

28 August 2012

An Iodhlann
Scarinish, Isle of Tiree
Argyll, Scotland, PA77 6UH

Dear Curator,

My son, Ross Naismith, is hand-delivering a donation for the An Iodhlann heritage centre of one pewter/silver tankard. The tankard is inscribed:

10th LRV Sports

1884

Tug-of-War

Won by N. McIntyre

The story behind how the tankard came to be in my possession is that my mother, Irene Kennedy Naismith, visited Tiree some 30 years ago when she stayed with a family called Kennedy at a hotel in Sandaig. All of my mother's family are from Tiree and she wished to do some genealogy. The lady at the hotel suggested that my mom speak with a man who was relaxing in his caravan. My mother and father visited with him, and he gave my mother the tankard. The man said that he had found it on the beach on Tiree and that it was more my mother's than it was his. He thought she should have it.

My mother and father emigrated from Scotland to Canada after the war. I was born in Canada. My own sons, including Ross, were born in California. Ten years ago, I asked my mother if she would give me the tankard so that I might return it to its home some day. My mother is now 86 years old and infirmed. I married a Scotsman five years ago and moved to Clydebank. Now, the time has come to return the tankard to its home.