

February, 1980

Clan Matheson Society

"Fac et spera"

NEWSLETTER No. 32

[Deposited in the National Library of Scotland]

Chief of the Clan:

Major Sir TORQUHIL MATHESON OF MATHESON, BARONET OF LOCHALSH

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THE CHIEF'S MESSAGE

Durinish,
Kyle of Lochalsh.
October, 1979.

It is now about two months since Serena and I returned from our two week Marathon from Cape Breton to Winnipeg and so sharp are the memories that it still seems but yesterday that we were on the far side of the Atlantic. The memories are

sharpened and incidents recalled by the photographs which some of you have so kindly sent us. It was, without exception the most outstanding fortnight that we have ever experienced with its plethora of affection, hospitality and generosity. Nor am I likely to forget my birthday in Ottawa, with a delicious Matheson crested birthday cake!

Elsewhere in this Newsletter are accounts of the main gathering in Cape Breton and the smaller gatherings at Trenton, Ottawa, Perth and Winnipeg, so I will recall some highlights.

First and foremost is the organisation behind all these events. To all of you who spent long hours before and during the various events, may I express the gratitude not only of Serena and myself, but of all who took part. Your efforts were splendid: the results were superb. No doubt, every clan has in retrospect, that their organisation was the best: but I defy any one to dispute that ours was anything but "Nulli Secundus — Second to None"!

Wherever we went there seemed to be a wonderful spirit of "togetherness": everyone was so unaffectedly happy and friendly. Except when silence was required for a specific reason, we might have been in the aviary (or monkey-house) of a zoo!! It was heartening to see friendships made at the International Clan Gathering in Edinburgh in 1977 being renewed: particularly one Canadian Highland couple of another clan who joined us in various functions.

The Ecumenical service conducted by the Rev. Gordon Matheson at St. Annes was one of the most moving services that I have ever attended. It went straight to the heart and carried me across the ocean and back through the centuries in vivid imagination. In fact, it was all most emotional.

History was everywhere around us. Even events 200 years ago seemed just round the corner when talking to descendants of an original settler in Pictou, or of a Selkirk settler on the Red River in Winnipeg. Perth has its Matheson House Museum, originally the house of the family of Senator Roderick of the Dominion of Canada, whose ancestor Dugal lived here in Duirinish in the 18th Century.

Then there was the Highland atmosphere, particularly in Cape Breton where the geography, faces, mannerisms and sayings are pronouncedly "West Coast" — not forgetting the Gaelic.

Serena and I were the recipients of the most magnificent hospitality, generosity and friendship wherever we went; and we received a number of beautiful presents. Three of these I think should be mentioned as they are to do with the trappings of a Chief and they will be seen from time to time, and will symbolise the global spread of the clan. One is three white eagle's feathers from a North American Bald Headed Eagle, who succumbed to his wounds received in aerial combat with another

over British Columbia. The other two are our heraldic Standard and Banner as designed by the Lord Lyon King of Arms in Edinburgh. They are exquisitely made. To all of you who gave us these and other treasures we repeat our heartfelt — "Thank you".

In this message I have mentioned no names but one. If I did the list would be inexhaustable and it would be invidious to single out one more than another. Everyone had a part to play either in organisation or by taking the trouble to travel thousands of miles for the occasion. Thank you all for what you did, and for coming. May we meet again before too long.

Torquhil Matheson of Matheson.

P.S. Since writing the above we have been delighted to entertain in the South, Campbell and Colin Matheson from Ottawa, and Gus and Jean Matheson from Cape Breton. Who's next?!

T.A.M. of M.

NOVA SCOTIA

As a befitting preliminary before emplaning for the Gathering in Cape Breton Island on Monday, 6th August, Joel Matheson, who is Minister of Finance in the Nova Scotia Legislative Assembly arranged for the Chief and Lady Matheson of Matheson, accompanied by the Secretary of the Society, to pay a formal call on the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia and his Lady at their official residence in Halifax.

Later on the same day their aircraft touched down at Sydney; the door was flung open; the Chief and Serena appeared; they began their slow descent to the tarmac; the melodious notes of Linda Matheson Munroe's pipes echoed round the aerodrome; the honour guard drawn up in two ranks facing each other sprang to attention with firmly grasped clan banners, manufactured to the specification and under the direction of Judge John Matheson, and the flags of the three nations involved; protocol duly observed, formality was relaxed and joyous greetings and introductions ensued.

The party, now one united whole, ensconced in transport generously provided by Canadian Mathesons, a motorcade rolled majestically forward on the road to Baddeck, banners fluttering in the breeze: as it gathered speed the procession, as its importance merited, was signalled through road junctions in lordly manner by dismounted officers of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

We reached Baddeck to find registration of such clansfolk as had already arrived being organised by our Cape Breton friends: the end result was that some 142 families or individuals had registered by the end of the day and the majority being not already members of the Society all joined up. Special mention must be made of Mrs. E.E. Sutherland and John Alexander Matheson who had travelled from New Zealand and Australia respectively.

A reception by the Chief and Lady Matheson of Matheson and a ceilidh followed in the evening

and then three days of unremitting activity — what fun we had! Space does not permit our recording the functions in detail but the meal presided over by Murdock Matheson at which 350 Mathesons dined *en famille* must not be overlooked nor the visit by the Chief and Serena to old persons of Scottish origin at the Alderwood Rest Home in Baddeck.

At the Matheson Parliament His Honour Judge John Matheson was brought unwillingly, as is the custom, to the Speaker's Chair. After an address

The Last Morning at Baddeck

On extreme left of the picture Rand, and next to him the Chief. Two of Rand's grandchildren in front: to the left of his granddaughter, the Clan Genealogist and above her right shoulder the Secretary. On the extreme right Mrs. David Matheson, next to her Lady Matheson of Matheson and the Honorary Secretary (U.S.A.)



Photo by DAVE G. HOUSER, 231 Silver Spring Road, Ridgefield. CT 06877
—from whom 8" x 10" coloured enlargements may be obtained for 10 dollars

by the Chief and the Secretary's report on behalf of the Treasurer, who was unfortunately unable to leave Scotland, and on the general affairs of the Clan, the Parliament proceeded to legislate. The subscription rates for North America were settled and the election was agreed of Mrs. Jean Matheson Fries and Rand H. Matheson as Honorary Secretary (U.S.A.) and Honorary Secretary (Canada) respectively. It was decided that the funds of the Society in our three banks in London (England), the U.S.A. and Canada should be under the central control of the Treasurer in Scotland who would make disbursements to any North American branches as might be formed only on the authority of the Honorary Secretary of the particular country concerned.

Parliamentary business being concluded, Janet Matheson Dorn and Jean Fries gave most interesting lectures on Genealogy; Jean's lecture is reproduced elsewhere in this issue.

Dispersal from Baddeck took place on the Friday morning and as many as could be accommodated crowded into two large caravans kindly placed at our disposal by Mrs. Loretta Matheson and David Matheson for a tour of the Cabot Trail under David's guidance.

After a night at Port Hawkesbury the party motored on to New Glasgow for the *Grande Finale* of the International Gathering: this took the shape of a magnificent floodlit entertainment. The opening ceremonial was marked by another of the Chief's stirring speeches which definitely put the Mathesons on the map among the many clans represented. The importance of the event was emphasised by the presence of the Lieutenant Governor who also addressed the Gathering while the formal closure was conducted by the Chief of the Campbells, His Grace the Duke of Argyll. Earlier in the day many Mathesons whom we had not seen before visited the Matheson tent erected by local clansmen and signed their names in the visitors' book provided by Sylvia and Fraser Matheson of New Glasgow.

In conclusion tribute must be paid to the grand strategic conception and organisation of the Matheson part of the Gathering by Rand and the Judge and the detailed arrangements made by the Cape Bretons, Lewis Matheson, Q.C., Kenneth Matheson, Murdock Matheson, Gus Matheson and many others.

PERTH AND OTTAWA

I have been asked for a report of what transpired in Central Canada. In military terms it was a campaign of rapid penetration and exploitation, easy conquest and then heartbreaking retirement. However had the tour continued longer the Buchanans, the Campbells, the Governor General's Foot Guards and the Metis Tribes might well have become vassals, which would have been disastrous. The problem appears to be that everyone wants now to be a Matheson! We could end up very commonplace.

Sir Torquhil and Lady Matheson of Matheson flew from Halifax to Ottawa on Sunday, August 12th, arriving to a Matheson colour party and guard of honour. Air Canada returned the Chief's personal weapon to him, his skean-dhu, but R.C.M.P. plainclothesmen maintained a cautious eye on the V.I.P. lounge where a mass of frenzied and potentially turbulent Mathesons had assembled. The national capital of Canada is not accustomed to great displays of emotion. From the moment of this spectacular arrival until the couple departed 7 Rideau Gate, Canada's guest residence for very distinguished friends, on Thursday, August 16th, the Chief and Serena were escorted hither and thither and yon.

Space does not permit details respecting a late supper gathering at Links o' Tay Golf Club in Perth, a wine and cheese reception by the county town of historic Lanark County at Matheson House to which the entire community paid homage (the mayor and council felt compelled to adjourn their regular meeting and attend as well), cruises on the Rideau Lake, and intimate gatherings with Canadian kinsfolk arranged by the Rideau Valley's first lady and hostess, Mrs. Winifred Inderwick, now an honorary Matheson. Of particular mention was the Matheson night and dinner in Ottawa skilfully arranged by the brothers Colin and Campbell.

The Dominion Archivist, Dr. Wilfred Smith, felt particularly honoured to receive formally Sir Torquhil and Lady Matheson of Matheson in his suite in the Public Archives of Canada which are replete with historic information concerning the ancestry of both — Amherst, MacNab, Perceval and Peto, personages who had played such a rich part in the military, political and engineering history of Canada. This, it is to be noted, is all in addi-

tion to the Chief's relationship to the famous Senator Roderick Matheson of Perth.

The simplicity of this giant Coldstreamer, kilted and carrying the three feathers in his bonnet to which only a Chief is entitled, his unconscious command, his natural nobility and responsive highland heart — my sons say his marvellous sense of mischief and humour, created a truly unforgettable impression. He was a stimulating and an inspiring presence to the couth and the uncouth, to the important people and the less important. This was the model Chief! Lady Matheson of Matheson came to Canada with no pretensions and amazed people with the depth of her knowledge of Clan lore.

Rand Matheson and I are aware that we imposed upon their physical resources. It was a shocker, really, to send them to the prairies after such arduous demands in Nova Scotia and Ontario, but the opportunity to present a real highland chief to Canadians was a temptation far too great to resist.

Sir Torquhil made mention of his search for appropriate Clan music — pibroch and march. After catching him in action I would add this word of caution — beware of the power of the pipes!

We shall do all that we can to be worthy of this leadership and this heritage. We shall hope, fervently, that Torquhil and Serena find time to come again often.

John R. Matheson

WINNIPEG — AUGUST, 1979

On 15th August, late at night, we bade farewell to our warm hearted Matheson kith and kin and the following morning set out by air on our mystery trip to Winnipeg, uncertain of what to expect. We need not have wondered for we were greeted by a resplendant female Pipe Major of the Heatherbelle Pipe Band, Ena Sutton and Peter Buchan, two of the leading Scots in Winnipeg, and our daughter Bella whom they had spirited from Alberta, two provinces to the West. We were put up in a splendid hotel in which Donald Matheson, whose father lives in Ullapool, has a managerial interest. Thus started a 48-hour "life time" in which we virtually travelled round the world, for we had arrived in Winnipeg in the middle of their "Folklorama" week.

There are some 35 different ethnical groups and for one week in August each group takes a hall and puts on its own type of cultural show and food, and the evenings are spent going from one to another, listening, eating, drinking.

We were the guests of the Scottish pavilion, and as you can imagine the pipes were on the go for most of the time. The main entertainment was a pageant of Bonnie Prince Charlie and the '45, which was splendidly done. The organisers had taken a lot of trouble to rally Mathesons by press and radio and some 20 to 30 turned up. It is impossible to mention all by name, but one was Miss Allie Matheson, a great great grand-daughter of Ruarai N'lomaire (Rory of Immer), with whom I had been in correspondence.

The second evening was spent "going round the world". In fact we only managed to visit six other "countries", which must be a maximum for an evening. The whole concept of Folklorama is of a real United Nations at work, and so realistic are these pavilions, that we had to think hard to remember that we were still in Winnipeg.

By day we were whisked around to visit the many places of historical interest such as the fort at Lower Fort Garry on the Red River, where students on holiday re-enact the life of the fort 100 years or more ago. It is one of the most realistic museums we have ever visited. Every little nook or cranny has a history, be it of the Selkirk Settlers, the rebellious Riel who is now commemorated with a grotesque statue, or places of Matheson interest. Winnipeg is just another plum ripe for picking by our clan genealogists!

Once again we were the recipients of much hospitality and generosity from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, and the Mayor of Winnipeg who presented me with Honorary Citizenship and Serena and Bella each with a golden teaspoon.

Throughout our visit Peter and Norma Buchan, and Ena and David Sutton were our constant companions and had thought out every detail that could be both interesting and amusing; to them our gratitude — and THANK YOU, Winnipeg.

T.A.M. of M

"ONE THING LEADS TO ANOTHER"

Reflections by the Chief

Inspired by the sight of the Red River in August, 1979, I decided to investigate some Victorian Medal Rolls to see if any Canadian Mathesons lurked therein.

Military General Service Medal, 1793-1814

This medal was issued in 1848, in retrospect, ONLY to those survivors living at that date. This medal was awarded for service in the war of 1812-13 with clasps for the battles of:—

"FORT DETROIT" (16th August, 1812)
"CHATEAUGUAY" (26th October, 1813)
"CHRYSTLER'S FARM" (11th November, 1813)

It was not issued without one or more clasps. The Upper Canada Militia could earn the first two and the Lower Canada Militia the third. No Matheson appears on this roll, which does not mean that no Matheson took part. We know that Senator Roderick Matheson served in the Glengarry Light Infantry and was wounded twice at Sackett's Harbour, May 1813, but he received no medal, even though he was alive in 1848, simply because he was not at any of the three clasp battles mentioned above. Other Mathesons may have been present at those battles but may have died before 1848.

Egyptian Medal 1882-89

Lord Wolseley commanded the expedition on the Nile on 1884-85 which attempted to relieve General Gordon at Khartoum. Wolseley had experienced the excellence of both white and Indian men alike as boatmen on the Red River during the campaign of 1870, and he therefore wished to have their services to help transport his forces up the Nile.

In August 1884 an advertisement appears in the papers "for good boatmen to accompany the English Expedition up the Nile to steer boats through the Rapids and all the necessary portage". By September, 7 officers, 377 Canadian civilian boatmen and 8 wheelmen (to steer stern wheel steamers) had enlisted for six months, and were known as "Voyageurs". Contingents were drawn from Caughnawaga, Manitoba, Three Rivers, Ottawa, Peterborough, Sherbrooke and Sydney.

The only Matheson was No. 351 Boatman Murray Matheson of Peterborough, and he was awarded the medal with clasp, "The Nile 1884-85", and the Khedive's Bronze Star. The campaign was far from over when the six months engagement ran out. Only 89 responded to the call to re-enlist for further service, and 46 of these received an extra clasp for "Torfrek".

North West Canada Medal 1885

We are now involved with the rebellion led by Louis Riel who is buried in Winnipeg and commemorated by a statue not far from the Legislature. A considerable number of Canadian Militia units took part in the suppression of the rebellion for which a medal with one clasp for "Saskatchewan" was awarded to the troops who took part, amongst whom were:—

Pte Alexander Matheson	90th Winnipeg Bn. Medal and Clasp
Tpr Edward S. Matheson	Winnipeg Troop of Cavalry Medal only
Nurse Joan Matheson	Medical Staff. Medal only
*Pte Murray Matheson	Midland Bn. Medal only
Sgt. Wm. A. Matheson	Infantry Bn. Winnipeg, Medal only
Cstble G. Mathewson	N.W.M.P. Medal only
Pte. Donald Mathieson	Sharpshooters. Medal only

*see Egyptian Medal

Perhaps there are some of you who read this who are related to, or can remember some of these ancient warriors? If so, please let me hear about them, as they should not be allowed to drift into oblivion.

T.A.M. of M.

INTERNATIONAL CLAN GATHERING

1981

Warning Order

Many of you will be aware already of the International Gathering in Scotland in 1981. It will be quite impossible for the Chief to be in Edinburgh for the week 22nd to 30th May, which is the week designated for the events in that city. However, the Society will be represented with an information and reception centre, staffed by Mathesons, in the

Assembly Rooms in George Street for those of you who are unable to visit Scotland at any other time. The real Clan Matheson Gathering will take place at Duncraig Castle, Plockton, Wester Ross, by kind permission of the Highland Regional Council Education Committee, from 3rd to 6th August. The Castle was built by Sir Alexander Matheson, grandfather of the Chief, in 1868.

Events will probably include a march to the Clan gathering place at Loch Achanahinich, piping, ceilidh and opportunities to check on genealogies.

The Society will be unable to undertake booking of accommodation, etc., but information about suitable places and camping sites can be obtained from the Scottish Tourist Board at 23 Ravelston Terrace, Edinburgh, EH4 3EU or from the British Tourist Authority at the following addresses in countries other than Scotland:—

Australia — 171 Clarence Street, Sydney, N.S.W.
2000.

Canada — 151 Bloor Street West, No. 460, Toronto,
Ontario, M5S 1T3

New Zealand — P.O. Box 3655, Wellington.

South Africa — Union Castle Building, 36 Loveday
Street, P.O. Box 6256, Johannesburg, 2000.

United States of America :

680 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10019.

612 Flower Street, Los Angeles, California 90017.

John Hancock Centre No. 2450, 875 North Michigan
Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611.

PIPE MUSIC COMPETITION

The Clan has no pipe music of its own. During 1980 it is proposed to offer a £50 prize for world wide competition for the composition of a suitable March. Full details will be in the next Newsletter. Mean-time any queries should be addressed to Sir Torquhil.

SEARCHING FOR YOUR ANCESTORS?

Now that 130,000,000 people have watched "Roots" the search for one's ancestors has become a popular pastime. Let's do a little mathematics on your

individual family tree! You have two parents, four grandparents, eight great-grandparents, 16 great-great grandparents, 32 great-great-great grandparents. It doubles every generation! Go back just 20 generations and you will have more than a million direct ancestors. All of these people were born, married, produced children (Thank goodness! or we wouldn't be here today!) and worried about many of the same things you and I worry about today. All of them passed on to us something — most of all a wonderful heritage!

Where, then, do we start in our search? A good researcher or genealogist has to know his sources and the first source is **YOU!** — start at home — at the grass roots — to put together your personal jigsaw puzzle. Examine first what you yourself know from the stories and traditions handed down to you by your family. Search your attic for old letters, photos and records.

1. Relatives:

Talk with aunts, uncles and cousins, no matter how elderly or how remote the relationship, for any scrap of information that you may be able to obtain. Do not be satisfied with one or two letters, for factual information may pop up that had not been recalled in the first exchange of letters. Elderly aunts and uncles and cousins can guide you to the cemeteries where departed relatives are buried. Three or four generations will often be found in the same cemetery. Their headstones will provide you with many names and dates. If foreign-born, the headstone will sometimes give you the place of birth — this is a **great** clue!

II. Family Bible :

Don't overlook the Family Bible; no doubt it will give you dates of births, marriages and deaths, particularly in your parents' and grandparents' families.

III Vital Statistical Records:

The U.S. and Canada have not enacted national programs for registering vital statistics as have some of the European countries. In the U.S. this is done on a state basis; in Canada on a provincial basis. Many records are maintained by county. Try the state or province first, then the county, and then the city if it is a large city. Some people have even

tried the mortuary and found records there. The U.S. Public Health Service has published several pamphlets which list just what vital statistics are available in each state, what years they cover, and the address to which to write. One of these pamphlets is titled "Where to Write for Marriage Records in the U.S.". Another is titled "Where to Write for Birth and Death Records in the U.S.". These may be obtained by writing to the Supt. of Documents, U.S. Printing Office, Washington, D.C. Start by getting the death record first.

IV Census:

The first U.S. Census was in 1790 — it gives meagre information but as the years progressed, more information was given. By 1850 the Census listed the entire household by name, birthdate, place of birth, and occupation. There is also a mortality list giving the date of death and cause. The Census schedules are catalogued by state, then by counties within the state. Start with the 1900 Census which is the latest one available to the public, and work back. Where do you find the Census? Large public libraries usually have copies from 1790 to 1900. However, you can also write to the National Archives, Washington, D.C. Canada's records are in the Public Archives, Ottawa. It is my understanding that they have their records by county.

The U.S. Federal Archives also have military rosters, ships' passenger lists, and naturalization records. An immigrant's date of arrival and point of embarkation are often enough to locate the information recorded on passenger lists. You should remember that ships' lists frequently show strange spellings of names due to a lack of education on the part of the ships' captains who frequently spelt names phonetically or according to his own native tongue. By the time our ancestors migrated, I believe that our name had been given the anglicized spelling of **Matheson** or **Mathieson**. The ancient Gaelic spelling was **Mac Mhathain**. The Mac prefix meant "son of".

V. Probate Court:

Wills are an excellent source — they usually give the name of the spouse and names of the children — also frequently the name of the child's spouse. While you are in the Courthouse, search for land

and property records and tax records. These are a great help in tracing the migration of a family from one place to another.

Let's assume that you have traced your ancestry in the U.S. or Canada back to the time when your ancestors emigrated to North America.

Now, let's go to Scotland!

I. Vital Statistical Records:

Compulsory registration of births, marriages and deaths in Scotland did not begin until 1855. Prior to 1855 the only record is in the Old Parish Registers. There were 901 of them. The Parish Registers were kept voluntarily by the ministers or Session Clerks of the local parish church. Some of these records are quite complete but others were kept sporadically, particularly in remote rural areas where there were only itinerant ministers. All of the Old Parish Registers are now contained in the New Register House, Edinburgh; the paper is very fragile and the ink is fading on some of them. They are in the process of being microfilmed. The Mormon Genealogical Society in Salt Lake City, Utah, has a master film copy and intends to compile a computer-based index of baptismal and marriage entries, which will amount to some 20 million when complete.

Since 1855 the records are maintained locally in Scotland. Each year the local registrar sends a certification of every birth, marriage and death recorded by him to the Registrar General at New Register House, Edinburgh. These are compiled and indexed by year. The indexes from 1855 to 1955 are available on microfilm at the Mormon Genealogical Society Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.

II Census Records :

Scotland has Census records from 1841 to 1891 which are available in the New Register House, Edinburgh. They even have street address indexes for the larger cities for the years 1841 to 1891. These records, too, are being microfilmed.

In doing your research you should be aware of the Scottish tradition in naming children. Usually the first male child is named after the paternal grandfather, the second male child after the maternal grandfather, and the third male child after the

father. Likewise, the first female child is named after the maternal grandmother, the second after the paternal grandmother and the third after the mother. Knowing this can be helpful; it can also lead to confusion — whole generations can be skipped because of the duplication of grandfather's and grandson's names.

III Town Records or Church Records :

If you know the name of the town in which your ancestors lived in Scotland, write to the Town Clerk giving all the information you know, including the religious persuasion you believe they held. Frequently the Town Clerk will search the Tax Records for you and possibly give you the names and addresses of relatives in Scotland. A letter to them will sometimes give you valuable information. Perhaps the Town Clerk can turn your letter over to the local church for a search of its records.

For a small charge The Genealogical Society, 50 East North Temple Street, Salt Lake City, Utah, will send you a 7-page leaflet which shows where to find 27 different kinds of records in Scotland; I have posted a copy of it on the bulletin board. Other items on the bulletin board include some bibliographies, some news items, the derivation of some Scottish names, and a map of Scotland showing the ancestral home of branches of the Mathesons. You may be interested also in glancing over a genealogical chart dating back to the 1490's which I have compiled of my Matheson ancestors — it, too, is posted. Janet Dorn has posted another Matheson chart dating back to 787. And would you believe — another chart showing a Matheson relationship to Queen Elizabeth III! If you look closely at the 787 chart, you will see the name Murdoch Buidhe — that is the original name on my chart, so the two charts join at that point. When you complete your research, you, too, may be able to join your chart to the 787 one. Good searching! You can never say you've finished or found out everything you want to know — it's never-ending — that's the fascination of it!

Jean Matheson Fries

KIRKIN' OF THE TARTANS

The third annual "Kirkin' of the Tartans" for the Greater Cleveland area was held on Sunday, 13th November, 1979, at historic St. John's Episcopal Church in Cleveland, Ohio. Music for the service was provided by the Cleveland Kiltie Band. The Matheson Tartan was presented for blessing by Mr. and Mrs. Leslie R. Matheson and daughter, Carolyn of suburban Broadview Heights, Ohio.

DUNEDIN HIGHLAND GAMES

Not in New Zealand but down on Florida's west coast the lesser known Dunedin, this other Eden, demi Paradise, offers both opportunities for the athletically minded and lesser mortals content to sunbathe: it is in these delectable surroundings that the Dunedin Highland Games are held each year; this year's will be the fourteenth of the series when the Games will cover a period of three days from 27th to 29th March when athletic events will be combined with dancing, piping and ceilidhs — and of course there will be a Matheson tent!

NATIONAL TRUST FOR SCOTLAND

ADVENTURE CRUISE

9th to 19th July, 1980

The cruise commences at Dundee, heads northward to Narvik above the Arctic Circle then to the North Cape before turning southward to call at Tromso, Molde and Bergen, all in Norway, and finally at Fair Isle between the Orkneys and Shetland before returning to Dundee. The dormitory fare is £200 (£175 for students and apprentices under 21) and the cheapest cabin class £365. Persons in dormitories are normally in the same age group and take their meals in the cafeteria instead of in the dining saloon — otherwise there is little distinction between the amenities offered to dormitory and cabin class passengers. Full particulars may be obtained from the National Trust for Scotland, 5 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, EH2 4DU. It is suggested that any members intending to travel Dormitory class might inform the Secretary so that an endeavour can be made to accommodate all the Mathesons in the same dormitory.

HONOURS

Ronald M. Matheson was appointed a Member of the Royal Victorian Order (M.V.O.) in the New Year's Honours List. Ronald is a one time convener of the Society and the father of Mrs. Richard Shaw, the previous Treasurer.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Hugh Matheson on his winning the Diamond Sculls at Henley Royal Regatta in 1979.

To Jeff and Gail Matheson of Australia on the birth of a son, Allan Alasdair.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

Convenor, Secretary & Editor of the Newsletter:

Edmond J.M. Matheson, 1 Braehead Drive
Carnoustie, DD7 7SX.

Treasurer:

Norman S. Matheson, 29 Randolph Road,
Broomhill, Glasgow. G11 7LF.

Note: Norman may be moving shortly and from the end of June until further notice communications for him should be sent to the Secretary's address in Carnoustie for forwarding to Norman.

Hon. Secretary (Canada):

Rand H. Matheson, 200 Elgar Park, Apt. 306,
Nuns Island, Montreal, Que., H3E 1C8

Hon. Secretary (U.S.A.):

Mrs. Jean Matheson Fries, 11 West Geyer Lane,
St. Louis, Missouri, 63131.

Clan Genealogist:

Mrs. Janet Matheson Dorn, 1417 Cordova Street,
Coral Gables, Florida, 33134.

Members are invited to send their family histories to Janet with any queries they may have.

Clan Piper:

Duncan Matheson, Brora.

Clan Piper (Cape Breton):

Linda Matheson Munroe.

HOW TO JOIN THE SOCIETY

Membership of the Society is restricted to persons spelling their name Matheson or Mathieson or whose parents spelt their name similarly. Applications for

membership should include a note as to the part of Scotland in which the family originated and consideration will be given to applicants the spelling of whose name may have been corrupted to say Mathieson or even Matthewson only if they can claim a highland origin.

For members living in the U.K. or overseas (excluding North America) the annual subscription is £1.00 or £10.00 for life membership: applications for membership should be sent to the Treasurer in Glasgow with the appropriate sterling cheque. Annual members paying at the old rate of 50p by banker's order are requested to amend their banker's order to the new rate of £1.00.

Applications for membership from persons living in Canada or the U.S.A. should be made to the Honorary Secretary in the country in which they live. The subscription rates are \$3 for annual membership and \$30 for life membership in both currencies concerned.

The despatch of reminders to members whose annual subscription is overdue involves an unnecessary burden of work on the Treasurer or North American Secretaries, and members who do not keep up to date with their annual subscriptions will be deleted from the membership list after a decent interval. Cheques should be made payable to "Clan Matheson Society".

FINANCE

The audited balance sheet shown elsewhere in this issue covers funds held in the U.K. only. The balances held in our Canadian and U.S. banks at the end of 1979 were \$1,285 and \$302 respectively.

TIES, SCARVES AND DECALS

A stock of ties and scarves in the green hunting and red dress tartans is held by Lady Matheson of Matheson and if any member would like one or more would they please write to her direct at Standerwick Court, Frome, Somerset, England, BA11 2PP, enclosing £3.00 for each article. Also available are Matheson car crest decals which cost 50p each. Lady Matheson of Matheson has stated that she will have no objection to accepting dollar bills. Any profit will go to Clan funds.

HIGHLAND DRESS

In previous issue of the Newsletter attention was drawn to the advisability of exercising care when shopping around for tartans and so forth. In this connection the Secretary would like to place on record that he has just had an excellent outfit made by the Inverallan Mill Ltd. of 9 King Street, Stirling.

MAILING LISTS

From time to time applications are received from outside bodies for the directory of Clan Members.

It should be noted that it is not the policy of the Society to accede to such requests.

OBITUARY

It is with much regret that we have to record the death of Mrs. Margaret E.S. Matheson on 25th May, 1979, at the age of 93. Margaret attended several of the functions at the International Gathering at Edinburgh in 1977, and in earlier years was a Gaelic singer of note. To all her family, among whom are five members of the Society, we extend our deepest sympathy.

Advertisement

HIGHLAND GAMES

DUNEDIN, FLORIDA

MARCH 27, 28, 29, 1980

FOUR NIGHT PACKAGE: Includes RT transfers between airport and hotel and between hotel and games (hotel accommodations based on sharing twin-bedded room) Tickets for games — tatoo — and ball.

Per Person Rate: Mainland hotel from \$128 — Beach Hotel from \$172

* * * *

SEVEN NIGHT PACKAGE: Includes all of the above plus three additional nights at your hotel. Also includes full day excursion to DISNEYWORLD with admission, 8 attractions and unlimited use of the Walt Disney World Transportation system.

Per person rate: Mainland hotel from \$209 — Beach Hotel from \$292.

* * * *

DRIV—UR—SELF ARRANGEMENTS AVAILABLE

HOTEL SPACE ONLY available with game tickets. Beach Hotels \$55 per room per day plus 6% tax. Mainland Hotels \$36 per day plus tax. Game tickets including tatoo and ball \$25 per person.

ALL RATES SHOWN IN U.S. DOLLARS

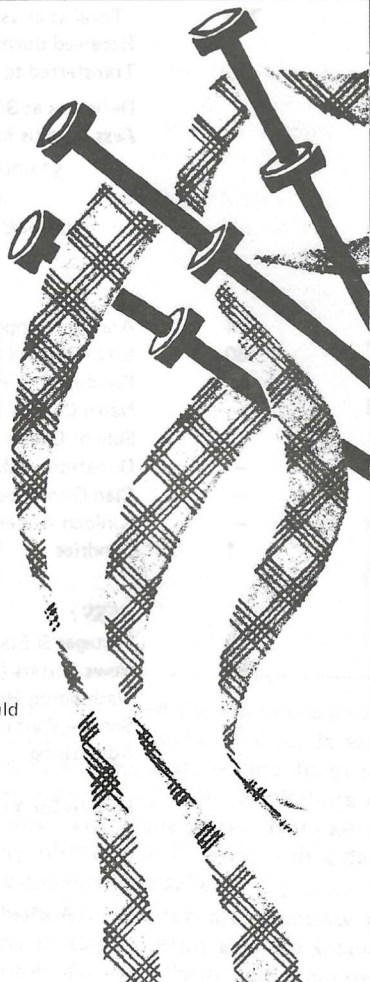
* * * *

As this is the peak of the season on the west coast of Florida, reservations normally should have been made with \$60 deposit no later than Jan. 20., 1980

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FOR RESERVATIONS, OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT:
BILL MATTHEWS, 1143 FORD LANE, DUNEDIN, FLORIDA 33528, U.S.A.

GROUND ARRANGEMENTS BY
LINDSAY TRAVEL SPECIALISTS, 516 CLEVELAND STREET,
CLEARWATER, FLORIDA 33515



CLAN MATHESON SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET as at 30th JUNE, 1979.

Represents Funds held in U.K. only.

1978

ASSETS

194	Balance at Bank	£ 87.48
40	Block at Cost	40.00
251	On Deposit with Abbey National Building Society	451.75
8	Stock of Christmas Cards	7.90
493		<u>£ 587.13</u>

Represented by :

	Reserve fund — Life Membership Subscriptions.	
770	Total as at 1st July, 1979	770.00
	Received during year	£ 250.00
	Transferred to Ordinary Fund	<u>250.00</u>
	Deficit as at 30th June, 1978	£ 275.96
	Less Surplus for year per Balance Sheet	<u>93.09</u>
		<u>182.87</u>
		£ 587.13

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 1979

24	Annual Members Subscriptions	£ 10.50
60	Life Members Fees	250.00
16	Building Society Interest	13.01
—	Nairn Ceilidh Tickets	150.50
2	Sale of Decals - Nairn Ceilidh	16.00
—	Donation — Mr. John Cant	50.00
—	Clan Gunn Society	13.48
—	Kinloch Anderson o/a Advertising	25.00
1	Sundries	<u>8.45</u>
		£ 536.94

LESS :

5	Postages & Stationery	£ 49.08
54	News Letters (2)	223.79
—	Washington Hotel Ceilidh	137.50
—	Band — Washington Hotel Ceilidh	25.00
—	Advertising	<u>8.48</u>
		<u>443.85</u>
	Surplus for Year per Balance Sheet	£ <u>93.09</u>

N.S. Matheson

Treasurer

Audited and found correct

E.J.M. Matheson

Convenor

15th December, 1979.