

MacLEOD CHIEFS

(from “Memory Book” of Ian C. MacLeod, President, Clan MacLeod Societies of Canada - 2004 -2008)



Chief John MacLeod of MacLeod (d. 2007) & Chief Torquil Roderick Macleod of the Lewes and 17th of Raasay (d. 2001), c 1998

pic: Penny DeGraff, WA, USA, in Magazine, #104, April 2007, page 335



Chief Donald Macleod of the Lewes, Chief John MacLeod of MacLeod and Chief John Macleod of Raasay On Isle of Lewis, July 26, 2006

(picture: N R McLeod, Canada)



3 MacLeod Chiefs, and new generation of youth leadership, Dunvegan, Skye, Aug 4, 2006

Chief Donald Macleod of the Lewes, Emma Halford-MacLeod (Scotland, Magazine Co-Editor), Chief John MacLeod of MacLeod, Heather MacLeod (Canada, Magazine Co-Editor), Chief John Macleod of Raasay & Kirsteen MacLeod (Australia, Youth Membership Coord)

MacLEOD of MacLEOD

The MacLeod of MacLeod Chiefs have had an uninterrupted lineage to Leod in the early 13th Century. The last 3 MacLeod of MacLeod Chiefs have been **Dame Flora** (28th Chief, 1935-1976), **Chief John** (29th Chief, 1976-2007) and **Chief Hugh** (30th Chief, 2007-present).

Following are a few brief notes on each:

- **Dame Flora** (February 3, 1878 – November 4, 1976), **28th Chief**, for just over 41 years, from Aug 20, 1935, on death of her father, Sir Reginald MacLeod, until her death on November 4, 1976, at age 98. She was born at 10 Downing Street, London, the home of her grandfather, Lord Northcote, Chancellor of the Exchequer. In 1901 she married Hubert Walter, of the *Times*, and had two daughters, Alice and Joan (Chief John's mother).

Dame Flora reverted to her maiden name on the death of her husband. Her elder daughter, Alice, married the chief of MacNab, while Joan, the younger, wed Robert Wolrige-Gordon, heir to Esslemont in east Aberdeenshire (she was Chief John's mother).

- **Chief John** (August 10, 1935 – February 12, 2007), **29th Chief**, for just over 30 years, from November 4, 1976, upon death of his grandmother Dame Flora, until his death on February 12, 2007, at age 71. See pictures and details on the next page.
- **Chief Hugh** (born July 24, 1973), **30th Chief**, from February 12, 2007 (at age 33), upon death of his father, Chief John. At the Parliament in 1994, Chief John's son, Hugh Magnus celebrated his 21st birthday and was accepted as heir to his father. Hugh's mother was Melita Kolin, from Sofia (Chief John's 2nd wife). Chief Hugh is a film producer, with his wife Frederique, in London. They have a son Vincent, born in 2000.

CHIEF HUGH MacLEOD, 30th CHIEF, 2007



(picture: Clan Magazine, Oct 2007)

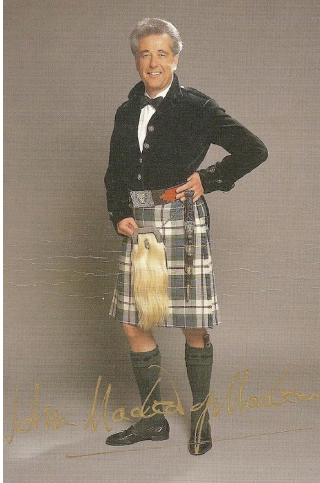


The picture above (also face page of this document), set in the parking lot across from the Dunvegan Village Hall, was set up by me just on July 29 after the Parliament 2006 Group Picture. Part of the MacLeod Tables is visible in the background.

It seems to be the only (or best) picture of Hugh & Chief John together, as it was the cover (with me removed!) for the April 2007 issue (#104) of the Clan MacLeod Magazine

MacLEOD of MacLEOD (con'd)

Chief John MacLeod of MacLeod, 29th Chief



picture from postcard

the MacLeod estate. John's twin brother (younger by 40 minutes), Patrick, was to become a Tory MP, at the very young age of 23.

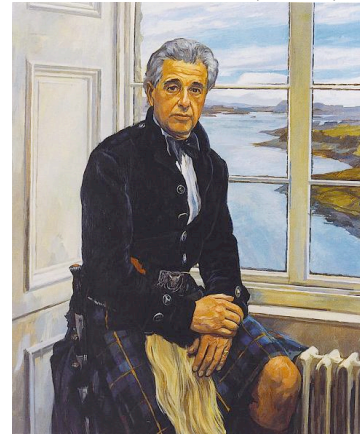
Chief John was married three times. First, in 1961, he married Drusilla Shaw, from County Kildare and the daughter of the actor Sebastian Shaw. There were no children and the marriage was dissolved in 1971. He had a son, Stefan MacLeod, born in 1971, from another, brief, relationship. Second, in 1973, he married Melita Kolin, a concert pianist from Sofia, Bulgaria. On July 24, 1973 their son Hugh Magnus was born and on January 11, 1977 their daughter Elena. That second marriage was dissolved in 1992. Third, on March 27, 2004, he married Ulrika Tham, from Sweden, his companion of 15 years.

John was educated at Eton College, Windsor, followed by a two year stint with the Black Watch, including active service (against the Mau Mau) in Kenya. He then studied at McGill University in Montreal where his interest in acting led him to return to study drama at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art, where he was a contemporary of Janet Suzman and Donald Sutherland. He also studied singing in Switzerland. He became a professional actor and singer, including playing the King in [My Fair Lady](#) across Canada.

Chief John MacLeod of MacLeod, 29th Chief, was born in Esslemont, Ellon, Aberdeenshire on August 10, 1935. He was Chief for just over 30 years, from November 4, 1976, on death of his grand-mother, Dame Flora, until his death on February 12, 2007, in London, at age 71, from leukemia.

Chief John was born as John Wolrige-Gordon, the second son, and eldest of twin boys, to Robert Wolrige-Gordon and Joan Walters, the younger daughter of Dame Flora. In 1951, as a 16 year old, John became the nominated heir of Dame Flora - a move recognised by Lord Lyon Sir Thomas Innes of Learney, and changed his name to John MacLeod of MacLeod.

Of Joan's three sons, the eldest, Robert, inherited the Wolrige-Gordon estate, as Captain Robert Wolrige-Gordon of Esslemont, 20th laird of Hallhead and ninth baron of Esslemont in Aberdeenshire. Her second son, John, inherited



Portrait Commissioned by ACMS and painted by Jeff Stultiens in 2000 and presented at Clan Parliament 2002



Ian C., Ardis & Heather MacLeod (Canada), and Ulrika & Chief John, Parliament, Aug 4/06

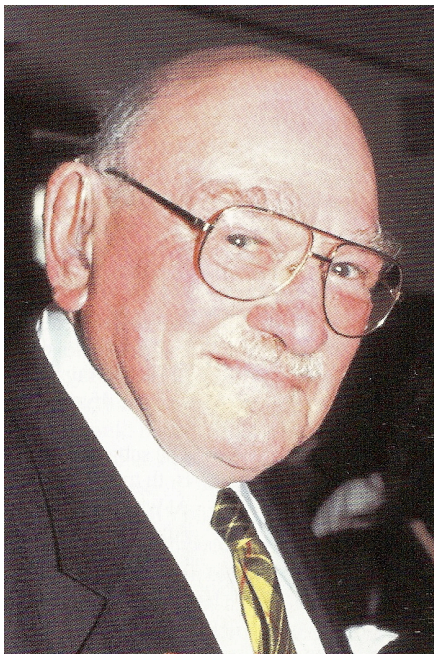
MacLEOD CHIEFS: LEWIS and RAASAY

An opening note: special thanks goes to Chief John for his review on the opening part (pages 3 to 18) of this Personal Yearbook, and, in particular for his editing and input of this part (pages 11 and 12) on Macleod of Raasay.

While there are now separate Chiefships for each of Raasay and the Lewes, Chief John MacLeod of MacLeod (and now Chief Hugh) maintained his position as the senior or pre-eminent of the three Chiefs. The Chiefships of the MacLeods of Lewis and of Raasay have an interrupted history. A few brief notes on each are listed below

MACLEOD OF RAASAY

Malcolm Macleod (born c.1452), **9th Chief of the Lewes** (and 2nd last Chief of the Lewes) had gifted, in the mid-16th Century, the Islands of Raasay and Rona to his second son, **Malcolm Garbh Macleod** (born c. 1503 – 1560), later to become **1st Chief of the MacLeods of Raasay**. Malcolm I was the brother of **Ruari X** (or Roderick) (c. 1500 – c. 1597), the **10th, and last, Chief of the Lewes**.



Chief Torquil Roderick Macleod, 17th of Raasay and Chief of the Lewes, 1998
(picture: Penny & Dale DeGraff, WA, USA, from Magazine #92, April 2001, page 373)



Chief John Macleod, 18th of Raasay, on Raasay, Jun 2007
(picture from Magazine #105, Oct 2007, page 435)

The line of Chiefs of Raasay, beginning with Malcolm I, followed down through the years to **Major Loudoun Hector Davenport Macleod, 15th of Raasay**, and in 1934, his son Torquil Bright Macleod, **16th of Raasay** and, in 1968, grandson, Torquil **Roderick Macleod, 17th of Raasay** (June 25, 1919 – March 6, 2001). He served as Chief of Raasay for 33 years, until his death in 2001.

Chief Torquil Roderick Macleod, 17th of Raasay served in the Second World War, laterally as a Company Commander to the 2nd/40th Battalion of the Australian Air Force's Sparrow Force in the SW Pacific, until his capture on Timor, in 1942. He was wounded, and spent the rest of the war in POW camps in Java and Timor. In civilian life, he was farmer in Tasmania, Australia.

As advised by Chief John: "Torquil Roderick Macleod resigned the Ensigns Armorial of Macleod of Raasay in favorem by deed of Resignation on 29 November 1999 and registered in the books of the Court of Lord Lyon on 8 December 1999 for the regrant in favour of the Petitioner, Roderick John Macleod and male heirs of his body"

The effect of the foregoing was that the Chiefships of Raasay and Lewis were split by **Chief Torquil Roderick Macleod, 17th of Raasay** while he was still alive. Again, per Chief John "Perhaps this is not totally dissimilar to that which happened in mid 16th centry, except no lands were available for passing over." As described above, **Chief Torquil Roderick** was succeeded as Chief of the Macleods of Raasay (but not the Lewes) by his younger son Roderick **John Macleod, 18th of Raasay**, on December 8, 1999.

Chief John of Raasay was born July 29, 1950. He married Elizabeth (Liz) Grace on August 12, 1978, and has two children, Alastair Loudoun (February 27, 1982) and Hannah Louise (June 18, 1980). Chief John, 18th of Raasay, lives in Sandy Bay, Tasmania, Australia.

He is an industrial chemist by profession and following a career in metallurgical processing and later in agricultural advisory services, he is currently engaged in economic development projects within the Tasmanian Government.

MACLEOD OF LEWIS (or “of the LEWES”)

As above, the Chieftainship of the MacLeods of Lewis had lapsed in about 1597, on the death of **Ruari X of the Lewes**, leaving no heir. The Lewis lands were forfeited to James VI of Scotland and later conveyed to the MacDonalds.

However, in 1988, **Torquil Roderick Macleod, 17th of Raasay**, as a direct descendent of **Malcolm Macleod, 9th Chief of the Lewes** (the father of Ruari X), was officially recognised, by Lord Lyon King of Arms, as **Torquil Roderick Macleod of the Lewes** and Chief and Head of the baronial House of Macleod of the Lewes.

Following his death on March 6, 2001, he was succeeded as Chief of the Macleod of Lewis (but not Raasay, as above) by his eldest son **Torquil Donald Macleod, of the Lewes**.



**Chief Donald Macleod of the Lewes,
Dunvegan, Aug 4, 2006**



**Chiefs Donald Macleod of the Lewes and
John MacLeod, 18th of Raasay, coming onto
Raasay, Aug 2, 2006**

Chief Torquil Donald MacLeod was born on August 5, 1948. He lives in Sandy Bay, Tasmania, Australia. He is an electrical engineer by profession, and works at developing “large electric power systems and electricity markets both in Australia and internationally”. He has been married to Heather Abbott since 1988, and has two children, Laura (1991) and James (2004).

At the moment, **Chief Torquil Donald Macleod, of the Lewes** has not established a numeric value of his Chiefship. He could be “2nd of the Lewes” (after his Dad as the new #1), or the “12th of the Lewes” (after Ruari X in 1597 then his Dad at 11th, with a gap from 1597 to 1988) or “28th of the Lewes” (after Ruari X, then the 17 Chiefs via the Raasay line).