



Clansmen around the world Chief's Christmas Message 2008

In the run-up to Christmas I have been going through the records and other papers of the Clan Macnab Society of the UK which were handed over to the Macnab Memorial Trust when the Society was wound up in 1995.

Among these I found a letter dated 27 March 1976 written from Malta by the late Brigadier John Macnab of Baravorich. The following act extract may be of interest to those of you who are pipers or who are fond of pipe music.

"As regards the record of Macnab Pipe 2 of which there are three, two Pibrochs and one march. The Clan Macnab's Salute is a particularly grand tune which has been set for the Gold Medal competitions at Oban and Inverness.

I read with great interest that John McFadyen has made a verbal offer to record the tunes for us. He is a very fine performer indeed. It is a pity that we cannot find a Macnab to play them, but after all there are no more McCrimmons as far as I know to play the many McLeod tunes! Incidentally there have been a number of famous pipers in the name of Macnab.

In 1781 the Highland Society instituted competitions in Pibroch playing. The gold medal was not first awarded until 1835. In 1783 and 1785 Colin Macnab, piper to Frances Macnab of Macnab was a prizewinner. In 1789 Duncan Macnab of Lorne won. In 1807 the prize was won by Donald Macnab and in 1829 John Macnab, 92nd Highlanders won the first tri-annual prize. Finally Archie Macnab won the gold medal in 1938. He became a Major in the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders."

To all Macnabs around the world, Diana and I send greetings and best wishes for Christmas and 2009. We hope to see some of you in July at the Edinburgh Games and other homecoming events.

Guneagal

J C Macnab of Macnab

