how Prime Minister Chrétien killed his chances of becoming head of the World Trade Organization. Since then, Mr. MacLaren has kept busy sitting on a wide variety of corporate boards, big and small.

Until now, a work entitled *Canadians behind Enemy Lines* has been seen as Mr. MacLaren's most important book. *The Fundamental Things Apply* probably has surpassed it.

I take this opportunity to tell him how much I learned by watching him and listening to him - for he is a skilled diplomat and a clever professional politician. ■



*Thanks to the work of Scottish Studies Foundation Director and former CP Air pilot, Bill Davidson (above), the Industry Canada procedure that required the Scottish Studies Foundation and the Scottish Studies Society to transition to the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act has been successfully completed.*

### *University of Guelph, seeks candidates for the Scottish Studies Foundation Chair.*

*We thought members would be interested in the following posting which was released last November*

The Chair, founded in 2004, was North America's inaugural Chair in Scottish Studies and continues to be the only such position in Canada. The Chair serves as the head of the University of Guelph's Centre for Scottish Studies, which attracts graduate students from Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom. The Centre for Scottish Studies publishes the *International Review of Scottish Studies*, a peer-reviewed open access journal listed on EBSCO and other library databases, and publishes the *Guelph Series in Scottish Studies*. The Centre for Scottish Studies has a tradition of dedicated involvement in the community, hosting many events including two yearly colloquia that attract members of the general public as well as academics. The U of G Library hosts the largest collection of Scottish documents and print materials outside of the United Kingdom and is currently engaged in a major digitization initiative in Scottish Studies.

This appointment will be made at the rank of Associate or Full Professor. The candidate will be expected to have a PhD in History or a related discipline. The candidate should have a strong publication record, editorial ability, experience in supervising

graduate students, teaching undergraduate courses, and a demonstrated ability to work with non-academic communities. The candidate will also network with community groups in the area, including the Scottish Studies Foundation, which played a major role in funding the Chair and will play an important role in community support for research initiatives at the university. Liaising with the Library/Archives and University Advancement Office as well as external bodies such as the Scottish Government will also be part of the portfolio of responsibilities. The Chair will have a reduced teaching load.

The University of Guelph is a research intensive university, ranked highly among comparable Canadian institutions and its History Department has 22 faculty members and is part of the Tri-U graduate program with the University of Waterloo and Wilfrid Laurier University.

The deadline for applications is January 30, 2014 or until a suitable candidate is found. Please send a cover letter describing your background and how you will contribute to the Scottish Studies program at Guelph, a complete curriculum vitae and have three letters of reference sent to the following address:

Dr. Catherine Carstairs  
Chair, Department of History  
Mackinnon Building, University of  
Guelph, Guelph, Ontario  
N1G 2W1

# Alice Munro Country Stretches to Stockholm

By Douglas Gibson

It is mid-afternoon in Stockholm but the darkening streets are full of men in formal white tie and tails escorting ladies in long dresses towards the Concert Hall. They look, my wife suggests, like a convention of conductors, but although an orchestra will be involved this afternoon, it is not a musical event. It is the formal ceremony for the presentation of the Nobel Prizes, and we are part of the hurrying throng because – as, literally, all the world knows – Alice Munro is this year's winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature.

It is hard for anyone outside Stockholm to realize what a hugely important event this is. Here, Nobel Prize Day is different. There is a Graduation Day feeling about the city streets. Already we have been startled – admittedly at the Nobel Museum (but did you know that there really is an actual Nobel Museum?) – by a loud trumpet fanfare at mid-day. But the public fascination in general is so strong for this local Oscar Night, that SVT (the Swedish equivalent of the CBC) has devoted one entire TV channel, the Nobel Channel, to the events throughout the day. They are all carefully recorded, minute-by-minute, up to the end, including the banquet in the evening. Cameras (carried by Swedish cameramen also wearing white-tie and tails) intrude on the diners, who give wise interviews. Every so often, of course, in the middle of the flow of mysterious Swedish we can make out the words “Alice Munro”.

To say that Alice Munro is a popular Nobel choice is a huge understatement. She is everywhere here. SVT has run a documentary, in prime time, about her. I had a modest hand in this film, having taken the Swedish crew to the Boston Church near Milton, Ontario (where the earliest Laidlaws from Scotland are buried, and where I spoke learnedly about young Alice Laidlaw and her family). Later I took them to Wingham (where the Alice Munro Literary Garden

showed up well), and to Clinton (where Alice's local friend, Rob Bundy, took them into Alice's house, noting how seriously they composed themselves, before entering the actual room where Alice wrote). They even posed me for an interview high above the Maitland River near Goderich as we talked about the universal appeal of Alice's work. The subtitles in Swedish look very impressive, suggesting that I was making some degree of sense. Best of all, the crew went on to Victoria and recorded a fine interview with Alice, and her daughter Sheila.

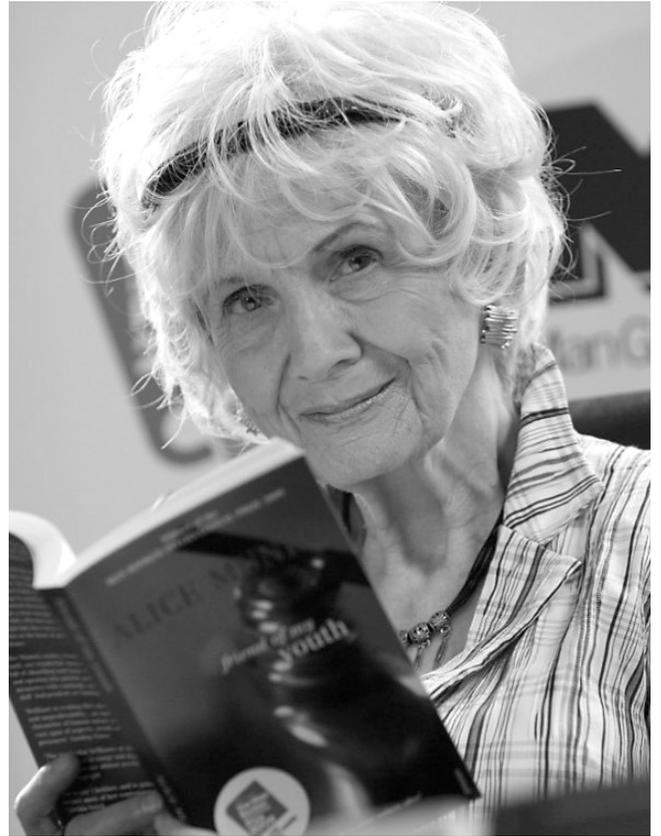
But that popular, prime-time broadcast was just one example of how omnipresent Alice Munro has been during the great flowing cocktail party of events this week.

Everything starts at the legendary Grand Hotel, which has its own “Nobel Desk”, where you pick up your itinerary and tickets for the week and stagger off, amazed. On Saturday, for example, the Nobel people organized an evening in Alice's honour at the Swedish Academy, a “Nobel Conversation with Alice Munro”. It featured a 20 minute recorded interview where Alice in Victoria talks about her life and work, ending with a modest, grateful statement about how much winning this award means to her.

Present on stage at the Saturday event was Jenny Munro, Alice's daughter, who has represented her mother with poise and charm throughout, and has made many friends. The constant demands on her (she has a Nobel Attendant at her elbow at all times) and the constant round of interviews and other events confirm the wisdom of Alice's regretful decision not to attend in person, and Jenny is a wonderful, gracious representative.

Her great moment is the Award Ceremony at the Concert Hall. Did I mention that the dramatic hall, with its memorable, sky-blue exterior was the setting for a special Nobel Prize Concert event on Sunday night with the Italian guest conductor, Riccardo Muti?

Jenny is on stage when the white-tie audience enters, with every seat so carefully allocated that Jane and I find that passports are required to establish identity and gain entry. The setting of the stage is traditional,



Alice Munro

year after year, as the SVT Nobel Channel reveals with its film from earlier years.

After the entry of the King of Sweden and the Royal Family, the prizegiving ceremony soon becomes predictable, punctuated by surprising musical breaks. (Did she really sing “I Could Have Danced All Night”?) First, a nominating member of the Swedish Academy formally introduces each Nobel Laureate. The Laureate rises, then advances to the centre of the stage to receive the Nobel Prize from the hands of the King. It is a complicated manoeuvre, involving a special movement for the handshake with the King and then a three-way bow, to the King, to the sponsoring speaker, and finally to the audience, which then applauds.

In Jenny's case, two remarkable things happen. Right on cue she moves to stage centre in her elegant navy blue gown. Then, instead of the usual “Congratulations, well done” brief conversation from the King, he really talks to her at some length. Then, prepared by her rehearsal (the Swedes may be a friendly, democratic people, but they value careful formality, and the arriving crowd included some gentlemen wearing top hats) she carries off the three bows ... and the applause from the audience goes on and on, even after she returns to her seat. The applause does not quite match the Harbourfront Tribute to Alice in November,

*Scot of the Year 2005, Douglas Gibson is a director of the Scottish Studies Foundation and has been Alice Munro's editor since 1976. She wrote the introduction for his memoir, "Stories About Storytellers: Publishing Alice Munro, Robertson Davies, Alistair MacLeod, Pierre Trudeau, and Others."*

where one Toronto newspaper reported that the applause went on “for several minutes”, but it is noticeably longer and warmer applause than that received by the other (very worthy) Nobel Laureates. There are Canadian whoops and cheers, assisted by some American allies in our Munro group – and there are damp eyes in our party.

I said earlier that Alice Munro is hugely popular here. After a celebratory lunch at the Canadian Embassy (and the bright and lively Ambassador Kenneth Macartney and his wife Susan – a former employee of the Munro Bookstore in Victoria! – are keenly aware of the importance of this win for Canadian-Swedish relations), an event was arranged at the largest Stockholm bookstore for that afternoon. Alice’s Swedish publisher, her translator, a prominent reviewer and I were the attractions, but Alice Munro was the real draw. It was standing room only! And every bookstore in this well supplied city of great culture, many museums, and many, many readers, has mounds of prominently-displayed books by Alice Munro, in Swedish and in English. Every window seems to have the familiar photo of silver-haired Alice in her white blouse looking out thoughtfully from her Clinton back porch at passing browsers in Stockholm.

The Swedes are omnivorous readers. I spent some time with Peter Englund, the Secretary of the Nobel Prize Committee, telling him that his famous words... “and the winner of the 2013 Nobel Prize for Literature is... Alice Munro of Canada”, made him the most popular man in Canada. He liked this news, and promised to visit us.

I mentioned that I happened to know that the name Munro played a prominent part in Swedish history. During the Thirty Years War (1618 -1648) the leader of the Protestant side was King Gustavus Adolphus of Sweden. Many of his troops were Scottish, I reminded Peter, and there were two Swedish Generals and dozens of officers who were Scots named Munro. Did he happen to know about this historic link with the name Munro?

Yes, Peter admitted, he did. In fact, one of the Munro Generals was so prominent that around 1640 he wrote a Military Training Manual, and Peter had read it! I retired from the field.

Later, in an interview with Canadian Press, Peter said something very important about Alice. “From my 10 years of experience in handing out the Nobel Prize in Literature, I’ve never seen a prize so popular...She is the greatest short story in the world... impeccable.”

At the awards ceremony it was Peter who wrote, and read out, the citation for Alice, which included the wonderful line: “If you have never before fantasized about the

strangers you see on a bus, you begin doing so after you have read Alice Munro.”

I told Peter about my visit to the official Nobel outfitters to rent my white tie and tails outfit. This is a rite of passage for every male Nobel Laureate (women in long gowns, for once, get off easily), and at the rental establishment the wisest men on the planet, and hangers-on like me, are to be seen shuffling around in their underwear. On the Big Day itself, the Grand Hotel stations a squad of flying butlers in the lobby to help the despairing Laureates who troop off the elevator saying, “I can’t get the buttons on this stiff shirt-front to close!” or, “My white bow tie won’t stay tied!” Even Peter Higgs, the Scottish Nobel Laureate in Physics, confessed to me that the shirt buttons posed a major problem for him, despite his deep theoretical knowledge of physical properties.

The reflected glory of my link with Alice was demonstrated in that same conversation with Peter Englund, when I mentioned that on my clothes rental trip I had dropped in on the Swedish National Library building, and had been very impressed.

“Ah,” Peter responded. “But did you introduce yourself?” No, of course not. He was disappointed. But can you imagine any other city in the world where the announcement “I am Alice Munro’s Canadian editor” would have produced a positive response? Stockholm, in that sense, is very close to Wingham, and Clinton, and Goderich.

But perhaps the final proof of Alice Munro’s hold on this city came two days after the awards ceremony. The Royal Dramatic Theatre, where Ingmar Bergman ruled for so many years, is the great, ornate downtown theatre, similar to Toronto’s Royal Alexandra Theatre. The Thursday evening show there was devoted to a dozen actors (and Jenny Munro!) reading from the work of Alice Munro. In Swedish. On a bare stage. Only two bouquets of flowers set off the line of static chairs on which the actors sat, before taking their turn at the reading microphone.

Alice Munro’s silver-haired Clinton photo is blown up to fill the whole backdrop. Occasionally it is replaced briefly by a photo of the Goderich Harbour, or a snowy Huron County scene. But as a drama, the whole attraction is in the words. And all 800 seats are sold out, as the people of Stockholm flood in to hear the words of Alice Munro. Their Alice Munro. ■

## From the Mailbox



As a long-time member of the Scottish Studies Foundation and also an embroiderer, I was interested in the Scottish Diaspora Tapestry project featured in the last few issues of the Newsletter.

My ancestors came to Upper Canada in the 1830s from the Scottish islands of Islay and Tiree and I was anxious to contribute to this project. With two friends of like background, one of whom has only been in Canada seven years, I requested a panel to embroider.

We have since produced a panel (photo above by Joe Callahan) commemorating the legacy of the late Stan Rogers, the folk singer born in Hamilton, Ontario, well known for his rendition of “The Settlers’ Lament.” The panel was embroidered by the three of us...Nancy Callahan, a direct descendant of Sir Oliver Mowat, the third Premier of Ontario; Ann Miller, our new Canadian citizen from Fifeshire, and myself, whose families, the McDonalds and Sinclairs, settled in Goderich and Caledon Hills respectively.

As things turned out our panel was the first Canadian one to be finished and I understand there is a group in Guelph working on a panel to commemorate John Galt, the founder of that city.

Anne Adams

# Trumpeter of Guelph: Stanford Reid and Scottish History at Guelph

By Dr. Daniel MacLeod, University of Guelph

Having never met Stanford Reid, it is somewhat difficult for me to speak to his legacy. The year Stanford Reid died I was in ninth grade, and, believe it or not, I had concerns not specifically related to Scottish History and had only been to Guelph to participate in basketball tournaments. So my contribution to today's discussion will not contain stories of meetings with Stanford Reid or with the academic guidance he gave me. In the history department, some faculty members remember him, and from time to time we will hear stories about our department's foundation.

When I'm in Scotland and tell archivists that I've come from Guelph, I sometimes feel like I see them clutch the documents a bit tighter because they've heard of Stanford Reid's penchant for adding the documentary evidence of the Scottish past to the list of things that left Scotland to find a new and

better home in Canada.

Notwithstanding my lack of personal introduction to Stanford Reid, I have little doubt that we have a relationship. I've completed a Master's degree and PhD in Scottish History from the University of Guelph and I am currently teaching two courses there, both of which Stanford Reid would likely teach better than I would – The Reformation and the Scottish Diaspora. The department that he started has been my home for almost ten years, and Guelph's History department is the place where I met my wife, another historian.

Most historians know that we should be wary of assigning too much power to individuals in the past. The Scottish Reformation didn't, of course, begin and end with John Knox. Yet, the degree to which Stanford Reid, a staunchly Presbyterian, 100-year-old minister who wrote sympathetic biographies of John Knox, could influence me – a 32-year-old man starting a career researching Roman Catholic resistance to the Scottish Reformation – is striking to me.

A few years ago I won a bursary that Guelph has that is sponsored by the Reid Trust. People in the department were joking that he would be turning in his grave if he knew who won the prize. Perhaps this is true, but when I think of Stanford Reid from my perspective I tend to think that maybe this is part of what he had in mind for Scottish Studies at Guelph. It would be a place where people could think about Scottish history seriously regardless of their confessional affiliations, and where good research could be completed by those interested and up to the task.

A perceptive way in which Reid set Guelph up for success was in his pursuit of Scottish material for the library. The "Scottish Collection" has fundamentally changed research on Scottish history in Canada, and has facilitated projects from the study of golf, tourism and bagpiping to the study of medieval marriage, violence or the sacraments.

One of the most interesting aspects of Stanford Reid's legacy at Guelph is that, like most legacies, it follows an unpredictable path. The brand of "Church History" that Stanford Reid wrote is not currently as popular as it was in his time, but Guelph continues to produce good research reflective of his influence.

Whether it is true or not, I like to think that although Stanford Reid might not have been interested in these topics, he would be proud that in the last few years alone Guelph has produced PhDs on subjects as varied as Associational Culture in the Scottish Diaspora, 19th century Catholicism, Medieval Marriage and Early Modern Scottish Catholicism, not to mention the nationally funded research on medieval

masculinity and violence in Scottish towns taken on by graduate students and faculty alike.

Scottish Studies at Guelph is also engaged in a massive project of data linkage related to the 1871 Canadian census, and was on the cutting edge of work in the digital humanities that is so increasingly popular in the academy. People associated with Guelph – those who have studied there, accepted postdocs, or worked as lecturers – are now engaged in what might be crudely called the "Guelph Diaspora". They are in the Ivy League, in Scottish universities large and small, in New Zealand, in the U.S. and in nearly every province in Canada. Here they oversee research and broaden the scope of Scottish Studies in a way that could not have been predicted by Stanford Reid, but was surely influenced by him.

Another unique aspect of Scottish Studies at Guelph is its clear sense of engagement with the public beyond the university. Guelph has maintained an integral connection with the Scottish Studies Foundation in Toronto, as well as the St. Andrew's Societies in Toronto, Montreal and throughout Canada. Our lectures and events are routinely attended by non historians and those simply interested in Scottish heritage, and it is interesting to consider how this might be further evidence of Stanford Reid's legacy in terms of bridging the sometimes difficult gap between academic research and everyday life, a problem he likely encountered in the relationship between his ministry and his role in the university.

In his 1974 biography of John Knox, Trumpeter of God, Stanford Reid noted what he called "the trumpeter theme" in his assessment of Knox's desire to spread Reformed religion throughout Scotland. In his description of the period of time after the signing of The Treaty of Edinburgh in 1560, which won victory for Protestant Scotland, Reid wrote: "the trumpet had blown to good effect. It would now be necessary to see that the tune continued in the same key." These words about the Scottish Reformation certainly have applications to Reid's legacy in Scottish Studies at Guelph.

As the "Trumpeter of Guelph" Stanford Reid laid the groundwork for one of the unique and productive program specializations in Canada, and Guelph maintains and enhances Stanford Reid's legacy by continuing the tune in its own way, retaining a clear understanding of the contributions of its founder. So, as far as Scottish Studies at Guelph is concerned, Stanford Reid is alive and well and shows little signs of decline in either academic engagement or social contribution, even after 100 years. ■

*W. Stanford Reid was the first chair of Guelph's Department of History and the founder of its Scottish studies program.*

*During his time as chair, Reid launched the master's and PhD programs in history and established the graduate program in Scottish studies. It was one of Guelph's first graduate programs in the liberal arts and is still one of the most popular.*

*Reid was also responsible for initiating the McLaughlin Library's Scottish collection, which is now the largest collection of Scottish materials outside Scotland. He travelled abroad to gather materials for the collection, acquiring several original manuscripts and 40 letters by Scottish novelist and poet Sir Walter Scott.*

*When Reid retired, faculty in the Department of History established two annual awards in his name. The W.S. Reid Essay Prize is presented to the student with the best essay in a fourth-year history course. The W.S. Reid Thesis Prize recognizes the best thesis submitted by an undergraduate student in history.*

## Bringing Scottish History to the Modern Age

By Sierra Dye, University of Guelph

At the University of Guelph, Scotland's past and future are coming together in an exciting new project to digitize Guelph's Scottish chapbook collection. Part of a collaborative effort between the Guelph's Special Collections and Archives, History Department, and the Digital Humanities, this project brings together the expertise and enthusiasm of faculty, library staff, and graduate and undergraduate students in a cooperative effort to preserve and expand access to this valuable collection.

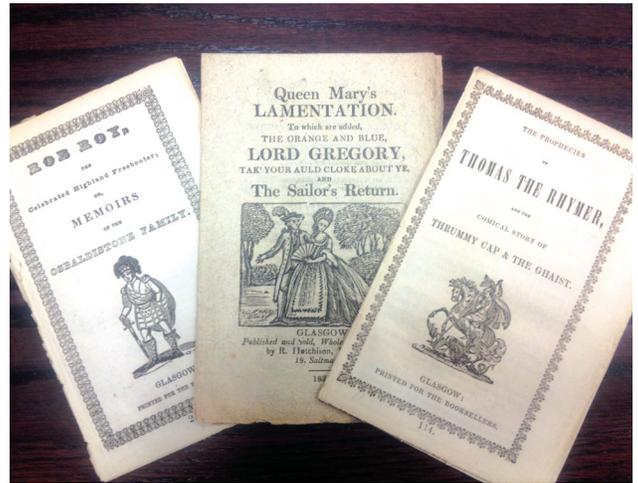
The library at the University of Guelph is home to one of the largest collections of Scottish archival material outside of the UK. Thanks to the generosity of the Scottish Studies Foundation, efforts are already being made to digitize many of these fabulous sources, which will be made available online. However, the project to digitize the chapbooks—headed by Special Collections librarian Melissa McAfee and Dr. Andrew Ross in the Digital Humanities—is a separate project whose purpose is not merely to digitally archive this material, but to put it together in a new, interactive website using some of the latest tools and technology available. We hope to debut this exciting new website at the 2014 Scottish Studies Spring Colloquium, which will be held at Knox College at the University of Toronto on 5 April 2014. A little more on this website soon, but first, let's talk a bit about the chapbooks themselves.

Chapbooks represent one of the most popular forms of literature produced in the seventeenth to nineteenth centuries in Scotland, as well as elsewhere in Britain and Europe. Usually printed on a single sheet of paper and folded into small booklet forms which ranged between 8 and 24 pages, chapbooks were produced quickly and cheaply in early modern Scotland. These booklets were distributed by chapmen who 'chapped'—or bartered or sold—these chapbooks, door-to-door and in the street, to homes all across Scotland where they were eagerly collected as an inexpensive form of entertainment. Indeed, along with broadsides, chapbooks were often the only reading material a family might afford and therefore represented one of the most common and ubiquitous types of literature available at this time.

The chapbooks themselves cover a wide range of subjects, representing whatever the printer thought would be most likely to sell at any given time. Some are prints of religious sermons or reflections; others are folk or

fairly tales written for children; others still are histories or biographies of famous national heroes. Dashing highwaymen and Irish rogues also claim a space on the chapbook pages, as do ghost stories and tales of supernatural spookiness, as well as instruction manuals on divination, charming, and dream-reading, most of which are clearly written with a young, female, husband-seeking audience in mind. The majority of chapbooks, however, are simply collections of short songs and ballads, designed to be read (or sung) out loud, including love songs, drinking songs, songs of adventure, tales of heartbreak, humorous songs, political diatribes, and songs of sadness and separation from Scotland's native shores. Some songs are quite tragic, others are extremely cheeky, but all are representative of an era of entertainment in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

At the University of Guelph, we are fortunate to house one of the largest collections of chapbooks printed specifically in Scotland. At this time, we hold over 600 chapbooks, the majority of which date between 1749 and 1850, and we hope to continue to improve our collection. However, it is important to us to make these valuable and fascinating materials available to as many people as possible, as well as to preserve these texts for future generations. To that end, we have created and initiated a project to digitize our chapbook collection and create an online and interactive exhibit available free of charge to anyone who is interested in these remarkable stories and songs. Over 200 chapbooks have been digitized to date and have been stored as high quality .tiff files in Guelph's library. Using Omeka platform software, we are in the process of creating a website where these digitized images will be available for download or online browsing. We are also currently exploring partnerships and the integration of other software, including OCR (Original Content Reader) applications which will hopefully make it possible to do searches in the full-text of the chapbooks. In addition to the images themselves, we are also providing a comprehensive listing of metadata so that researchers and interested parties can sort the information by date, place, printer, or other categories, as well as



*Broadsides and chapbooks, such as those pictured above from the U of G's collection, have a long history over several centuries. Printed crudely and cheaply, broadsides were typically single sheets while chapbooks were folded into small pamphlets. Sold by street criers, travelling 'chapmen', and by 'balladeers' at markets and fairs, they were the main reading material of a majority of the population, carrying news and popular culture of the day.*

detailed descriptions of the content in order to facilitate ease of access.

However, this will not be just your basic, every-day internet archive. In partnering with the Digital Humanities and History departments, we are hoping to also provide interactive demonstrations and exhibits of how this material can be used productively for both research and education. At this stage, we are planning on including research papers based on the chapbook material, a historiography of studies of the chapbooks, interactive GIS mapping showing distributions of chapbook printing, teaching modules demonstrating how these materials can be used in the classroom, online exhibits designed by Guelph students as part of a course in Digital Humanities, and much more. With this wide variety of online exhibits, we hope to not only join other institutions who have begun to catalogue and digitize some of their chapbook collections (most notably the National Library of Scotland, the University of South Carolina, and the University of Glasgow), but to also forge ahead and break new ground with our application and integration of digital media.

One of the greatest strengths of this project is its collaborative nature. Archivists and doctoral students, undergraduates and post-docs, faculty and outside scholars and staff: we all bring something different and essential to the table. Together, we hope to design and create a digital website that will allow others to join us, not only in accessing the chapbooks, but also in continuing to collaborate in future endeavors and projects that will further aid in the celebration and sharing of Scottish history. ■

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