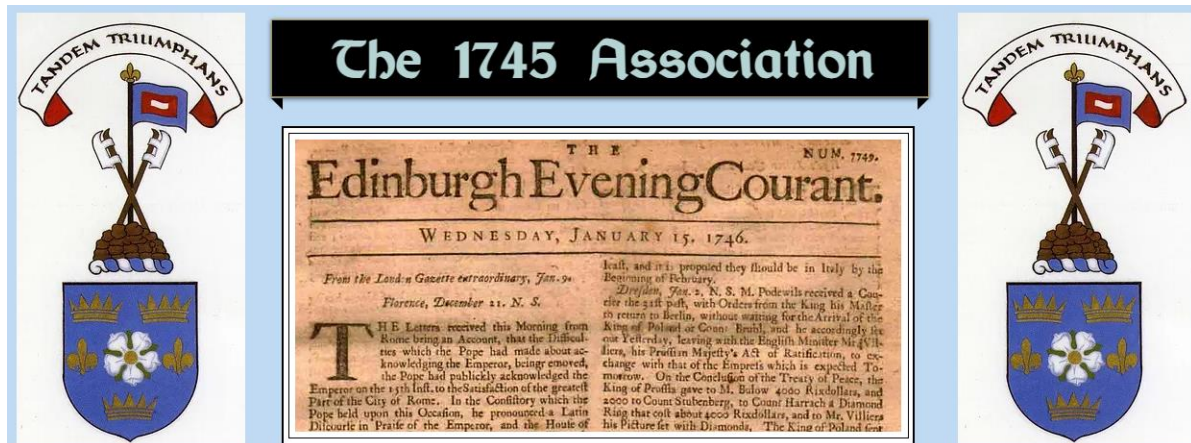


NEWS & EVENTS ARCHIVE - 2022



New 1745 Association Plaque Unveiled at Monkstadt House, Isle of Skye

The 1745 Association held a very successful event at Monkstadt House on the Isle of Skye last week on Thursday 23rd September 2021 to unveil two new plaques telling the story of events at and near that house involving Charles Edward Stuart and Flora MacDonald in 1746. Although nowadays rebuilt as a luxury guest house, it was originally built and owned by Alexander Macdonald, 15th Chief of the Macdonalds of Skye who, outwardly at least, was obliged to support the Government throughout the Rising of 1745/6. When Charles and Flora arrived by boat from Benbecula on 29th June seeking refuge Alexander was not at home and the Chief's staunchly Jacobite wife, Lady Margaret, was immediately placed in the horns of a dilemma having to provide what discreet support she could to the Prince and arrange for his onward journey to safety at nearby Kingsborough House, whilst at the same time concealing his presence from Government militia who were in and around the house at the time.

In a joint venture project with financial and practical assistance from the current owner of Monkstadt House, Mr James MacQueen, our member Glen MacDonald arranged for two plaques to be manufactured and fitted at Monkstadt to tell this story - one for viewing by the public from the adjacent roadway and the other at the front door visible for house guests. Glen also arranged and conducted an official unveiling event at the house last week attended by Lord Macdonald, 8th Baron Macdonald of Sleat, High Chief of the Clan Donald and a direct descendant of Alexander Macdonald, 15th Chief of the Macdonalds of Skye in 1746.

Following an introductory speech by Glen to recount the relevant history, Lord Macdonald's wife, Lady Claire Macdonald, gave a most eloquent and interesting talk with fascinating insights into the 18th Century life of her predecessor, Lady Margaret, before unveiling the main plaque. Lord Macdonald then unveiled the smaller plaque after which a reception with light refreshments was held in the house. A splendid young local piper, Decklan Malloy, also entertained the assembled company along with a local lady, Ann Martin, who sang beautifully in Gaelic a song recalling these events from 1746.

In addition to personal guests invited by Mr MacQueen, seven members of the 1745 Association attended along with seven others from the Clan Donald Society of Scotland. A more detailed account of the history concerned and a full report with photos of the unveiling

event will be submitted for possible inclusion in a future edition of The Jacobite. A selection of photos of the event are included here.

New 1745 Association Plaque in Florence, Italy

The 1745 Association is very fortunate in having a member who lives in Italy and is prepared to put in the hard work to achieve a desired goal. Stefano Baccolo, assisted by Chiara Aviani Barbacci and Benedicta Cagnone has done a marvellous job in negotiating with various authorities to finally achieve the erection of a plaque in Florence. Anyone who has been involved with such a project will know how difficult it can be so we thank them all.

Stefano writes:

“As previously announced in The Jacobite, in view of the proposed Gathering in Florence, the Association has been committed to the project of installing a memorial plaque on the facade of Palazzo San Clemente, the main residence of Charles Edward Stuart in Tuscany. The presence of the last Stuarts in Italy was a long one, starting in 1719 with King James III&VIII leaving France and ending with the passing away of his younger son Henry in 1807. In this exile of nearly a century the members of the Royal Family stayed for periods of varying length in many Italian cities and towns. The Stuart Court followed the King Over The Water, moving from Urbino to Rome, then for some years in Bologna and then again in Rome, with the summer spent away among the hills in Albano. After the succession of Prince Charles, who traveled much more than his father, he and his retinue made long journeys through Lazio and Tuscany, which was at last chosen as the permanent seat of the Court. Charles would eventually come back to Rome and die there, but this last move was a decision prompted by his daughter Charlotte out of the necessity of staying nearer to her uncle Henry to give better assistance to Charles who was now old and sick.

So there are many Palazzi in Italy that were inhabited by the Stuarts for brief or longer periods. Most of them are now in bad shape and very few carry traces of their royal visitors. Many have changed names and some have been forgotten or are difficult to identify. Even the "Palazzo del Re" in Rome shows on the outside no trace of its once royal status, and only in the courtyard can a marble tablet with a memory of the Stuarts be seen. In this quite intricate panorama, the 1745 Association has chosen to intervene in a most significant way, placing the very first memorial plaque to give clear and precise historical information about the Stuart presence in one such building. Among the Stuart Palaces in Italy, this is the first plaque installed in a position useful to point out the place to visitors and tourists, the first one with a text both in Italian and English, the first to be decorated with a Stuart Portrait pertinent to the period.

The choice of this building, among all the buildings connected to the Stuarts is most significant. Palazzo San Clemente -at the time called Palazzo Guadagni- was in fact the only building ever privately owned by the Stuarts in their whole exile. All their other residences were rented or offered by the Governments' hosting the family. Palazzo San Clemente was chosen by Charles Edward Stuart to be his home, he loved it, spent large amount of money to buy and embellish it and it reflected deeply his personality, habits and interests.

Now after a long time of neglect and the loss of Prince Charles' weather-vane that was the only external element to point out the past presence of the Stuarts in the vicinity, finally with this project the memory of Bonnie Prince Charlie's favourite home has been made available to all. The plaque is already in place and readable to the advantage of any visitor but the Association hopes to be able to perform an official unveiling ceremony next spring during the proposed Gathering in Florence.” You can see some more photos' [here](#).

The Story of the Manchester Regiment

Our Chairman, Mike Nevin, has written an article on the Manchester Regiment which was recently published in the Lancashire Post.

The article is available to read via [this link](#).

Annual NTS / 1745 Association Annual Culloden Lecture

In the 2021 National Trust for Scotland-1745 Association Annual Culloden Lecture on 'Tourism, Research and Conservation at Culloden Battlefield, 1746-2021', Andrew Grant McKenzie describes the multiple threats to the battlefield posed by commercial development proposals, and expresses the hope that a land purchase programme by the National Trust for Scotland to assemble the entire battlefield under single ownership may preserve it for future generations. The alternative 'business as usual' scenario poses the very real risk that there will be no Annual Culloden Commemoration in a hundred years' time, for the simple reason that there will be no Culloden Battlefield to commemorate, only a series of Viewhill Farm / Treetops-type developments where the battlefield used to be.

The key part of the lecture can be seen

at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LbmzV5VYM80&t=70s>

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Association Library Relocation

If you wish to access the association library, this has recently relocated from Callender House in Falkirk to its new permanent home at the **AK Bell Library in Perth**. The official opening of the Association Library is scheduled to take place on Friday, 9th September 2022 as part of the members Annual Gathering.

Sir William MacPherson T.D. of Cluny and Blairgowrie

It is with great sadness that we learnt of the passing on Sunday, February 14th, of Sir William MacPherson T.D. of Cluny and Blairgowrie, Patron of The 1745 Association and 27th hereditary chief of the Clan Macpherson of Cluny. Like his ancestor Cluny Macpherson of the '45, Sir William was a man of courage and independent judgement, who sought to fulfil his duties as a lawyer and judge without fear or favour to any special interest, no matter how powerful it might be. His commitment to justice, irrespective of the pressures brought to bear on him, was manifested most prominently in his role as the judge in the Stephen Lawrence inquiry, where his conclusion that the police investigation had been "marred by a combination of professional incompetence, institutional racism and failure of leadership" led to attacks on his findings from those who found their implications uncomfortable, yet led to reforms that have helped remedy the problems he identified, and ultimately resulted, many years later, in a measure of posthumous justice for Stephen Lawrence when his killers were finally jailed.

We in The 1745 Association will remember him as a worthy Patron who presided at the Annual Dinner of the Coupar Angus Gathering; we salute his life as we mourn his death, and we offer our profound condolences to his family.

Ranald MacDonell, 23rd Chief of Macdonell of Glengarry

It is with enormous regret that we have learned of the passing of our Patron, Ranald MacDonell, 23rd Chief of Macdonell of Glengarry, early on the morning of 30th January 2021. He passed away peacefully at St Catherine's Hospice in Crawley, West Sussex, where he had been for just over a week following a long illness. His wife Carolyn asked me to pass this news to the Association, and said that "I am both thankful for the superb care he received at the Hospice and relieved that his suffering has come to an end. And of course I am overwhelmingly grateful for the very happy years we had together during our marriage of almost 19 years."

Many of us will remember Ranald with fondness and gratitude. He served the Association with unfailing courtesy and loyalty. He unveiled the Plaque to Young Glengarry which marks the entrance on Falkirk High Street to the Falkirk Trinity Churchyard where he is interred and commemorates his ancestor's tragic accidental death after the Battle of Falkirk Muir. He and Carolyn presided at our Annual Dinner in 2018 and always gave their time to the Association generously and without recompense even of expenses, and he will be sadly missed.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Carolyn and her family at this sad and difficult time for them.